

EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

SCRUTINY AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 February 2019 at 6.30 pm

Present:-

Cllr Mrs J Dover – Chairman

Cllr A A J Clarke – Vice-Chairman

Present: Cllr S Bartlett, Cllr C R W Beck, Cllr D B F Burt, Cllr B Goringe,
Cllr P R Harrison, Cllr P G Oggelsby, Cllr A Parry and
Cllr G W Russell

Also in attendance: Cllr R Bryan, Cllr Mrs B Manuel,

Apologies: Cllr J L Robinson

293. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations received on this occasion.

294. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2019 were agreed and signed as accurate record.

Voting: Nem. Con

295. Presentations by the Public

No presentations were received on this occasion.

296. Final Report - Cabinet Committee (One Year Strategy)

The Strategic Director submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were advised of the Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee of the work of the Cabinet Committee (One Year Strategy) in a final, end of year report.

The Portfolio Holder for Change and Transformation as the Chairman of the Cabinet Committee (CC), presented the report, advising that the same report would be presented at Cabinet on 6 March 2019.

Members welcomed the update of what had been achieved and passed on their congratulations to those involved with the work, and wished good luck be passed on to those taking on the assets.

Members agreed that they should be considering the issue of the sale of Furzehill. The Chairman of the Committee asked why a report, detailing the

sale of Furzehill had not be presented at this meeting, as requested by the Cabinet Committee. Members were advised that the information was not available.

At the meeting of the Cabinet Committee Members had requested to see a timeline for the transfer of assets. It was confirmed that this information had not been provided for this meeting this evening.

There was a sense of surprise, from Members at the Cabinet Committee meeting, that the report presented was very brief and contained general information. Members were disappointed that the building had been empty for so long. At an informal meeting of the Cabinet, alternatives had been explored and it had been discussed that the money from the sale obviously had not gone into the Capital Programme. There was an expectation that there would be an update at this meeting. Issues were raised at a meeting of the Committee in 2016, in a report, including the relocation to Allenvie and the sale of the Furzehill offices. Members had been assured at that time that the money from the sale would be available for spending by this Council. Now Members were informed that it would not be sold before the end of this Council, and the money will go to the new Dorset Area Council funds.

The Chairman of the Cabinet Committee advised that they regretted not including a progress report item on the sale of Furzehill, as a standing item. This would have resulted in a greater sense of accountability. The delay in the sale has never been fully explained to Members. Members were disappointed by the amount of information reported to the last meeting of the CC.

Following a further discussion about the merits of receiving further information about the sale of Furzehill, it was proposed and seconded that:

a report should go to Full Council detailing the sale of Furzehill.

With no votes in support, the motion fell.

Members agreed that a final position statement should be circulated to all Members, in the form of a Member Briefing paper.

19:16 Cllr Parry, Cllr Bartlett and Cllr Harrison left the meeting.

RESOLVED that a Member briefing paper, giving an update on the position relating to the sale of Furzehill be circulated to all Members of the Council.

Voting: unanimous

297. Outside Bodies Report - Joint Health Scrutiny Committee and South Western Ambulance Service

Members noted the Outside Bodies Update Report on the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee and the South Western Ambulance Service held on held on the 24 January 2019.

Cllr Oggelsby gave a verbal update, stating that he was disappointed at the outcomes and attendance at the meeting.

Members thanked Cllr Oggelsby for his work.

RESOLVED that Members noted the update.

Voting: Nem. Con

298. Minutes from the Shadow Dorset Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Members received the minutes of the Shadow Dorset Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED that Members noted the update.

Voting: Nem. Con

The Chairman gave thanks to the Vice Chairman and acknowledged the work completed by the Committee. The Members thanked the Chairman and the officers who have supported the Committee.

The meeting ended at 7.25 pm

CHAIRMAN

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