

Council – 17 October 2017

Minutes of the meeting of **Council** held on **17 October 2017** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr Mrs L A Butcher

Vice-Chairman: Cllr D Merrick

Cllr J C Burton	Cllr G J Ioannou
Cllr M R Carter	Cllr M J Lucas-Gill
Cllr Mrs I Cassar	Cllr Mrs J R Lumley
Cllr N L Cooper	Cllr E O K Mason
Cllr T G Cutmore	Cllr R Milne
Cllr R R Dray	Cllr J E Newport
Cllr D S Efde	Cllr Mrs C E Roe
Cllr A H Eves	Cllr S P Smith
Cllr Mrs J R Gooding	Cllr D J Sperring
Cllr J D Griffin	Cllr C M Stanley
Cllr B T Hazlewood	Cllr M J Steptoe
Cllr N J Hookway	Cllr I H Ward
Cllr Mrs D Hoy	Cllr M J Webb
Cllr M Hoy	Cllr Mrs C A Weston
Cllr Mrs T R Hughes	Cllr A L Williams

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs C M Mason, J R F Mason, T E Mountain, R A Oatham, Mrs L Shaw and S A Wilson.

OFFICERS PRESENT

S Scrutton	-	Managing Director
J Bostock	-	Assistant Director, Democratic Services
M Hotten	-	Assistant Director, Environmental Services
A Law	-	Assistant Director, Legal Services/Monitoring Officer
N Lucas	-	Section 151 Officer
R Manning	-	Former Section 151 Officer
L Moss	-	Assistant Director, Community and Housing Services
M Thomas	-	Assistant Director, Planning and Regeneration Services
J Fowler	-	Senior Licensing Officer
S Greener	-	Licensing Officer
M Power	-	Democratic Services Officer

ALSO PRESENT

Dr C Skinner	-	Chief Medical Officer (Basildon, Broomfield & Southend Hospitals)
T Abell	-	Chief Transformation Officer (Basildon, Broomfield & Southend Hospitals)
I Stidston	-	Accountable Officer, Castle Point and Rochford Clinical Commissioning Group

Prior to commencement of the meeting Members of the Council stood in silence in memory of Councillor C I Black, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, who had recently passed away. The Chairman observed that Cllr Black had been an honourable man who had worked extremely hard for his residents and the Council and who would be a great loss.

208 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

209 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs C E Roe declared a non-pecuniary interest by virtue of being a Manager of one of the contractors and holding a licence. Cllrs M R Carter, N J Hookway and Mrs T R Hughes each declared a non-pecuniary interest in the report of the Appeals Committee by virtue of being licensed Hackney Carriage drivers. Cllr M J Webb declared a non-pecuniary interest in the update on the Mid and South Essex Success Regime by virtue of being a hospital governor at Southend Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Cllr T G Cutmore declared a non-pecuniary interest in the same item by virtue of being a Governor of Southend Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, a Member of the West Essex Clinical Commission Group on behalf of Essex County Council, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board for Castle Point and Rochford and membership of the Essex Health and Wellbeing Board. Cllr J C Burton declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item on Public Space Protection Orders by virtue of being a Member of Rayleigh Town Council.

210 UPDATE ON THE MID AND SOUTH ESSEX SUCCESS REGIME

Pursuant to Minute 147/17, Council received a presentation from Dr Celia Skinner, the Chief Medical Officer for the three NHS Hospital Trusts: Southend, Basildon and Broomfield, assisted by Tom Abell, Chief Transformation Officer and Ian Stidston, Accountable Officer, Castle Point and Rochford Clinical Commissioning Group. The presentation updated Members on the latest plans to reconfigure and redesign hospital services across the three sites to meet growing demands and pressures, prior to the end of the public consultation period.

Prior to commencement of the presentation, Cllr M J Webb, Portfolio Holder for Community, stated that the wishes of the Council that Dr C Howard be invited to speak at the meeting had been disregarded. Council Members wished to hear from front line clinical staff as well as management and felt that it was a mark of disrespect that this request had been ignored. There was a suggestion that the presentation be postponed until both sides of the debate are represented, as requested.

Dr Skinner indicated that, as the Chief Medical Officer for all three hospital trusts, she had the most comprehensive knowledge of the forthcoming proposals for public consultation and responsibility for the three hospitals working collaboratively to respond to changing healthcare needs and to improve the quality of care and sustainability of services. She stated that there had been no attempt to 'gag' clinicians; clinicians had been involved in the process to date. The proposals would go to public consultation and would run for 12-14 weeks, which would give the public, Councillors and hospital staff the opportunity for comment.

The Chairman expressed disappointment that the Council resolution that Dr Howard be included as a presenter had been disregarded, but recognised that it had been an invitation only to the NHS. She hoped that any future invitation to clinicians to attend Council meetings would be permitted by the NHS.

During the presentation the following points were emphasised:

- Following feedback from clinicians, local partners and patients, a revised option was being developed that included 24/7 A&E coverage and only limited ambulance by-pass, with frail and paediatric patients being able to stay locally except in highly complex cases.
- A full public consultation would start in late November 2017.
- The outcome of the consultation was the remit of the CCG Joint Committee and a final decision on implementation of proposed changes based on the feedback from the public consultation was planned for March 2018.

Tom Abell advised that the NHS would be happy to bring more detailed proposals back to Council as they emerged and that this could include the clinical leads attending from across the three hospitals.

