

STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 29 November 2017

Time: 6.00 pm

Place: Shimkent Room - Daneshill House, Danestrete

Present: Councillors Lin Martin-Haugh (Chair), Phil Bibby CC (Vice-Chair), Jim Brown, Howard Burrell, Michael Downing, Alex Farquharson, Michelle Gardner, Sarah Mead, Adam Mitchell CC and Robin Parker CC.

Start / End Start Time: 6.00 pm
Time: End Time: 7.30pm

1. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 – POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES

At the invitation of the Chair, the Council's Constitutional Services Manager advised that Councillor Saunders was no longer a member of the Committee and, as such, a vacancy had arose which, in accordance with proportionality rules, lay with the Conservative Group to nominate a member of that Group to fill the vacancy.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Liz Harrington and John Lloyd.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13 November 2017 are approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. PART I DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

This report had not been circulated to Members five clear days before the meeting nor had it been made available for public inspection. The Chair determined however that given the short time left before the end of the call-in period on 7 December 2017, it could be considered on this occasion.

(i) 2017/18 Mid-Year Treasury Management Review (Agenda Item No.3(4))

The Council's Assistant Director (CF) introduced the report.

In response to a Member's question, it was noted that the Council had the power to operate within its strategy for the procurement of vacant properties

elsewhere and outside of the Borough and that the use of this power by officers was dependent upon what was on the market at any given time.

It was **RESOLVED** that the following Part 1 decisions taken by the Executive at its meeting on 28 November 2017 be noted:

- **2017/18 Mid-Year Treasury Management Review**

- (ii) **Permit Parking Scheme in Burymead (Agenda Item No.3(5))**

The Council's Traffic and Parking Enforcement Manager (PH) introduced the report.

Members raised a number of questions in relation to the following:

- Where within the controlled parking zone (CPZ) could people who had paid to use it, park.
- The number of properties and resultant spaces to be created within the CPZ.
- The likelihood of other such schemes being introduced.
- The number of responses required to effect the introduction of the CPZ.
- How the CPZ would be policed.
- Did residents affected have all of the details required to make an informed choice in terms of supporting a CPZ there.
- Whether higher charges should be imposed on households with additional cars.
- Restrictions in terms of size of vehicles permitted to park there.
- Visitor vouchers and restrictions that would apply.
- The potential for charging businesses which may need to park there to carry out works to the properties.

Given the Committee's concerns as to the required number of residents required to support the proposal, assurances were given that the wording used in the next phase of the consultation would clarify this.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Part 1 decisions taken by the Executive at its meeting on 28 November 2017 be noted.

- **Permit Parking Scheme in Burymead**

- (iii) **2nd Quarter Monitoring Capital Programme Report – General Fund and HRA (Agenda Item No.3(6))**

The Council's Assistant Director (CF) introduced the report.

It was **RESOLVED** that the following Part 1 decisions taken by the Executive at its meeting on 28 November 2017 be noted:

- **2nd Quarter Monitoring Capital Programme Report – General Fund and HRA**

4. **URGENT PART I DECISIONS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

None.

5. **URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS**

None.

6. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1 to 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by SI 2006 No. 88.
2. That having considered the reasons for the following items being in Part II it be determined that maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighed the public interest in disclosure.

7. **PART II DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE**

This report had not been circulated to Members five clear days before the meeting. The Chair determined however that given the short time left before the end of the call-in period on 6 December 2017, it could be considered on this occasion.

(i) Business Unit Reviews Growth Funding

It was **RESOLVED** that the Part II decisions taken by the Executive at its meeting on 28 November 2017 be noted.

(ii) Financial Security Options and Overarching Capital Strategy

It was **RESOLVED** that the Part II decisions taken by the Executive at its meeting on 28 November 2017 be noted.

(iii) Technology Improvement Plan

It was **RESOLVED** that the Part II decisions taken by the Executive at its meeting on 28 November 2017 be noted.

8. **URGENT PART II BUSINESS**

NONE

CHAIR