



RURAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

31ST August 2016

Present:

Councillor E. Hutchison (Chairman), G.E Botterill, R. De Burle, L. Higgins, E. Hutchinson, J. Orson, P. Posnett, M. Sheldon, J. Simpson.

Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, Central Services Manager, Head of Regulatory Services, Administrative Assistant for Communities and Neighbourhoods.

R15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T Culley and Councillor T Beaken.

R16. MINUTES

The minutes of the 9th March and the minutes of the previous meeting on the 8th June were signed authorised to be signed by the Chairman.

R17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Orson and Councillor Posnett declared a personal interest in any item relating to the county council by virtue of them being County Councillors. Councillor Orson declared a personal interest in Item 10 Annual Monitoring Report.

R18. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from other committees.

R19. UPDATE ON DECISIONS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted an update on decision report that was noted by the Members of this committee.

RESOLVED that the update on decision notice be noted.

R20. BUDGET MONITORING APRIL TO JUNE 2016

The Head of Central Services submitted a report to provide information on actual expenditure and income on this committee's services compared to the latest approved budget for the period of 1st April 2016 to 30th June 2016.

The Central Services Manager brought Members' attention to appendix A which outlines the detail of service areas in this committee's remit. Paragraph 3.3 summarises the income and expenditure for this committee's services and the forecast overspend.

Particular attention was brought to 3.6.1 and 3.6.2 the overspends and underspends.

A Member asked about the underspends in the Car Park and Bus Station budget. The Central Services Manager advised that the underspend is more than likely because of the change of tariff and the increase in car park usage.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods stated that after the first year of the new Car Parking charges a report will be brought back to this committee.

A Member stated that he believes that the change in car parking charges and designation was one of the best decisions that this committee had made and also congratulated the Head of Regulatory Service and his team for the £194K underspend in the Development Control area.

A Member stated that it was important that the money saved should be utilised within this committee's services.

Councillor Hutchison left the meeting.

Discussion took place about gaps in employment within the Regulatory Services area. The Central Services Manager stated that some of the saving from the Regulatory Service vacancies may be needed to be used for additional staffing support.

RESOLVED that the financial position and the year-end forecast on each of this committee's services to 30th June be noted.

R21. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING TO 31ST JULY 2016

The Head of Central Services submitted a report to update the committee on the progress of schemes within the Capital Programme to 31st July 2016.

The Central Services Manager drew Members' attention to paragraph 5.2 showing the year end variance underspend of £17K.

It was noted that the Cattle Market re-development project is in-line with expected expenditure at this point.

Councillor Hutchison returned to the meeting.

The Recommendation was moved by Councillor Orson and seconded by Councillor Higgins

RESOLVED that the progress made on each capital scheme be noted.

R22. CORPORATE REVIEW OF CHARGES 2017-18

The Head of Central Services submitted a report to provide information on the various fees and charges that are made by this committee.

The Central Services Manager stated that this report outlines the charges that were proposed to be increased above or below inflation falling outside delegated authority.

Members' attention was brought to 3.6.3 and the Central Services Manager stated that a new report will be brought to this committee in regards to Taxi Licensing fees. It was confirmed that the new charges outlined in paragraph 3.7 will be introduced from the 1st October 2016 if approved at this committee.

A Member requested that a report be brought back in regards to the residents' car park permit scheme. The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods confirmed that a report looking into the feasibility of resident permit schemes outlining income and enforcement implications would be taken to the CSA committee as it is in that committee's remit.

Discussions took place around offering an online service by which a resident could work out if they needed planning permission to build. It was decided after discussion that the information and enquiries regarding planning permission were complex due to them being 'property specific', and that a review be completed on this in a year's time to see how this service is working retrospectively.

RESOLVED that

- 1) The information on the various fees and charges be noted by this committee.
- 2) The recommended changes to these charges be approved as from 1st April 2017.
- 3) A report looking into the feasibility of resident permit schemes outlining income and enforcement implications be taken to the Communities and Social Affairs committee.

R23. DEVELOPMENT OF THE GOOD GROWTH BUSINESS HUB

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report that sets out details for the new strategy supporting economic development and a wider growth programme within the borough.

RESOLVED that

- 1) The next steps outline in the report be endorsed.
- 2) The critical importance of cross-departmental input and the cooperation for the hub's wider programme success be recognised.
- 3) The initiative be actively supported, endorsed and championed as this will sit alongside the Council's forthcoming Efficiency Plan

R24. TOURISM- STEAM TREND REPORT 2014-15

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report for Members to comment on the Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor (STEAM) trend report for Melton 2014-15.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods stated that tourism has risen significantly since last year with visitors stay averaging 2.4 days. Members' attention was drawn to Appendix A which presented the tourism statistics and trends.

A member praised the report and stated that all Members should be aware of this paper. He also encouraged officers to promote the south of Melton.

The Chairman suggested that the all Members be made aware of the report through Melton Mail or press release.

The Leader congratulated the Town Centre Managers on the hard work that they have undertaken to promote tourism within the borough.

RESOLVED that the Melton STEAM trend report 2014-15 and the performance of tourism during this period be noted.

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R25. URGENT ITEM

PERSIMMONS ACCESS TO COUNTRY PARK

The Leader of the Council stated that the residents of the new builds near the country park had been told that there would be an access path from the estate to the country park. The Leader asked that this item be brought to the next meeting and to go to the Town Area committee for consultation and recommendation.

It was also noted that the BID business plan and renewal item that was on this agenda at Item 12, would be taken to the Town Area Committee instead of being discussed at this meeting.

RESOLVED that a report about the Persimmon access to the country park be brought back to this committee at the next meeting.

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R26 ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

The Head of Regulatory Services presented a report to inform the committee of the contents of the Melton Annual Monitoring (AMR) report 2016.

The Head of Regulatory Services brought Members' attention to paragraph 3.10 in which the graph shows the housing target and housing delivery numbers.

The Head of Regulatory Services stated that the council needs to be planning to build over 400 houses per year for the next year and brought Members' attention to the graph at 3.12 which outlined the shortfall of housing supply.

Discussions took place about the demand of housing supply within the local area and the problems with attracting developers. A Member stated that the 40% of affordable housing that is requested per development should be lowered to encourage developers to build within the borough.

RESOLVED that the AMR report be noted and adopted

R12. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent business items.

The meeting that started at 6:30pm finished at 7:45pm.

Chairman