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BRECKLAND COUNCIL

At a Meeting of the

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Held on Thursday, 12 January 2023 at 10.00 am in
The Conference Suite, Anglia Room, Elizabeth House, Dereham

PRESENT

Cllr Lynda Turner (Chairman)
Cllr Tristan Ashby

Cllr Susan Dowling
Cllr Phillip Duigan (Substitute Member)

Also Present

Cllr Timothy Birt
Cllr Paul Hewett
Cllr Philip Morton

Cllr Alison Webb
Cllr Peter Wilkinson

In Attendance

Julie Britton
Samantha Armitage
Sarah Barsby

Natalie King
Riana Rudland
Sarah Shipley

- Democratic Services Officer
- Community Services Manager
- Assistant Director People and Governance (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
- Interim Contracts & Procurement Manager
- Assistant Director Contracts & Operations
- Assistant Director Health & Housing

Action By

1/23 MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 1)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor Ashby abstained from voting on the Minutes as he had sent his apologies for this meeting.

2/23 APOLOGIES (AGENDA ITEM 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hambidge and Monument.

Councillor Duigan was in attendance as substitute.

3/23 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (AGENDA ITEM 3)

None declared.

4/23 URGENT BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEM 4)

None.

5/23 NON-MEMBERS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE MEETING (AGENDA ITEM 5)

Councillors Webb, Hewett, Morton, Birt and Wilkinson

6/23 MEMBER TRAINING (STANDING ITEM) (AGENDA ITEM 6)

Sarah Barsby, the Assistant Director for People & Governance informed Members that the first Officer Working Group would be held later in the month to consider the Member Induction Plan. A draft project plan had been created and the first stage would be focusing on promoting the opportunities for people to stand as a candidate in the next Election.

A written report would be provided at the next meeting to highlight progress.

The Chairman reminded Members that the next General Purposes Committee meeting was being held on 9 February and not the 2 February 2023 as originally planned.

7/23 NEXT MEETING (AGENDA ITEM 7)

The arrangements for the next meeting on Thursday, 9 February 2023 at 10am in the Anglia Room were noted.

8/23 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEM 8)

Following a vote, it was:

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 & 2 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

9/23 LEGAL SERVICES REVIEW (AGENDA ITEM 9)

Councillor Paul Hewett, the Executive Member for Property, Projects & Procurement introduced the report.

A review of the Legal Services Team was necessary due to changes in resources and structure.

Riana Rudland, the Assistant Director for Contracts & Operations provided Members with a detailed overview of the report.

It was noted that staff effected had agreed to the consultation exercise over the Christmas period between 1 December 2022 and 3 January 2023.

A number of questions were asked and a concern was raised about some of the aspects of the budget.

The recommendation was proposed and seconded, and it was:

RESOLVED that the proposed changes as set out in Section 2 of the report be approved and delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director for Contracts and Operations to implement.

Action By

10/23 COMMUNITY SERVICES TEAM SERVICE REVIEW (AGENDA ITEM 10)

Councillor Webb, the Executive Member for Health & Communities introduced the report and thanked the Chairman for accommodating the request to hold this additional meeting.

Sam Armitage, the Community Services Manager then provided Members with a detailed overview of the report and highlighted the proposed changes.

A number of questions were asked.

The recommendation was proposed and seconded, and it was:

RESOLVED that the proposed changes as set out in Section 2.1 of the report be approved and delegated authority be given to the Community Services Manager to implement the said changes.

The meeting closed at 10.45 am

CHAIRMAN