

The Executive – 25 April 2024

Minutes of the meeting of **The Executive** held on **25 April 2024** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr J R F Mason

Cllr J E Cripps
Cllr A H Eves
Cllr M Hoy
Cllr J E Newport

Cllr L J Newport
Cllr C M Stanley
Cllr A L Williams
Cllr Mrs V A Wilson

Please note that the full livestream of this meeting can be viewed at:
[The Executive \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs J R Gooding.

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING

There were no non-members in attendance.

OFFICERS PRESENT

J Stephenson	- Chief Executive
S Summers	- Strategic Director
M Hotten	- Director Environment
G Campbell	- Director Policy and Delivery
M Stickley	- Corporate Manager, Democratic Services
K Anderson	- Corporate Manager, Communities, Leisure and Health
V Meanwell	- Democratic Services Officer

TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS

There were no questions on notice from councillors.

197 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

198 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE AND REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Improving Access to Affordable Credit and Financial Services for Low-Income Households via Credit Unions

The Executive considered the report which had been referred from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee setting out the role of the council in helping to protect its residents by improving access to affordable credit and financial services for low-income households via credit unions.

Cllr J R F Mason moved a motion that the two recommendations on page 6.1.1, seconded by Cllr J E Cripps be approved.

Resolved

- (1) To approve the amended recommendations of Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 5 March 2024.
- (2) That officers provide an implementation plan, detailing any financial implications on working with existing, well established credit unions at a future Communities, Wellbeing and Housing committee. (DCH)

(8 members voted in favour, 0 against and 1 member abstained)

Report of the Climate Emergency Committee – Parks for Nature

The Executive considered the report which had been referred from the Climate Emergency Committee providing a summary of the Council's Parks for Nature programmes climate impact and the planned increase in carbon sequestration across managed parks and open spaces.

After a full discussion the recommendations were considered for approval.

Cllr M Hoy moved a motion seconded by Cllr C M Stanley that the recommendation on page 6.2.1 be approved.

Resolved

- (1) To continue to rollout the Parks for Nature scheme, to complete the listed sites:
Bedford Close Rayleigh, Brocksford Green Rayleigh, Canewdon Village Green, Hullbridge Recreation Ground, Malvern Road Rayleigh, Millview Meadows Rochford, and Clements Hall Recreation Ground. (DE)

199 OneTeam Transformation Programme – Strategic Partnership with Brentwood Borough Council – Q4 and Annual Update

The Executive considered the report providing the quarter 4 update November 2023 to January 2024 along with the annual update on progress of the One Team Transformation Programme from February 2023 to January 2024.

In response to member questions the following points were noted:

- The programme will now be in the form of a transformation programme and members of the Executive have received a presentation in briefing.
- The make-up of the top tier staff one – four is a total of thirty-four staff members of those eleven have a contract with Rochford and twenty-three have a contract with Brentwood.
- The original estimate of budget savings that were identified at the start was 600 – 850k from 2024-2025

A full discussion took place prior to noting the report.

Resolved

That the contents of this report be noted.

200 Voluntary Sector Grants

The Executive considered the report providing a summary report of the member cross party evaluation panel and the panel's decision for 2024-25 voluntary sector grants.

Cllr A L Williams declared an interest on this item by virtue of being a trustee with RRAVS and therefore would not be casting a vote.

Cllr A L Williams informed the committee that as he was a trustee and is aware that RRAVS have funding for another year and that the funding from Rochford District Council was important.

Cllr J R F Mason moved a motion that recommendations R1 – R5 on page 8.1 of the report be approved and proposed a further recommendation R6 – To approve £15,000 discretionary funding for Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Service for 2024-2025 which is within existing budgets, seconded by Cllr A H Eves.

Resolved

- (1) To recommend the funding that the member cross-party evaluation panel felt should be awarded as set in Appendix A.
- (2) Subject to agreement of the Executive group that the organisations are allocated the funding to be paid out as soon as possible.
- (3) To note feedback from some of the organisations in regard to the funding they received 2023-24 Voluntary Sector Grants as set out in Appendix B.

- (4) To note the annual update from Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association (RRAVS) annual report in Appendix C
- (5) A report comes to relevant committee once the outcome of the Essex County Council Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) infrastructure model is determined to understand the impact this will have on Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Services (RRAVS)
- (6) To approve £15,000 discretionary funding for Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Service for 2024-2025 which is within existing budgets. (DCH)

201 Purchase of Waste and Street Cleansing Vehicles

The Executive considered the report setting out the vehicles that require purchasing to ensure continuity of delivery for the waste and street cleansing service undertaken by Rochford Norse.

After a full discussion the recommendations were considered for approval.

Cllr C M Stanley moved a motion to approve the two recommendations on page 9.1 of the report, seconded by Cllr M Hoy.

Resolved

- (1) To delay purchase of the remaining vehicle fleet, with the exception of the purchase of two mechanical sweeps at an approximate cost of £253,000 whilst a further business case is presented for consideration.
- (2) To instruct Rochford Norse to arrange for the purchase of the vehicles. (DE)

Cllr J R F Mason gave his personal thank you to all officers for their assistance, both Deputy Leaders, Cllr J E Newport and Cllr M Hoy for their support and gave thanks to all Executive Lead Members.

Cllr J E Newport thanked Cllr JRF Mason for leading the Executive over this last year.

The meeting closed at 20:38

Chairman

Date

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