

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2**

### **MONDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2022**

#### Present:

Councillors Bullivant (Chair), D Cox, G Hook, Morgan and Nuttall

#### Members Attendance:

Councillors Keeling, Taylor and Wrigley

#### Apologies:

Councillors Swain, Austen, Gribble, Hayes, L Petherick and Tume, and Executive Members Councillors Connett, Nutley and Jefferies

#### Officers in Attendance:

T Corns, Democratic Services Officer

C Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer

### **122. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 June were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **123. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Executive member Councillor Wrigley declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute 131 below by virtue of his property overlooking the Exe Estuary and as treasurer of the Starcross/Cockwood boat club.

### **124. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

None

### **125. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS**

None

### **126. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN**

The December 2022 Executive Forward Plan detailing issues to be considered over the next few months, including to which overview and scrutiny committee remit each issue fell was noted.

The Chair referred to those items falling within the OS2 Committee:

- Item 4- Initial financial Plan proposals for 2023/24 to 2025/26 -would be considered by the committee on 10 January and 2 February 2023 meetings.

- Item 8 – Teignbridge Car Park Plan - it was noted that the Chair and members of the Task and Finish Group would update the Committee at the 10 January 2023 meeting prior to being considered by the Executive on 7 February 2023.
- Item 13 – Leisure centre refurbishment proposals – it was proposed by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor D Cox and unanimously

RESOLVED - that the Executive Member for sport, recreation and culture provide an update report on this matter at the next meeting on 10 January 2023.

- Item 14 – Open Spaces Delivery Management Task and Finish Group be given priority and be added to the Committee's work programme.

It was also proposed by Councillor Morgan, seconded by councillor G Hook and unanimously

RESOLVED – that Executive Members biannual updates include an update on actions taken following Executive decisions.

## **127. WORK PROGRAMME**

The committee's work programme as circulated with the agenda was noted, and that an update on Leisure centre refurbishment proposals would be added for the 10 January 2023 meeting.

## **128. EXECUTIVE MEMBER PRESENTATIONS**

Councillor Jeffries biannual update (economy and jobs) to committee was deferred until the next meeting on 10 January 2023.

Councillor Keeling represented Councillor Nutley who was unable to attend the meeting, and presented Councillor Nutley's biannual update (sport, recreation and culture). The update included:

### Leisure Centres

- Thanks to the leisure manager, all sport and leisure staff and the chief finance officer and teams for their hard work and dedication since the slowly returning covid lockdown and difficult time. The impacts included issues returning from covid, post pandemic impact, financial position, budget challenges and rising utility costs. Swim England and Swim Teachers Association would be providing support to deal with the challenges.
- Operating efficiencies would be monitored.
- Decarbonisation works at the leisure centres were progressing and some work was completed.
- Thanks to the Leisure Manager and staff for their commending efforts with administering CPR to a customer.
- Despite setbacks the leisure centres were showing signs of recovery.

### Leisure and Green Spaces

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 (14.11.2022)

- The opening of the new Den Play area, Teignmouth. Delays in obtaining parts for the wet play area due to difficult supply and demand issues resulted in that area not opening for the summer season.
- Refurbishment of Ashburton play area and incorporation of a multi-use games area.
- The Exminster ridgetop park, the second of the SANGS, and Dawlish country Park, the first of the SANGS were being well used by the public.
- Waste crew staff had been trained to deal with cases of avian flu and other staff trained to deal with public queries.
- The Green Flag accreditation was awarded to the Resorts teams for the excellence in managing parks and green spaces.
- The Blue Flag accreditation was also awarded to the Resorts teams for the excellence in well managed and clean beaches.
- A delay and increased cost for the fencing work for Shaldon golf course.
- Thanks to all involved in progressing projects especially voluntary community groups such as local wildlife groups (Bug recover project Bradley Valley), Exminster Nature Recovery Project, Starcross Action for Trees), The Friends Of Teignmouth Old Cemetery, The Friends Of Homeyards Botanical Gardens Friend of Eastcliff, and Eastcliff orchard project.

In response to questions Councillor Keeling advised:

- that delays in maintenance and improvements works such as the fencing at Shaldon golf, course was mainly due to unforeseen works and difficulties in materials supply chains.
- It was not economically viable to open the Lido in Teignmouth for the remaining 2 weeks of the season. The savings from the closure has been divided up between the other District outdoor pools.
- Swimming pool temperatures had ben decreased by 1 Centigrade in an effort to reduce heating costs.
- Clear up costs of travellers' sites were not currently being levied against travellers as the cost of recovery exceeding costs.
- The allocation of a district hockey pitch as part of the play pitches strategy was being worked on, particularly with Chudleigh hockey team ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> nationally.
- Plans to increase leisure centre memberships were being actioned.
- Issues regarding access for cars and pushchairs at Dawlish SANGS were being followed up.

**129. ENFORCEMENT TASK AND FINISH GROUP REPORT**

The Chair referred to the agenda report and thanked Councillor Swain and Members of the task and finish group, and officers for the report and recommendations for consideration.

In regards to Recommendation 7 – drone trial, it was noted that over 20 District Councils were currently using or trialling drones to aide planning enforcement.

Concern was raised regarding the safety issue of unfenced SUDS of new development sites. The Executive Member for Planning responded that he would following this up.

**RECOMMENDED**

The Executive approves that the Development Management team implements the recommendations of the Review Group as set out in the report with the following amendments:

- a) Recommendation 7 - Drone trial - the possible benefits of the use of drones be investigated further and consideration be given to identifying an operator to run a trial.
- b) The following be added to Recommendation 9 – Review progress:  
The Executive update the Committee at the next meeting following the February 2023 meeting on the progress of implementation of the recommendations.

**130. COUNCIL STRATEGY Q1 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT**

The Chair referred to the agenda report covering the period April to June 2022 which updated performance of the Council's Strategy 2020- 2030 T10 priorities, under the auspices of the Committee. Details of the programmes, projects and performance indicators with a concern or caution status together with an explanation of the performance and improvement plan was detailed in the appendix of the agenda report. There were no matters of concern.

It was considered that there was merit in the performance committee report to include the information regarding the previous quarter to enable comparisons to be made.

**RESOLVED**

- a) The report be received, and actions being taken to rectify any performance issues detailed in the agenda report appendix be noted.
- b) Future performance reports include the performance information from the previous quarter.

**131. SOUTH AND EAST DEVON HABITAT REGULATIONS EXECUTIVE**

**COMMITTEE (SEDHRE) 17 MAY 2022**

The Committee noted the Minutes of the SEDHRE held on 17 May 2022.

In response to a question regarding the condition of the geo tubes and the sand movements of the Warren the Executive Member Councillor Wrigley advised that the Environment Agency's scheme which included the location of the geo tubes was to provide protection until 2050. However, unpredicted sand movement has resulted in the geo tubes being exposed and damaged.

The responsibility of the tubes and protection of the Warren lies with the Environment Agency and is beyond the remit of the SEDHRE.

**RESOLVED**

The Minutes be noted and the Council's Estuaries Officer report on the issues of the geo tubes and sand movement at the Warren at a future meeting of the Committee.

CLLR P BULLIVANT  
Chairman