

MINUTES OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

31 January 2008

7.30pm-9.16pm

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Joshua Jolles (Chair)

Nick Churchill
Patrick McClarnon

Sean Folan

Su Lawton
Linda Pailing

APOLOGIES

Rob Eschle

37. COUNCILLOR ROB ESCHLE

The Committee extended their good wishes to Councillor Rob Eschle, who was indisposed.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Joshua Jolles and Su Lawton each declared a personal interest in agenda item 7 (Flooding Review – Action Plan Update) as they were Council representatives on the Ryeland Community Housing Neighbourhood Board.

Councillor Su Lawton also declared a personal interest in agenda item 8 (Annual Review of Member Working Groups) as her partner holds a Hackney Carriage licence.

Councillor Linda Pailing declared a personal interest in agenda item 8 (Annual Review of Member Working Groups) as she is a member of the Playhouse Working Group.

39. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2007 and 15 January 2008 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

40. **MATTERS ARISING**

None.

41. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

None.

42. **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2007/08**

RESOLVED that the Committee Work Programme be noted.

43. **FLOODING REVIEW – ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

The Committee received a progress report on the Flooding Review Action Plan. It was noted that an amended Appendix 2, which included Thames Water work, would be circulated separately.

A summary of the Pitt Review “Learning Lessons from the 2007 Floods” had been circulated to members of this Committee for information.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the update of the actions, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be noted,
- (b) the update of works, as set out in Appendix 2, be noted.

44. **ANNUAL REVIEW OF MEMBER WORKING GROUPS**

The Committee received a report on the annual review of Member Working Groups.

Members rationalised the proposals at Table 1 of the report.

It was noted that the membership of the Budget & Performance Monitoring Working Party had been amended at the last Council meeting and that its Terms of Reference were being reviewed by the Constitution Committee. In the meantime the Working Group had established a programme of regular monthly meetings.

At the 2007 annual review, the Council had agreed that the Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Consultative Body should continue until its current work programme had been completed. Members noted that only one issue remained outstanding for the Body to complete.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the recommendations as set out in Table 1 of the report be referred to Policy & Resources Committee for agreement, subject to the following amendments:-
 - (i) Budget & Performance Monitoring Working Party – amend recommendation to read: “to continue to meet on a monthly basis to support the Policy & Resources Committee”.
 - (ii) Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Consultative Body – amend recommendation to read: “Continue on a task and finish basis”.
- (b) it be agreed that the Scrutiny Committee continues to undertake an ongoing annual review of Member Working Groups.

45. **HARLOW 2020 REVIEW – FINAL REPORT**

The Committee received the final report of the Harlow 2020 review.

The Chair welcomed Jackie Sully (Chair of Harlow 2020) to the meeting. She explained the changes that were being implemented to address issues regarding the structure, accountability, communication and engagement of the organisation.

Having heard the proposed changes being implemented by Harlow 2020, Members considered that the recommendations at Appendix 1 of the report should be amended to reflect this, before being submitted to the Policy & Resources Committee.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Chair of this Committee and Councillors Sean Folan and Linda Pailing (members of the Harlow 2020 Working Party), in consultation with the Scrutiny Manager, amend the recommendations at Appendix 1 of the report to reflect the changes being implemented by Harlow 2020;
- (b) these amended recommendations be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee for agreement.

46. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

47. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE