

Minutes

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

7th December 2016



Present

| Councillors | Present | Councillors | Present |
|------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Mrs M Cunningham | Yes | R Ramage | Apologies |
| J Goodman | Apologies | F Ricci | Apologies |
| P Horner | Apologies | Miss V Santomauro | No |
| D Hufton-Rees | No | P Schwier | Yes |
| G Maclure | Yes | C Siddall (Chairman) | Yes |
| D Mann (Vice-Chairman) | Yes | Vacancy | |

44 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

INFORMATION: The following interest was declared:-

Councillor C Siddall declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 5 – ‘Scrutiny Review into Employment Sites and Premises - Terms of Reference and Introduction’ as a non-paid Director of Ignite Business Enterprise.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Councillors Maclure and Schwier remained in the meeting and took part in the debate and decision when the Item was considered.

45 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

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

46 **MINUTES**

DECISION: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 23rd November 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Members noted that there had been an error in the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November in respect of Councillor Siddall’s attendance.

47 **SCRUTINY REVIEW INTO EMPLOYMENT SITES AND PREMISES - TERMS OF REFERENCE AND INTRODUCTION**

INFORMATION: As part of this year’s Scrutiny Review in to Employment Sites and Premises Members were asked to note the Councils current position in terms of the provision of employment sites and premises in the Braintree District and agree the Terms of Reference for the review and a list of outside speakers to be invited to attend future

meetings of the Committee. The Terms of Reference and suggested list of potential invitees for the review were set out in the report.

Members received a presentation from Janet Whyte, Economic Development Officer Infrastructure on the Council's current provision of employment sites and premises.

The presentation slides can be viewed at:

<http://braintree.cmis.uk.com/braintree/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/570/Committee/4/Default.aspx>

Members were advised that the framework and timetable for the Scrutiny Review had been agreed at its meeting on 8th June 2016. The Scrutiny Review was scheduled for an 18 month period and there were 9 scheduled Committee meetings during this time, however it was noted that there was scope to hold additional meetings if necessary as well as sub-group meetings and site visits.

It was suggested by Members that they would like to expand the list of potential invited speaker's to include organisations outside of Essex who had previously investigated employment sites and premises and had completed the process. It was suggested also to look at broader prospects with the possibility of inviting in larger business for discussions.

DECISION: That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;

1. Note the current position
2. Agree the list of speakers to be invited to attend future meetings

REASON FOR DECISION:

1. To ensure the delivery of the Committee's work programme.
2. To decide on the schedule of outside speakers for future meetings.

48 **DECISION PLANNER**

DECISION: That the Decision Planner for the period 1st January 2017 to 30th April 2017 be noted.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and closed at 8.15pm.

Councillor C Siddall
(Chairman)