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Community Leadership Overview and
Scrutiny Committee

28 June 2022

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE,
HELD ON TUESDAY, 28TH JUNE, 2022 AT 7.30 PM
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM - TOWN HALL, STATION ROAD, CLACTON-ON-SEA,
CO15 1SE**

Present:	Councillors Chittock (Chairman), S Honeywood (Vice-Chairman), Codling, Davidson, King, Miles, Nash and Steady
Also Present:	Councillor Paul Honeywood (Portfolio Holder for Housing)
In Attendance:	Keith Simmons (Head of Democratic Services and Elections), William Lodge (Communications Manager), Keith Durran (Committee Services Officer), Hattie Dawson-Dragisic (Performance and Business Support Officer) and Taylor Turner (Apprentice (Democratic Services & Elections))

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

An apology for absence was submitted by Councillor Paul Clifton (no substitution).

7. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on Monday 9 May 2022 be approved as a correct record.

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Steady declared an interest in relation to the item on the agenda for this meeting in respect of the work programme (Minute 12 refers), as there were suggestions that an enquiry be undertaken in relation to the Council's Beach Hut Strategy, as he owned a Beach Hut and was a member of the Brightlingsea Beach Hut Association.

9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 38

On this occasion no Councillor had submitted notice of a question.

10. SCRUTINY OF PROPOSED DECISIONS

The Head of Democratic Services and Elections submitted to the Committee the list of forthcoming decisions published since the publication date of the agenda for its last Committee meeting. No Councillor had served notice that they wanted to raise an item in respect of any of those items.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING REPORT

The Committee was informed by the Head of Democratic Services and Elections that the recommendations agreed in their meeting on 21 March 2022 (Minute 53 refers), on

Children Missing from Education, had been submitted to Cabinet on 17 June 2022. The decision Cabinet made in response to the recommendations had been recorded in the report to this Committee. The Committee was also advised that the recommendations that were agreed in its meeting on 9 May 2022 in respect of Freeport East were also set out in the report together with the decision made by Cabinet on 17 June 2022 in response.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report.

12. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2022/23 AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2021/22

The Committee had before it a report of the Head of Democratic Services and Elections, which invited Members to consider a draft Work Programme for 2022/23 for recommendation to Council on 12 July 2022 and a review of the work that had been carried out in the Year 2021/22 in respect of Overview and Scrutiny.

The Committee was advised that, following Publication of the meeting's agenda and reports, an email had been received from Cllr Davidson, in respect of potential Work Programme Items. This had been circulated at the meeting. Councillor Davidson wished to add the following items for consideration for Work Programme items in 2022/23:

- *“Revisit home education. What progress has been made as to the governing and safeguarding?”*
- *Revisit climate change and progress made.*
- *Revisit Monitoring child poverty, deprivation and child life expectancy. What progress and policies have been put into place?*
- *Tending Homeless and the progress made.*
- *Housing stock/ social housing for larger families.”*

The Committee was further provided with a draft Annual Report in respect of the scrutiny function in 2022/23. This was circulated to the Committee at the meeting. It had been prepared in conjunction with the Chairmen of the two Overview and Scrutiny Committees of the Council. The Committee was advised that this report was a reflection of the last year of Scrutiny within this Committee and the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee was invited to comment on what it wanted to see reflected in the Annual Report and that this report would go to Full Council on 12 July 2022 (with the Work Programme).

In respect of the Work Programme 2022/23, the Head of Democratic Services and Elections advised the Committee that it had before them comments and suggestions by the public and various other stakeholders on what they would like to enquire into. Some of those thoughts included focusing on measure to regenerate Clacton Town Centre and looking back at health and education enquiries.

The process of developing the Work Programme for 2022/23 had involved;

- Requests to all District Councillors for items – dated 3 May 2022
- Requests to Cabinet Members – dated 3 May 2022
- Requests to Parish Town Councils for items – dated 3 May 2022
- A press release and social media posts inviting ideas on 4 May 2022

- Council staff invited to suggest items on 13 May 2022
- A meeting between the Leader, Deputy Leader, Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Head of Democratic Services and Elections and the two Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen to explore ideas – held on 17 May 2022
- Training on 25 May 2022 for Councillors on using approaches such as Task and Finish Groups, briefing papers, enquiry days, standing panels, when undertaking Overview and Scrutiny enquiries and reflecting this in its Work Programme.

The Committee's attention was drawn to the requirements of the Council's constitution in developing, and seeking approval for, its Work Programme proposals.

The Committee was directed to two suggestions for the work programme. The first picked up an enquiry that was set to be undertaken in 2021/22 in respect of the Jaywick Sands-holistic review. The Committee was reminded that this item was not pursued at the time because of the developing Jaywick Sands Place Plan. It was suggested by the Head of Democratic Services and Elections that now that the Place Plan for Jaywick Sands was underway and would be out for consultation, the Committee may wish to revisit this item. The other suggestion was an enquiry into the elements of the Tendring Colchester Border Garden Community. This picked up on concerns previously expressed that this should be scrutinised.

