

Minutes

of a meeting of the

Scrutiny Committee

held on Thursday, 29 November 2018 at 7.00 pm

at the Meeting Room 1, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, OX14 4SB



Open to the public, including the press

Present:

Members: Councillors Debby Hallett (Chairman), Chris Palmer (Vice-Chairman), Matthew Barber, Robert Hall, Vicky Jenkins, Sandy Lovatt, Ben Mabbett, Judy Roberts and Katie Finch (In place of Mike Badcock)

Officers:

Jayne Bolton, Suzanne Malcolm, Adrianna Partridge, Donna Pentelow and Ron Schrieber

Also present:

Councillors Alice Badcock and Mike Murray

Sc.48 Apologies for absence

Councillor Mike Badcock (substituted by Katie Finch), submitted apologies.

Sc.49 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2018 were agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

Sc.50 Declarations of interest

None.

Sc.51 Urgent business and chairman's announcements

None.

Sc.52 Public participation

None.

Sc.53 Developing a health and wellbeing strategy for Vale of White Horse

The committee considered the report of the head of community services regarding the intention to develop a health and wellbeing strategy for the Vale of White Horse

Councillor Alice Badcock, Cabinet member for community services, introduced the report. Also present to answer questions was Donna Pentelow, head of community services.

The committee was informed that it was intended to develop a strategy that set out the council's aspirations and ambitions for health and wellbeing in the Vale. The scope of the strategy would need to be determined, but could involve services from across the council. There was also significant scope for partnership working both with other public sector organisations and with the voluntary and community sector.

Whilst broadly welcoming the proposal, members made a number of observations, including:

- The strategy would need to complement, rather than duplicate, other existing health and wellbeing strategies.
- Consideration should be given to retitling the strategy to avoid confusion with other health and wellbeing strategies.
- The strategy should set out what success would look like and how it will be quantified.
- As the strategy would also apply to South Oxfordshire, future reports on its development should be submitted to the Joint Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED: to

1. Note the principle of developing a health and wellbeing strategy and request Cabinet to take the committee's views, as set out above, into account.
2. Request that future reports on the development of the strategy be submitted to the Joint Scrutiny Committee.

Sc.54 Community Infrastructure Levy - spending strategy

The committee considered the report of the head of development and regeneration on the draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) spending strategy, adopted by the Council in November 2017.

Councillor Mike Murray, Cabinet member for development and regeneration, introduced the report. Also present to answer questions were Suzanne Malcolm, head development and regeneration, and Jayne Bolton, infrastructure and development manager.

In response to members' questions, it was reported that:

- CIL expenditure aimed at mitigating the infrastructure impacts of an individual development, as well as the overall cumulative effect of development, as CIL will not generate sufficient income to meet all infrastructure requirements.

- The allocation of funding to Oxfordshire County Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group and to various infrastructure types within the district, was partly based on historic spending. However, these percentages would be reviewed annually, based on performance and council infrastructure policies.
- Under the new staffing structure, staff resources had been allocated to providing advice and support to town and parish councils.
- Officers would liaise with the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils regarding appropriate advice to enable town and parish clerks to manage CIL spending on larger infrastructure projects should they wish to.

Whilst broadly welcoming the draft CIL spending strategy, the committee suggested that:

- Further clarification be provided regarding the duty to pass on CIL revenues to towns/parishes, subject to a cap per existing council tax dwelling.
- The consequences of a town/parish not spending its CIL revenues within 5 years be included.

RESOLVED: to note the report and request the Cabinet member to take the committee's views, as set out above, into account.

Sc.55 Work schedule and dates for all South and Vale scrutiny meetings

The committee noted its work programme and, in view of the number of items scheduled for its February meeting, asked officers to consider deferring some to the March committee.

The meeting closed at 8.39 pm