

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2

TUESDAY, 11 JULY 2023

Present:

Councillors Bullivant, Buscombe, Hall, Hayes, Henderson, Palethorpe, C Parker, P Parker, Parrott, Peart, Purser, Rollason and Sanders

Members Attendance:

Councillors Wrigley, MacGregor and J Taylor

Officers in Attendance:

Kay Fice, Scrutiny Officer

Christopher Morgan, Trainee Democratic Services Officer

Paul Woodhead, Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer to the Council

Jack Williams, Performance Data Analyst

23. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Election of Chair

Cllr C Parker proposed that Cllr Sanders be elected Chair for the 2023/24 municipal year. This was seconded by Cllr Parrott.

Cllr P Parker proposed that Cllr Purser be elected Chair for the 2023/24 municipal year. This was seconded by Cllr Peart.

Cllr Sanders and Cllr Purser left the room while a vote was taken by a show of hands.

The vote was Cllr Sanders 7 votes and Cllr Purser 6 votes

RESOLVED

Cllr Sanders be elected Chair for the 2023/24 municipal year

Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Parrott proposed that Cllr Buscombe be elected Vice Chair for the 2023/24 municipal year. This was seconded by Cllr Parrott.

Cllr Purser proposed that Cllr P Parker be elected Vice Chair for the 2023/24 municipal year. This was seconded by Cllr Hall.

Cllr Buscombe and Cllr P Parker left the room while a vote was taken by a show of hands.

The vote was Cllr Buscombe 7 votes and Cllr P Parker 6 votes

RESOLVED

Cllr Buscombe be elected Vice Chair for the 2023/24 municipal year

24. MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr C Parker, seconded by Cllr Bullivant and

RESOLVED

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

25. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

26. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The public questions received would be covered at item 8 later in the Agenda

27. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

The Executive Forward Plan listing items to be considered over the next few months was noted.

The Chair advised that the scheduled date of this Committee of 10 October 2023 would be brought forward to September (subsequently arranged for 26 September 2023).

The Leader advised that Executive would be expanding the Forward Plan and in response to a request from Cllr Bullivant agreed to circulate the Liberal Democrats Manifesto

28. WORK PROGRAMME

At the start of this item, Cllr J Taylor was invited to speak in support of the petition presented to full Council on 25 May 2023 regarding Car-Parking in Kingskerswell where the local residents and business wanted parity i.e. reasonably priced permits as they now had to pay for car-parking it had previously been free to use.

A local resident was present and invited to speak for 3 minutes. He said that the footfall for local businesses had dropped due to the parking restrictions and they were expecting to have 20 minutes free parking.

The Leader offered to speak to the residents, together with the Portfolio Holder as the administration were working towards being a 'community powered council'

Cllr Sanders said that these views would be taken into account when the issue was considered.

Other Councillors/officers expressed views which included:-

- The need for consistency/fairness and parity
- Other areas would like to benefit from free car-parking e.g. Moretonhampstead
- Need to be aware of the impact of the petition on policy
- All councillors should be invited to partake in the discussions
- Impact on Medium-term budget review important

29. FEEDBACK ON TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

Concerns were expressed that the previous Task and Finish reviews had not all been concluded/reported so there was nothing to report at this stage.

Other comments included:-

- Overview & Scrutiny should advise Executive on Policy
- Overview & Scrutiny should not stray into delivery issues and should be a critical friend

As Chair, Cllr Sanders said that this committee must look forward – as emphasised at the scrutiny training sessions.

30. COUNCIL STRATEGY Q4 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT

The Leader talked through the key points on the monitoring report and by way of explanatory comments, or responses to questions from councillor's he commented:-

- Through the Autumn the Administration would be developing a new Council strategy
- Regarding the developments in Newton Abbot, it was noted that the rules on the Future High Street grant funding meant only minor changes could be made to the scheme
- Planning delays remained a national and local issue due to a shortage of Planning Officers and the cost of the work being more than the mandated fees that can be charged
- It was important that monitoring reports were received in a timely manner
- Progress on the Doctors surgery in Teignmouth was outside of the Councils control

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- The Great Places to live and work section referred to a Super Project. Members were interested in understanding the detail behind this
- Regarding the A382 project there was a VAT rule change which benefitted the scheme by £100k. The details would be covered in a future briefing for members
- An item for future consideration would be the Playing Field Strategic Plan as playing facilities could be at risk to the Council

The Leader commented that as there were a number of questions raised it would be helpful if they were submitted in advance which would give time for a full response to be provided.

RESOLVED

The report be received, and actions being taken to rectify any performance issues detailed in the agenda report appendix be noted.

Chair