

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCRUTINY (VALUE FOR MONEY) COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Scrutiny (Value for Money) Committee held in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall on 13th July 2023 at 6.30pm.

Present:

Councillors Z. Krupski (Chairman), A. Bailey, A. Clarke, S. P. Gaskin, P. Krupski, S. Sankey and M. Shrive.

Officers Present:

John Teasdale (Head of Legal & Regulatory Services and Monitoring Officer), James Abbott (Corporate and Commercial Manager), Dan Langford (Leisure Services Officer) and Monica Henchcliffe (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

Also Present:

Councillor M. Fitzpatrick.

01/23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

02/23 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Resolved:

That Councillor M. Shrive be appointed vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

03/23 **MINUTES**

The Public Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd April 2023 was noted by the Committee.

04/23 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business submitted to the meeting pursuant to Rule 12.

05/23 **CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT END OF YEAR 22/23**

The Report of Mark Rizk, Head of Corporate and Environment Services, regarding the end of year performance report was considered. The Corporate and Commercial Manager provided an overview of the report to the committee.

An opportunity for questions took place.

NOTED

06/23 **SCRUTINY REVIEW PROGRAMME**

The Corporate and Commercial Manager updated the Committee on the ongoing and future programme of scrutiny topics.

The Chairman requested that Members gave consideration to any topics that they would like to add to the review programme. A number of topics were discussed.

Discussions took place.

Members decided that two reviews will be commenced by the Committee, namely (1) Car Parking Charges; and (2) Grounds Maintenance. It was proposed that the Car Parking Charges and the Ground Maintenance reviews would be prioritise and be reviewed first.

It was agreed that the Corporate and Commercial Manager would support Members in drafting scoping papers for the reviews, to be agreed by the Committee, prior to the next meeting.

For the two reviews, the sub-group for the Car Parking Charges review would consist of Councillors S. Gaskin, P. Krupski, Z. Krupski, S. Sankey and M. Shrive.

And the Grounds Maintenance review, the sub-group would consist of Councillors A. Bailey, A. Clarke, M. Holton and Z. Krupski.

It was noted that the ongoing Civil Enforcement review would be put on hold at present, and that reviews into (1) Staff Resourcing and (2) Web Migration and Technical Infrastructure would be considered as potential future reviews upon completion of the initial two reviews.

NOTED

07/23 PUBLIC EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS

Members considered the Public Executive Decision Records.

An opportunity for questions followed.

Councillor S Gaskin requested information regarding EDR582.23 – Outdoor Market.

He requested that past debtors at the Market Hall were not booking stalls without being required to pay, and asked that there should be a list of debtors who haven't paid so are unable to re-book in the future.

Councillor Z Krupski requested information on the booking process, in relation to whether people booking stalls are required to pay up front or are able to pay on the day.

It was advised that responses from the relevant officers would be circulated outside of the meeting.

NOTED

08/23 QUESTIONS

The Leader of the Council Cllr M Fitzpatrick and John Teasdale (Head of Legal & Regulatory Services and Monitoring Officer) attended the meeting to answer the relevant questions submitted to the Committee. Written responses to the remaining questions were circulated at the meeting.

09/23 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved:

The next meeting of the Committee is Monday 11th September 2023.

10/23 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting during discussion of the following items as it would likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets before each item number on the Agenda:

PRIVATE MINUTES

LEISURE SERVICES CONTRACT REPORT

PUBLIC EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS

Chairman