

## Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 2 November 2023

---

Minutes of the meeting of the **Overview & Scrutiny Committee** held on **2 November 2023** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr Mrs J E McPherson  
Vice-Chairman: Cllr N J Booth

Cllr A G Cross	Cllr Mrs S J Page
Cllr Mrs E P Gadsdon	Cllr D J Sperring
Cllr J N Gooding	Cllr I H Ward
Cllr R Lambourne	Cllr S E Wootton

### **VISITING MEMBER**

Cllr C M Stanley.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs D L Belton, Mrs C M Mason, E O K Mason, R Milne and G W Myers.

### **SUBSTITUTES**

Cllr I A Foster	- for Cllr Mrs D L Belton
Cllr R C D Linden	- for Cllr R Milne

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

M Hotten	- Director, Environment
S Worthington	- Acting Manager, Democratic Services, RDC & BBC
W Szyszka	- Democratic Services Officer

### **224 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **225 HIGHWAY RANGERS**

Members considered the report of the Director, Environment seeking agreement to continue the Highway Rangers service for the foreseeable future funded via financial savings.

In response to a Member question relating to how the ranger service was going to be funded, officers advised that the funds derived from savings accrued through leasing Council owned pavilions that, as a result, did not fall within the remit of the maintenance by the Council, but the leaseholders. As a result, a budget had become available that could be transferred over to fund the service that had no impact on other service areas within the Council. Members also noted that no risks were identified with this approach.

## Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 2 November 2023

---

A query was raised by a Member seeking clarification as to what department was responsible for car park maintenance.

In response, officers advised that it was an ad hoc contract overseen by the Council's Asset Management team.

A member raised a question whether the areas maintained by the Highway Rangers were limited to 30mph zones.

Officers clarified that anything above 30mph would be passed on to Essex County Council (ECC) due to the requirement of appropriate traffic management that could only be implemented by ECC.

Cllr S E Wootton moved a Motion, seconded by Cllr I A Foster, that the recommendation, as set out on page 6.1 of the report, be split into two separate recommendations.

The Motion was unanimously agreed.

### **Resolved**

- (1) To continue the Highway Ranger service.
- (2) To fund the service via the financial savings, as outlined in paragraph 2.3 of the report, or other alternative means. (DE)

(This was unanimously agreed.)

### **226 KEY DECISIONS DOCUMENT**

The Committee noted the contents of the Key Decisions Document.

A query was raised relating to Key Decision Reference 01/23 as to why only two out of the three skatepark facilities were being awarded a contract.

In response, officers clarified that the third skatepark site had to undergo further reviews.

### **227 WORK PLAN**

The Committee noted the contents of the Work Plan.

A typographical error was noted under the Additional Details column on page 8.2 of the Work Plan against the Highway Rangers item and officers clarified that this related to a report that would be considered at the meeting on 5 December 2023.

The meeting closed at 8.09 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....

If you would like these minutes in large print, Braille or another language please contact 01702 318111.

CONFIRMED