

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (ECONOMIC WELL-BEING) held in Civic Suite 0.1A, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, PE29 on Thursday, 9 April 2015.

PRESENT: Councillor R Harrison – Chairman.

Councillors P L E Bucknell, G J Bull,
E R Butler, Mrs A Dickinson, I D Gardener,
D Harty, T Hayward, B Hyland, P G Mitchell,
P D Reeve and M F Shellens.

APOLOGY(IES): Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors .

IN ATTENDANCE: .

98. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 5 March 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

99. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were received.

100. NOTICE OF KEY EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The panel considered and noted the current Notice of Key Executive Decisions (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book).

101. PREPARING TOWN CENTRES AND HIGH STREETS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

The panel received a presentation from M W Grimsey on the subject of "Preparing Town Centres and High Streets for the 21st Century" (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book).

Members thanked Mr W Grimsey for his interesting presentation. It was agreed that Mr W Grimsey's contact details would be made available to members of the Panel meeting

102. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Operations (a copy of which is appended in the Minute book) on the proposed 2015/16 capital programme.

Members expressed interest in seeing more detail on the proposed

capital scoring system which the Finance Governance Board had used to access the proposals, details of which will be provided via email. The Head of Resources confirmed that this scoring system was based on methodology from CIPFA.

RESOLVED

that the Cabinet be recommended to approve the Capital Programme attached at Appendix 2.

103. PROJECT MANAGEMENT SELECT COMMITTEE

The Panel received and noted a report (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) on the findings and recommendations of the Project Management Select Committee, which will be submitted to Cabinet 23 April 2015.

RESOLVED

that the Cabinet be recommended to approve the recommendations contained in the report now submitted.

104. WORKPLAN STUDIES

Consideration was given to a report on the work programmes of the Social and Environmental Well-Being Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

A volunteer was requested to be co-opted on to the Affordable Housing Working group led by the Social Well-Being Panel. Councillor P L E Bucknell was appointed to this group.

105. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROGRESS

The Panel received and noted a report (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) outlining the progress that has been made on matters which had previously been discussed.

Following the presentation from Mr W Grimsey earlier, it was noted that Councillor Sanderson would be attending the next meeting to give an update on the Economic Growth Plan.

Councillor P G Mitchell was thanked for his work on the Great Fen Project and other work during his time as a District Councillor and was wished all the best on his retirement. It was agreed that the Great Fen Project would now be overlooked by the Environmental Panel.

Following the receipt of a report from Councillor Hayward on behalf of the Budget Working Group, it was agreed that this item would be removed from the Work Plan however a similar approach may be followed in future years.

It was requested that reports on Facing the Future and Zero Based Budgeting be submitted in June 2015.

106. SCRUTINY

The Panel received the latest edition of the Decision Digest (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book).

Chairman