

# Minutes

## Community Development Scrutiny Committee

16<sup>th</sup> February 2022



### Present

Councillors	Present	Councillors	Present
Mrs C Dervish	No	Mrs J Pell	Apologies
Mrs D Garrod (Chairman)	Yes	Miss M Weeks	Yes
A Hensman (Vice-Chairman)	Yes	Mrs S Wilson	No
Mrs A Kilmartin	Yes	B Wright	Apologies
W Korsinah	Yes		

### 13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**INFORMATION:** There were no Interests declared.

### 14 MINUTES

**DECISION:** The Minutes of the meeting of the Community Development Scrutiny Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 15 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

**INFORMATION:** There were no statements made, or questions asked.

### 16 SCRUTINY REVIEW INTO 'CYCLING AND WALKING' IN THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT – DRAFT REPORT 2021/22

**INFORMATION:** Members considered the draft report for the Scrutiny Review into 'Cycling and Walking' in the Braintree District.

Prior to the report, the Chairman, Councillor Mrs D Garrod, advised that she had received a response from Essex County Council (ECC) to an enquiry she had raised on the subject of the Essex Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan (the Plan). The Plan was a statutory document which was required to be updated every ten years. The current Plan was published in 2009, and the Chairman was keen to determine whether any such documents had been published more recently. The response from ECC indicated that no such documents had been produced since 2009. In light of this, the Chairman wished to propose an addition recommendation to the draft report, the wording for which had been circulated to Members in advance of the meeting via e-mail.

When discussing the proposed amendment to the report, the Governance and Members Manager highlighted that although the Plan had not been mentioned specifically over the course of the Committee's evidence gathering sessions, reference to the Plan was made in a number of comments from witnesses in conjunction with other related documents. It was therefore considered appropriate to refer to the Plan within the report.

It was noted that other 'ECC' documents in relation to the Plan were also found to be out of date; these included: the 'Public Rights of Way: Enforcement Concordat,' which was published in 2009 by ECC's Public Rights of Way Team; the 'Landowners and Farmers Guide to Public Rights of Way,' which was published in October 2011, and; ECC's 'Development and Public Rights of Way – Advice Note,' which was last published in January 2010 by the EPOA.

Members agreed with the additions to the report proposed by the Chairman.

**DECISION:** The Community Development Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Reviewed the draft report and finalised the content and draft recommendations to ensure that they are in keeping with the Terms of Reference of the Scrutiny Review and the evidence gathered.
- 2) Authorised the Chairman to finalise the draft report, prior to its submission to Full Council, and to give authority to Governance Officers to make any necessary administrative changes to the report.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To finalise the draft report for the Scrutiny Review into 'Cycling and Walking' prior to its submission to Full Council.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and closed at 7.34pm.

Councillor Mrs D Garrod  
(Chairman)