The Committee was advised to take notice to leave space within the Work Programme 2022/23 for any issues that arise during the year and (when setting its work programme) to consider the capacity to undertake a variety of areas for scrutiny in this year.

One option open to the Committee would be to submit to Council on 12 July 2022 initial the areas for scrutiny in 2022/23. Following that Council meeting the Committee could meet again (perhaps informally initially) in order to further identify areas for scrutiny taking into account of the suggestions submitted and others that may be made. The Head of Democratic Services and Elections suggested to the Committee that in order to review the suggestions that had been received there were discussions around creating a small working party in order to achieve this.

When the Committee does further prioritise enquiries for 2022/23, a member made reference to the acronym SWAM which meant that an enquiry should be specific, workable, achievable and meaningful.

The Committee considered the proposals for work programme items from stakeholders.

It was **RESOLVED**;

1. that an informal meeting of the Committee be arranged following the Council meeting on 12 July 2022 to further consider prioritisation of enquiries to be included in the 2022/23 Work Programme taking into account the suggestions of stakeholders including those from Councillor Davidson circulated at this meeting.
2. that the Head of Democratic Services and Elections be authorised, following consultation with the Chairman of this Committee and the Chairman of the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to finalise the Annual Report on the scrutiny function (in time to submit it Full Council on 12 July 2022). Members of the

Committee were invited to pass comments on the draft report to the Head of Democratic Services and Elections over the next few days.

It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** to **FULL COUNCIL** that:

1. The Work Programme set out at Appendix A to these Minutes be approved on the understanding that further enquiries would be added to these following further prioritisation by the Committee subsequent to the meeting of Council on 12 July 2022.
2. That the Annual Report 2021/22 on the scrutiny function, as finalised in accordance with the delegation from this Committee, be approved.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.00 pm

Chairman

SCOPING DOCUMENT FOR ENQUIRIES BY COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AS PART OF ITS WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23

Item	Date of Enquiry	Relevant Corporate Plan Theme/Annual Cabinet Priority	Information to be provided in advance	Those to be invited to attend	Articulated value of undertaking the review
<p>Jaywick, social issues, crime and deprivation, housing.</p> <p>Private Sector Housing and rental build quality. Plus a look at the action to address health inequality through addressing housing conditions.</p>	<p>To be Allocated</p>	<p>Community Leadership Through Partnerships/Joined up public services for the benefit of our residents and businesses</p> <p>Building Sustainable Communities for the Future/B2 Jaywick Sands - more and better housing; supporting the community, B5 - Building and managing our own homes and Effective planning policies</p> <p>Delivering High Quality Services/A6 - Effective Regulation and Enforcement</p>	<p>The emerging Place Plan for Jaywick.</p> <p>Data around the current position as it relates to Jaywick by way of demographics, health inequalities, recorded crime, service provision and plans for the area.</p> <p>The Essex Levelling Up proposals for the area and how they seek to address issues in the locality</p>	<p>Cllr P Honeywood as Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Jaywick Corporate Director, Operations and Delivery, Interim Director for Planning and Assistant Director, Housing and Environment</p> <p>Representatives from Essex County Council, the Environment Agency, the Clinical Commissioning Group/Primary Care Network/ICP</p> <p>Representatives from Community Groups in Jaywick</p>	<p>To look holistically at the issues as they relate to Jaywick Sands and the measures in place to address those issues and encourage further working between partners to collaboratively take opportunities to improve the area for its residents.</p> <p>The enquiry may also be able to inform the emerging Place Plan for Jaywick</p>

Item	Date of Enquiry	Relevant Corporate Plan Theme/Annual Cabinet Priority	Information to be provided in advance	Those to be invited to attend	Articulated value of undertaking the review
<p>Progressing the proposals for development as part of Tendring-Colchester Border Garden Community</p> <p>Considering the emerging Development Plan Document for the Garden Community</p> <p>Opportunities for enhancing the Garden Community through links to the Freeport East project.</p> <p>Examining stewardship/governance of the Garden Community.</p> <p>Assessing risk and challenges for the District as a whole.</p>	<p>September-November 2022</p>	<p>Community Leadership Through Partnerships</p>	<p>The emerging Development Plan Document for the Garden Community.</p> <p>Responses to consultation with the public/stakeholders on the Development Plan Document.</p> <p>The plans of Essex County Council for roads and for the rapid transit arrangements.</p> <p>Relevant plans of the University of Essex.</p> <p>Plans of public service providers such as health, fire and police for provision in respect of the Garden Community.</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Corporate Finance and Governance</p> <p>The Chairman of the Tendring Colchester Borders Joint Committee and the other Members of the Committee.</p> <p>The Planning Portfolio Holder</p> <p>The Deputy Chief Executive, Interim Director for Planning and the Corporate Director for Project Delivery</p> <p>Representatives from Essex County Council (Highways), North East Essex Health and Wellbeing Alliance</p>	<p>Reassurance that the Development Plan Document for the Garden Community (and related plans for the Garden Community) are robust and address the needs for that community.</p> <p>This process can itself inform the full Council's consideration of the Development Plan Document for the Garden Community – scheduled to be considered in January 2023.</p>