

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Place Scrutiny Committee

Date: Monday, 8th April, 2019

Place: Committee Room 1 - Civic Suite

Present: Councillor K Robinson (Chair)
Councillors M Terry (Vice-Chair), A Bright, K Buck, D Burzotta,
T Byford, A Chalk, M Davidson, M Dent, N Folkard, J Garston,
A Jones, D McGlone, D Nelson, N Ward, P Wexham and C Willis

In Attendance: A Lewis, C Robinson, E Cooney, G Gilbert, J Martin, A Keating and
T Row

Start/End Time: 6.30 pm - 7.15 pm

834 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

835 Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

(a) Councillor Bright – Agenda Item No. 8 (In-depth Scrutiny Project - Re-imagining the Town Centre in the context of the vision for Southend 2050 - Draft Final Report) – Non-pecuniary interest: Lives in High Street, Southend;

(b) Councillor Burzotta – Agenda Item No. 8 (In-depth Scrutiny Project - Re-imagining the Town Centre in the context of the vision for Southend 2050 - Draft Final Report) – Non-pecuniary interest: Family business interest in the Borough;

(c) Councillor Dent – Agenda Item No. 7 (Southend Energy Partnership) – Pecuniary interest: Customer of Southend Energy Company; and

(d) Councillor Terry – Agenda Item No. 7 (Southend Energy Partnership) – Non-pecuniary interest: Son works for an energy broker.

836 Questions from Members of the Public

In the absence of the questioner, the Scrutiny Committee noted the written response to a question from Mr Grubb to the Cabinet Member for Growth.

837 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 28th January 2019

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 28th January 2019 be received, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

838 Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th February 2019

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the special meeting held on Wednesday, 13th February 2019 be received, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

839 Monthly Performance Report

The Committee considered Minute 779 of Cabinet held on 12th March 2019, which had been referred direct by Cabinet to all three Scrutiny Committees together with the Monthly Performance Report covering the period to end February 2019, which had recently been circulated.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

Note:- This is an Executive Function.

Executive Councillor:- As appropriate to the item.

840 Southend Energy Partnership

The Committee considered Minute 774 of Cabinet held on 12th March 2019, which had been called-in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) which sought approval to transfer the contract for the operation of Southend Energy from OVO Energy Ltd to Robin Hood Energy.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:

“That the transfer of the contract to operate Southend Energy from OVO Energy Ltd to a new 5 year contract with Robin Hood Energy, subject to agreeing suitable commercial terms, be approved.”

Note: This is an Executive Function

Cabinet Member: Cllr Flewitt

841 In-depth Scrutiny Project - Re-imagining the Town Centre in the context of the vision for Southend 2050 - Draft Final Report

The Committee considered a report by the Strategic Director (Legal & Democratic Services) which sought formal approval to the draft final report and recommendations from the joint in-depth scrutiny project with the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee for 2018/19 entitled ‘Re-Imagining the Town Centre, in the Context of the Vision for Southend 2050’.

Resolved:-

1. That the report and conclusions from the in depth scrutiny project, detailed at Section 1 of the submitted report be agreed.

2. That in accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 10 (part 4 (e) of the Constitution), to agree that the Chairman of the Project Team present the report to a future meeting of Cabinet.

3. That the Members and Officers involved with the study be thanked for their hard work.

Note: This is a Scrutiny Committee.

842 Vote of Thanks

The Committee thanked the Chairman for the able way in which he had conducted the meetings of the last Municipal Year. The Chairman thanked the Committee for their contributions and hard work.

Chairman: _____