

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER

THURSDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2022 (6PM)

Present:

Councillors: M J Hart (Chairman), S E N Rook (Vice-Chairman), J Aston, V Caulfield, N J Desmond, P Dyke, C Edginton-White, S Miah, T L Onslow, C Rogers, D Ross and D Sheppard.

Observers

Councillors: G W Ballinger, A Coleman, R Coleman, H E Dyke and N. Martin.

Observed remotely: Councillors J F Byng, I Hardiman and M Rayner.

OS.18 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

OS.19 Appointment of Substitutes

There were no substitutes.

OS.20 Declarations of Interests by Members

No declarations of interest were made.

OS.21 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meetings held on 30 June 2022 and 7 July 2022 be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

OS.22 Stourport Sports Club: Consideration of call-in request.

The Committee considered the call-in request signed by Councillors D Ross, P Harrison and F Oborski MBE.

The Chief Executive presented the original report, which provided the Committee with relevant facts, figures and information on the wider context and background to the decision.

A robust discussion ensued. Several members spoke in support of the call-in, commenting on the excellent service the sports club gives to the residents and their concerns that the trust taking over might sell the site. Members also questioned why a long lease could not be negotiated instead of the freehold being disposed of.

The Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Community

Agenda Item No. 4

Safety and Chief Executive were able to provide members with verbal responses to their questions and provide clarification on issues raised.

A member proposed that the Committee recommend the decision should be reconsidered. This was seconded. Upon a show of hands, the vote was tied and the proposal was carried by the Chairman's casting vote.

Agreed: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommended that the Cabinet should reconsider the decision.

OS.23 Performance and Budget Monitoring Q1 update

The Committee considered a draft of a Cabinet report from the Head of Resources and S151 Officer which briefed the members on the Council's financial and other performance at the end of Quarter 1 ending 30 June 2022 and presented the current projected outturn position for the 2022-23 financial year.

The Head of Resources explained the new style report and went through the revenue and capital positions and the performance tables. The Committee discussed the report and took the opportunity to question the Head of Resources.

Agreed: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee support the proposed recommendations as set out in the draft Cabinet report.

OS.24 Worcestershire's Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2022-2025

The Committee considered a draft of a Cabinet report from the Head of Strategic Growth which sought the Cabinet's agreement to publicly consult on the new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy (2022-25) in advance of adoption.

The Head of Strategic Growth presented the report and outlined the key issues. The Committee discussed the report and took the opportunity to question the Head of Strategic Growth on the report.

Agreed: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee support the proposed recommendations as set out in the draft Cabinet report.

OS.25 Report on the progress around the Top Ten Actions in the Climate Change Strategy Action Plan

The Committee considered a draft of a Cabinet report from the Principal Health and Sustainability Officer which updated the members on action to tackle climate

change, including an update on the 'Top Ten Actions' of the Green Advisory Panel, which included the Wyre Forest Climate Change action plan for 2022-23 for endorsement.

The Principal Health and Sustainability Officer presented the report and outlined the key issues. The Committee discussed the report and took the opportunity to question the Principal Health and Sustainability Officer on the report.

Agreed: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee support the proposed

recommendations as set out in the draft Cabinet report.

OS.26 Work Programme

The Committee reviewed and noted the work programme for the remainder of the municipal year. The Chairman gave advance notice that the October meeting would probably be cancelled because there were no items on the work programme.

OS.27 Press Involvement.

There were no further items for scrutiny that might require publicity.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7.43pm.