A motion moved by Cllr M J Webb and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Gooding was agreed and it was **RESOLVED** that the Council had concerns about the impact the proposals would have on local residents and how they would improve patient outcomes and would be unable to support the proposals until there had been the opportunity for a balanced debate, including input from front-line clinical staff being permitted to speak freely, was carried.

211 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman thanked Rob Manning, at this his last meeting, for his hard work during his time as the Council's Section 151 Officer and welcomed Naomi Lucas as the new Section 151 Officer.

The Chairman had represented the Council at numerous events in the District, Essex and Greater London. Of particular note was a meeting with a local

resident who had been doing good deeds in the District for over 50 years. The Chairman had also been delighted to present the Responsible Business Standard Award to a local company, which was the first company in the District to receive this Award.

212 MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Council received the Minutes of Executive and Committee meetings held between the period 15 July 2017 to 6 October 2017.

Referring to the meeting of the Executive on 6 September 2017, Cllr T G Cutmore observed that the Motion on Notice at Item 12 of the Council's Agenda replicated the decision already made by the Executive to suspend car parking charges in all Council car parks on the Saturdays in December, leading up to Christmas. Cllr M Hoy advised that he would comment on this at Item 12.

213 REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES TO COUNCIL

(1) Amendments to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire, Driver and Operator Licence Conditions

Council considered the report of the Appeals Committee with a recommendation relating to the introduction of a penalty points system.

Resolved

That the new Penalty Points Scheme, as set out in Appendix 1 to the Report, be implemented with effect from 18 October 2017. (ADLS)

(2) Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA)

Council considered the report of the Review Committee with a recommendation relating to approval of a revised RIPA Policy.

It was noted that Patricia Christie should be removed from the list of the Council's Authorised Applicants on page 9.38 of the report as she was no longer employed by the Council.

Resolved

That the proposed changes to the Council's 'Covert Surveillance Policy and Procedure Manual' RIPA Policy be approved, subject to the inclusion of a statement that the Council will not use young or vulnerable people as Covert Human Intelligence Sources (CHIS) in its investigations. (ADC&HS)

(3) Appointment to Crouch Harbour Authority Board

Council considered the report of the Executive with a recommendation to

confirm an appointment to the Crouch Harbour Authority Board.

Resolved

That the Portfolio Holder for Enterprise, Cllr G J Ioannou, be appointed to the Crouch Harbour Authority Board. (ADDS)

214 REPORT OF THE LEADER ON THE WORK OF THE EXECUTIVE

Council received the following report from the Leader on the work of the Executive:

'This is the second ordinary Full Council meeting of the 2017/18 Municipal Year and I would like to welcome all Members.

Since the meeting on 18 July, the Executive has met on three occasions, during which considerations have included:

- The Financial Outturn 2016/17 Management Report and the Quarter 1 2017/18 Financial Management and Performance Report;
- Recommendations from the Investment Board on its review of Asset Register Sites and the Wyvern Phase 1 Project.

Other matters that my colleagues and I on the Executive have dealt with include:

- Approving the Environmental Health Service Plan for 2017/18;
- Amending the Heads of Terms of the Public Realm Agreement to incorporate the Essex County Council's Highway Ranger Service;
- The recommendations of the Member Advisory Group on allocation of the second round of funding to local voluntary organisations;
- Submitting a formal response to the London Borough of Havering's Regulation 19 Publication Draft Local Plan consultation.

As always, I will be happy to take any questions from Members in respect of the work of the Executive and I am sure my Executive colleagues will be happy to contribute where appropriate.'

215 MOTION ON NOTICE

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13, a motion had been received from Cllrs M Hoy, Mrs D Hoy, T E Mountain, S A Wilson, E O K Mason, A H Eves, Mrs C M Mason and J R F Mason that, in order to avoid an emergency decision that precludes debate and in the full knowledge of when Christmas is, car parking charges in all of Rochford District Council's car parks be

suspended on the Saturdays during December, prior to Christmas, provided that the Section 151 Officer can assure Members that the Council can afford this loss of income. The dates include: 2, 9, 16 and 23 December 2017. Deciding this in advance of December will also allow operational adjustments prior to the suspension dates.

Cllr M Hoy advocated, in view of the decision by the Executive on 6 September 2017, that the car parking charges in all Council car parks be suspended on the Saturdays during December 2017 prior to Christmas, he would withdraw the Motion, subject to confirmation from the Section 151 Officer that the decision had been costed and was affordable. The Section 151 Officer confirmed that the Council was projecting an underspend for the year and, therefore, there was sufficient resource in the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

216 THE FUTURE OF ESSEX

Council considered the report of the Managing Director on a vision for the future of Essex, as set out in a document prepared by Essex authorities and partners.

It would be appropriate to remain mindful of how the vision could interrelate with the Council's Business Plan and how the long-term ambitions reflect in the work of the Council.

Resolved

That the vision and ambitions set out in The Future of Essex document be endorsed. (MD)

217 PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS

Council considered the report of the Assistant Director, Environmental Services on the introduction of Orders.

It was noted that there would be discussion with Parish/Town Councils regarding the detail of how the Orders would be implemented and that records of previous ASB complaints would be kept on record.

Resolved

- (1) That the Council exercises its powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order.
- (2) That authority to make any amendment to the PSPO schedule be delegated to the Assistant Director, Environmental Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment. (AD-ES)

218 AMENDMENT TO PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Council considered the report of the Managing Director on an amendment to the Council's Pay Policy Statement. (MD)

Resolved

That the Council's Pay Policy Statement be amended to incorporate proposed paragraph 3.6 in relation to market supplements. (MD)

The meeting closed at 8.36 pm.

Chairman

Date

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