



SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16:35 to 17:55

11 June 2015

Present: Councillors Wright (chair), Maxwell (vice chair), Bogelein, Grahame, Haynes, Herries (substitute for Coleshill), Jackson (substitute for Raby), Manning, Packer, Peek, Ryan, Schmierer and Woollard (substitute for Sands (S))

Apologies: Councillors Coleshill, Raby and Sands (S)

1. Appointment of vice chair

Councillors Haynes and Maxwell were moved as vice chair. After a vote it was:-

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Maxwell as vice chair for the upcoming civic year.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2015.

4. Appointment of representative and substitute for the Norfolk Health Overview Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED to:

- a) adopt the suggested protocol; and
- b) appoint Councillor Bogelein as the representative and Councillor Grahame as the substitute for the Norfolk Health Overview Scrutiny Committee.

5. Appointment of representative and substitute for the Norfolk Countywide Community Safety partnership Scrutiny sub panel

RESOLVED to:

- a) appoint Councillor Maxwell as the representative for the Norfolk Countywide Community Safety partnership Scrutiny sub panel; and
- b) speak to committee members who had given their apologies to identify a substitute.

(Councillor Jackson left the meeting at this point)

6. Setting of the scrutiny committee work programme for 2015 - 2016

The chair presented the report.

Members discussed the topics outlined in the report as well as topics suggested by members in advance of the meeting.

RESOLVED to:

- a) postpone the meeting of the scrutiny committee due to be held on 18 June to Monday 6 July at 16:30 in order to pre scrutinise the cabinet report on establishing a local housing company,
- b) ask the scrutiny officer to add the following topics to the tracker:
 - i. Verge issues to be placed onto the new tracker and a pre-scrutiny of the report that is planned for cabinet in February to be considered at the 25 February 2015 meeting of the scrutiny committee,
 - ii. Best practice in tackling transphobic hate crime with the head of neighbourhood services to provide an update and information as an email briefing to the scrutiny committee,
 - iii. A briefing paper circulated to members on the council's consultation process to gain an overview and understanding of the council's current work in this area. Councillor Bogelein offered to submit a paper via the chair of the scrutiny committee on options for consultation practices to feed into a future report; and
 - iv. The topic of 'communications approach of the scrutiny committee' be an ongoing piece of work with a view to make suggestions on how members advertise and publicise their work.

- c) add the following topics to the work programme:
- i. The meeting scheduled for the 16 July 2015 to deal with two topics
 - An overview of the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) sanctions with particular emphasis on the effects for young people and homeless, and
 - Benefits processing times,with the policy and performance manager to invite representatives from the DWP, LGSS, MAP and Equal Lives.
 - ii. The meetings scheduled for 16 July 2015 and 15 October would cover implications arising from the new government's budget.
 - iii. Harnessing the co-operative agenda in local government for Norwich which would be scoped around looking at co-operative innovations and solutions and suggestions for how Norwich may benefit from these. This would possibly be added to the agenda for the meeting on 17 September 2015.
 - iv. The meeting scheduled for 17 March 2016 to cover academy chains and free schools; governance, financial management and community engagement. The chair offered to speak to the chair of the county council's children's and adult services committee to see what scope there may be for joint work.

CHAIR