

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 14 JULY 2016
MAIN POINTS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE
AND FOLLOW UP ACTION
REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE
(Contact: Councillor Peter Handley)

(The report is for information)

1. PURPOSE

To consider the main points arising from the meetings of the Committee held on 26 May 2016 and provide an update on the follow up action that has been taken.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That, the report be noted.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1. At the meeting of this Committee held on 26 May 2016 four reports were received and considered.

Participation of the Public

3.2. The Committee received representation from Mr Sharone Parnes regarding the Local Plan and in particular strategic sites in Woodstock.

3.3. The representation was noted and it was advised that the Council would take account of all concerns expressed as part of the current review of the Local Plan and explained that the matter was not before the Committee at this juncture but that a workshop was to be held on 8 July to which all members of the Council had been invited, prior to a report being submitted to the Cabinet.

3.4. After further discussion members asked if it would be possible to receive a copy of the consultants brief. The Strategic Director undertook to see if this could be made available.

Committee Work Programme 2016/2017

3.5. Consideration was given to the report of the Strategic Director seeking consideration of a Work Programme for 2016/2017.

3.6. After discussion it was resolved:

- (a) That a Working Party comprised of Mr Beaney, Mrs Carter or Mr Enright, Mr Cooper, Mrs Crossland, Mrs Doughty, Mrs Fenton and Mr Kelland be constituted to give consideration to the procurement of the leisure management contract and delivery of the current service.
- (b) That the Strategic Director be requested to prepare a draft Work Programme, incorporating the matters referred to at the meeting, together with any other issues outstanding from the previous year, for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee.

3.7. A report outlining suggested topics for the forthcoming year is included on this agenda.

Cabinet Work Programme

3.8. The Cabinet Work Programme published on 24 May 2016 was noted.

Review of Business Support

3.9. The committee received an update from the Business Development Officer outlining support available for small businesses in the district.

3.10. During detailed discussion issues raised included links with educational establishments, broadband provision, tourism promotion, business rate relief and the impact of cuts to bus services on the economy.

3.11. Members thanked Will Barton for his report and expressed their appreciation for his efforts on behalf of the District.

Start Time of Meetings

3.12. It was resolved to hold meetings of the committee at 6.30om during the 2016/2017 municipal year.

Members' Questions

3.13. Questions were received regarding Witney Community Hospital, monitoring of waste disposal sites and the redevelopment of MOD land in Carterton.

4. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

None.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

6. RISKS

None.

7. REASONS

The Chairman's summary of the previous meeting is an opportunity for the Chairman to outline to members progress made on their ideas and suggestions from the previous Committee meetings. It will also provide members with a further chance to comment on these subjects and provide a transparent method of showing the effectiveness of members' contributions to this Committee and its key overview and scrutiny role in monitoring, evaluating, questioning, challenging and developing policy.

Councillor Peter Handley
Chairman of Economic and Social Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 9 June 2016

Background Papers:

None