

BRECKLAND COUNCIL

Report of the Director of Corporate Resources to the CABINET – 5 April 2011

REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Cabinet is asked to consider the following references from the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission held on 24 March 2011 in respect of the following matters:
- ICT Options for Members; and
 - Swaffham Parking Review

2. ICT Options for Members

- 2.1 The Commission received the minutes of the final Joint Audit & Scrutiny Panel (JASP) and were updated by the Chairman on the amendments to the report which would be presented to a special meeting of the Business Improvement Sub-Committee on 30 March 2011. At that meeting it was expected that a decision would be made on the choice of future ICT equipment for Members to allow time for its purchase and preparation for new Members following the Election in May.
- 2.2 Six options had been identified by the JASP including a proposal to provide Members with an allowance to purchase and maintain their own equipment.
- 2.3 The Commission was advised that further information had been requested to support the findings in the report, particularly in relation to iPads which were known to be being trialled at two other authorities. That information would be reported to the BISC if received in time. However, it appeared that iPads would not meet Members' requirements especially in relation to Government security standards.
- 2.4 The Chairman also advised the Commission that the report to BISC had been amended to reflect the need for 'add-ons' such as scanners and CD drives.
- 2.5 The Commission supported the recommendations and accordingly

RECOMMENDS TO THE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE that Options 2, 3 and 5 were not supported. Options 1 OR 4 and Option 6 were supported.

3. Swaffham Parking Review

- 3.1 The Commission received the final report of the Parking Task & Finish Group on their review of parking in Swaffham.
- 3.2 The following issues had been identified:
- Disabled parking
 - Taxi Rank
 - Signage
 - Management of Parking
 - Enforcement & Charging of Parking
- 3.3 The Commission supported the recommendations and accordingly

RECOMMENDS TO CABINET that:

- (1) the Council reviews the disabled parking and provides easier access to spaces (perhaps in the Market Street car park);
- (2) Norfolk County Council be requested, as the Highways Authority, to undertake an assessment to consider using the land opposite the old sixth-form centre as a dedicated taxi rank;
- (3) Norfolk County Council be requested to produce new, larger signs to entice people to park at Theatre Street;
- (4) the Council, Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Constabulary liaise over de-criminalisation of on-street parking in Swaffham in a multi-agency approach, seeking a transfer of responsibility and action enabled through joined-up thinking and use of resources;
- (5) the Town Council's proposals to employ a traffic warden to undertake off-street parking enforcement within the five market towns, be supported; and
- (6) the Council retains its policy of providing free parking in all Breckland-owned car parks in Swaffham.