



Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes

Notes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Monday 8 February 2016 at the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Committee members present:

Councillor R Amos
Councillor E Anderton
Councillor C Birch
Councillor Fail
Councillor Hodgkinson
Councillor Ibison

Councillor Jones (Chairman)
Councillor Ormrod
Councillor Reeves
Councillor Robinson
Councillor Smith
Councillor Matthew Vincent

Other councillors present:

Councillor I Amos

Officers present:

Neil Greenwood, Head of Environmental Health and Community Safety
Peter Foulsham, Scrutiny Officer

OS.80 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors McKay and Michael Vincent.

OS.81 Declarations of interest

Councillor Ibison declared a significant pecuniary interest in Item 5 (Local Plan), a member of his family having recently submitted a planning application.

OS.82 Minutes of meeting held on 7 January 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 7 January 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.

OS.83 Minutes of meeting held on 11 January 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 11 January 2016 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to three amendments to OS.72.

First, the sentence “Following a vote on each amendment none was carried” should be deleted and replaced with:

“The amendments proposed by Councillors E Anderton and Fail were not carried. An amendment proposed by Councillor Matthew Vincent was carried, the committee agreeing to insert after the following paragraph in the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2015:

‘The committee retired to a separate room to discuss and consider the representations made, and returned to the council chamber to announce their decision.’

the words:

‘There was a discussion of all the issues and a thorough debate was held between all committee members regarding "Five for Fleetwood" and the financial benefits of building beach huts and selling the same.

The majority of the committee believed that the huts should not be barred from being sub-let to enable greater use”.

A vote was taken and the call-in was rejected.’

Second, the second paragraph of OS.72 be amended to read:

‘Councillor Fail continued to express his dissatisfaction with the minutes as approved by the majority.’

Third, the resolution should be amended to read:

‘Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 9 November 2015 be confirmed as a correct record subject to the amendments above.’

OS.84 Performance – the Council’s Business Plan 2015/16

The Head of Transformation. Marianne Hesketh, submitted a report on the 3rd Quarter Performance Statement 2015/16, October to December 2015.

The view was expressed that, as part of the council’s engagement campaign, the agendas, minutes, action plans and reports from Shaping Your Neighbourhood meetings should be made available to councillors. It

was noted that the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative was still in the process of development, but the committee requested that their comments be passed to the Head of Transformation for comment.

The committee commented that the figure for the percentage of neighbourhood-led projects successfully delivered appeared quite low (39%) and further information about this measure was requested.

The committee were unclear about how annual visitor numbers were calculated, the report indicating that the current figure was 4.6 million.

RESOLVED

- (i) that further information about the council's engagement campaign with particular reference to Shaping Your Neighbourhood, the delivery of neighbourhood-led projects and visitor numbers be requested,
- (ii) that Marianne Hesketh be thanked for her report, and
- (iii) that the report be noted.

OS.85 Local Plan

Councillor Ibison left the meeting.

Rea Psillidou, Planning Policy and Economic Development Manager, submitted an update report on the progress of the Local Plan.

The committee noted that Ms Psillidou's very helpful quarterly updates had been received since June 2015, this being the fourth. The committee agreed to invite Ms Psillidou to a forthcoming meeting which would be timely in the context of the timetable for the preparation of the initial draft of the Plan.

RESOLVED

- (i) that Rea Psillidou be invited to a forthcoming meeting of the committee and
- (ii) that the report be noted.

OS.86 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2015-16

The Corporate Director of Resources submitted a report updating the committee about various elements of the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.

Neil Greenwood, Head of Environmental Health and Community Safety, attended the meeting to provide the committee with a short summary of

the council's work in respect of domestic violence, the committee having previously agreed to consider commissioning a task group on the topic. Mr Greenwood tabled two reports which were very informative but required much more detailed consideration. Councillors asked that a more significant item on domestic violence be scheduled on the agenda of a forthcoming meeting so that more appropriate consideration could be given to the subject. They suggested that input might be considered from the commissioners (Lancashire County Council), the pan-Lancashire providers (Lets Go) or the local providers (Fylde Coast Women's Aid).

The Chairman informed the committee that the report of the task group on Town and Parish Councils would be considered by the committee at the meeting on 7 March 2016, prior to being placed on the Cabinet agenda for the meeting on 23 March 2016.

The report from the recent task group on public transport was noted.

Members considered a draft scoping document for a task group on the localised council tax support (LCTS) scheme and agreed that all non-Executive councillors should be invited to express an interest in taking part in that review. The review was likely to commence before the end of February.

RESOLVED

- (i) that an agenda item on domestic violence be scheduled at a forthcoming meeting, to which Neil Greenwood would be invited
- (ii) that Mr Greenwood be thanked for his presentation and contribution to the meeting
- (iii) that a task group on the localised council tax support (LCTS) scheme be commenced, and
- (iv) that the report be noted.

OS.87 Date and time of next meeting

RESOLVED that the next scheduled meeting of the committee be held at 6pm on Monday 7 March 2016 at the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

The meeting started at 6pm and finished at 6.41pm.