

At a Meeting of the **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Kilworthy Park, Drake Road, **TAVISTOCK** on **TUESDAY** the **20<sup>th</sup>** day of **MARCH 2012** at **2.00 pm**.

**Present:** Mr D W Cloke – Chairman  
Mr D Whitcomb – Vice-Chairman  
Mr R E Baldwin  
  
Corporate Director (AR)  
Policy Implementation Officer  
Business Development Manager  
Community Manager  
Regeneration Officer  
Committee & Ombudsman Link Officer

**In attendance:** Mr M Harper

**O&S 21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs K A Clish-Green and from Mrs L Rose.

**\*O&S 22 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**\*O&S 23 THE LOCALISM ACT – A GUIDE**

The Committee received and noted the guide to the Localism Act prepared by the Policy Implementation Officer together with an action plan for implementing certain parts of the Act. The plan would be updated as and when Government guidance was published. The Regulations relating to Neighbourhood Planning were published in March, with the remaining regulations for the Community Powers expected in October 2012.

In relation to the Council's 2015 Programme three strands of work would need to be addressed in terms of what can and what must be done. The Localism strand includes preparation for the Localism Act, effective community engagement and the potential devolution of services. Work had commenced on the Localism Act Project and would be developed in the light of Government guidance and local needs.

**\*O&S 24 FORMATION OF THE MEADOWLANDS TASK & FINISH GROUP**

Arising from a recent informal meeting of the Council, the Chairman reported that it had been suggested that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee establish a Task & Finish Group to look into the performance of the leisure contract with particular reference to the operation of the Meadowlands Leisure Pool in the light of the recent malfunction of plant.

The Chief Executive had prepared a suggested Terms of Reference for the Task & Finish Group which included a proposed report back to Council on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2012, and that membership should not include those

Members who formally served on the Members' Group on the Leisure Connection Contract. The Group Leaders had been asked to nominate Members to serve on the Group.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Leisure Management Task & Finish Group be established comprising Councillors D Cloke, D Whitcomb, R Baldwin, K Ball, M Harper and A Leech and that the suggested terms of reference as prepared by the Chief Executive be adopted, a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes.

It was **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Group's initial meeting would be held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012.

**\*O&S 25 BROADBAND TASK & FINISH GROUP**

The Committee received and noted the notes of the Joint Access to Next Generation Broadband Task & Finish Group meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2012 (page 19 to the Agenda).

The Chairman raised the issue of the future of the Task & Finish Group as it had completed that task set for it, however, there was still work to do which would be better served by a working group with a revised remit. A similar consideration was to be discussed at South Hams District Council and the Chairman expressed his contentment at the Group continuing as a working group.

It was **RESOLVED** that the proposal for the Task & Finish Group changing to a Working Group with revised terms of reference and remit be supported.

**\*O&S 26 TAMAR VALLEY MINING HERITAGE PROJECT**

The Committee received and noted the briefing note prepared by the Regeneration Officer (page 23 to the Agenda) updating the Members on the Tamar Valley Mining Heritage Project. The briefing note also contained answers to a number of pertinent questions previously submitted by a Member of the Committee. In addition to the printed answers, the Committee was further advised by the Regeneration Officer that the budget contained sufficient funds for planned works, maintenance of the footpaths should be covered by income generated at the Sawmills car park in Gulworthy.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**\*O&S 27 COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Committee received and noted the Performance Report as presented by the Corporate Improvement Officer (page 26 to the Agenda) and suggested that, where appropriate, income estimates be reviewed to be more reflective of sums more realistically achievable.

Arising from the discussion, the Community Manager reported on a proposal discussed with the Chairman that progress on the Connect

Strategy and the four supporting delivery plans be reported to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on a twice yearly basis and a draft annual update of each be considered by the Committee before formal approval by the Community Services Committee. Under the new scrutiny arrangements, the Committee would also have the ability to invite outside organisations/bodies to contribute to the discussion where appropriate as these plans are shared with partner organisations.

It was anticipated that progress would be reported to the Committee in March and October each year and the draft annual updates presented for consideration in March each year.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report and the proposals for scrutiny of the Connect Strategy and delivery plans be noted.

(The Meeting terminated at 3.20 pm.)