

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**HELD ON 26 MARCH 2014 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COUNCIL OFFICES, WEELEY**

Present: Councillors Steady (Chairman), Miles (Vice-Chairman), Bucke, Caines, R Callender, V E Guglielmi, Nicholls and Wood.

Also Present: Councillor Goggin (Finance and Transformation Portfolio Holder).

In Attendance: Finance and Procurement Manager (Richard Barrett), Democratic Services Manager (Colin Sweeney) and Democratic Services Officer (Michael Pingram).

70. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

There were none.

71. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 12 February 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

73. SUMMARY OF RURAL PROJECTS PANEL'S FIRST MEETING

Councillor Nicholls provided the Committee with a summary, as Chairman, of the Rural Projects Panel's first meeting, held on 10 March 2014.

Councillor Nicholls said that the Panel had discussed the topics it would like to examine in more detail, which would include gas and electricity supplies, rural transport, rural amenities and mains sewerage. It was noted that the Panel would monitor broadband speeds in rural areas within the District.

Councillor Nicholls then informed the Committee that earlier in the day on 10 March 2014, a meeting had also taken place regarding inland flooding issues with attendees from a number of organisations, including Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, Essex Highways, Essex County Council Floods Management, Anglian Water and the Environment Agency. He said it had been a useful meeting however funding was a key reason why some issues had not been resolved and it was suggested enforcement action be actioned where appropriate.

Following discussion by the Committee, it was **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET** that it inform and encourage town and parish councils within Tendring to ask its residents to consider the "Essex Energy Switch", a scheme run by Essex County Council designed to save consumers money when purchasing gas and/or electric energy supplies, and encourages the establishment of oil-buying groups to bulk purchase domestic heating oil.

74. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT THIRD QUARTER

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services), which provided the Committee with an overview of the Council's actual financial position against the budget, as at the end of December 2013.

The Council's Finance and Procurement Manager explained to the Committee that, based on the second quarter, there were no surprises. He stated that salaries were currently £230,000 behind the profile budget whilst warning that insurance premiums were slightly ahead of the profile budget and that there could be further increases in the future.

He then informed the Committee that a number of income budgets were currently ahead of profile, namely car park income and planning fees.

Following discussion and questions by the Committee, it was **AGREED** to **COMMENT TO CABINET** that:

- (a) It continue with the excellent work and look at how the Council's robust position could be enhanced by seeking a more joined-up approach with Town and Parish Councils with regard to providing shared services and associated costs.
- (b) In taking the "Right to Buy Scheme" into consideration, Cabinet look into the possibility of building homes outside of the Housing Revenue Account.
- (c) It closely monitors the level of recycling and the promotion of such to ensure the increase needed to recover the recycling position was achieved.

75. WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services), which provided the Committee with a review of the work it had carried out in the current municipal year and sought Members' approval to a draft Work Programme for the coming 2014/2015 Municipal Year.

The Council's Democratic Services Manager explained that Appendix A to the report was a summary of what had been discussed and agreed by the Committee in the municipal year thus far. He stated that Appendix B was a suggested work programme for the Committee and he was happy for the Committee to add any items it felt were required.

Following discussion by the Committee it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The report on the review of the year 2013 to 2014 be noted;
- (b) The draft 2014/15 Work Programme be approved and submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Council for approval, subject to the inclusion of the additional items set out in (c) below; and
- (c) The following items be added to the 2014/15 Work Programme:
 - To meet more often with Portfolio Holders to understand their aims and aspirations;
 - To receive updates from the Rural Projects Panel;
 - In light of comments at Council on 25 March 2014, to review Tendring Regeneration Limited and its performance now and in the future;
 - To encourage Members to take on specific tasks (e.g. The Local Government Association and how it could benefit this Council)

76. FORWARD PLAN

The Committee noted the new items relevant to the terms of reference of the Committee contained in Forward Plan No.150.

77. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

There were none.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.17 p.m.

Chairman