



GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Full Council

Date: Tuesday, 25 November 2014
Time: 19:00
Venue: Council Chamber
Address: Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

1 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

You have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be discussed if it relates to something on your Register of Interests form. You must declare the interest and leave the room while the matter is dealt with.

You have a Personal Interest in a matter to be discussed if it affects

- your well being or financial position
- that of your family or close friends
- that of a club or society in which you have a management role
- that of another public body of which you are a member to a greater extent than others in your ward.

You must declare a personal interest but can speak and vote on the matter.

Whenever you declare an interest you must say why the interest arises, so that it can be included in the minutes.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

To consider the following question from Mr R Hudson:-

"Does the appointment of a £200,000 a year Chief Executive to oversee cuts in Council spending, effectively mean the Leader of the Council has abdicated all responsibility to a paid mercenary and that the public consultation is a token sham?"

4 REPORTS TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION

(a) Revised List of Committee Memberships for 2014-15 3 - 9

To consider the attached report.

(b) Appointments to Outside Bodies 2014/15

To consider replacements on the following Outside Bodies:-

* St Nicholas Church Preservation Trust - Councillor M Coleman to replace Councillor Hacon

* Active Norfolk Board - Councillor Weymouth to replace Councillor Hacon.

* Norfolk Coast Partnership (Joint Advisory Panel) - Councillor Weymouth to replace Councillor Shrimplin.

* Waveney, Lower Yare and Lothingland IDB - Councillor Tate to replace Councillor Hacon.

* First Move Furnishaid - Councillor Robinson-Payne to replace Mrs V Pettit.

* Great Yarmouth Racecourse - Councillor Peck to replace Councillor Hacon.

5 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

(a) Council Minutes 10 - 15

The Mayor will present the minutes of the 23 September 2014.

(b) Cabinet Minutes 16 - 19

The Leader will present the minutes of the 8 October and 12 November 2014.

(c) Scrutiny Minutes 20 - 25

The Chairman will present the minutes of the 25 September and 23 October 2014.

Subject: **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES 2014/15**

Report to: **COUNCIL – 25 NOVEMBER 2014**

Report by: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

SUBJECT MATTER/RECOMMENDATIONS

To consider amendments to the Appointments to Committees for 2014/15.

1. INTRODUCTION

Following a number of recent changes to membership of political groups, the current breakdown of the Council is now as follows:-

Labour – 14 Members

Conservative – 12 Members

UKIP – 11 Members

Independents – 2 Members

2. POLITICAL BALANCE OF COMMITTEES

2.1 As Members may be aware the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government Committees and Political Groups Regulations 1990 requires that committees should be politically balanced.

2.2 Following the recent changes, the allocation on committees should be as follows:-

13 Member Committees – 5 Labour, 4 Conservative, 4 UKIP

9 Member Committees – 3 Labour, 3 Conservative, 3 UKIP

7 Member Committees – 3 Labour, 2 Conservative, 2 UKIP

6 Member Committees – 2 Labour, 2 Conservative, 2 UKIP

5 Member Committees – 2 Labour, 2 Conservatives, 1 UKIP

3 Member Committees – 1 Labour, 1 Conservative, 1 UKIP

2.3 As the Independent Members have not formed a group, any allocation of seats on committees will be made at the discretion of Council taking into account seats required for the nominees of the political groups.

3. PROPOSED REVISED COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Following consultation with the three Group Leaders the proposed amendments to the Members of Committees for 2014/15 is attached.

4. RECOMMENDATION

Council is asked to approve the revised List of Committee Memberships for 2014/15.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

EXECUTIVE BOARD OR DIRECTOR CONSULTATION:

Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS

Does this report raise any legal, financial, sustainability, equality, crime and disorder or human rights issues and, if so, have they been considered?	Issues	
	Legal	Yes
	Financial	No
	Risk	No
	Sustainability	No
	Equality	No
	Crime and Disorder	No
	Human Rights	No
	Every Child Matters	No

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LIST OF COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2014/15

Revised 25 November 2014

CABINET (6)

T Wainwright (C) (Leader)
Walker (V/C) (Deputy Leader) (Resources)
Linden (Communities)
Pratt (Environment)
Jeal (Tourism and Business Services)
Williamson (Transformation and Regeneration)

SHADOW CABINET MEMBERS

Plant (Shadow Leader)
B Coleman (Deputy Shadow Leader - Resources)
Peck (Communities)
Reynolds (Tourism and Business Services)
Tate (Transformation and Regeneration)
Weymouth (Environment)

**SCRUTINY
(13) (5-4-4)**

Bird
M Coleman
Collins
Grey
Jones
Myers
Plant (C)
Robinson-Payne
Smith
Sutton
H Wainwright
Weymouth
Wright

**TPO SUB
(5) (2-2-1)**

Andrews
Collins
Jermay
H Wainwright
Wright

Named Subs:

Any two Members from the Groups.

**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL
(13) (5-4-4)**

Andrews
Annison
Bird
Blyth
Collins
Field
Grey
Jermay
Reynolds (C)
Sutton
D Thompson
H Wainwright
Wright

**HOUSING APPEALS
(13) (5-4-4)**

Andrews
M Coleman (C)
Fox
Hacon
Jeal
Jones
Myers
Peck
Pratt
Shrimplin
D Thompson
H Wainwright
T Wainwright

Named Subs:

Any two Members from the Groups.

Named Subs:

Any two Members from the Groups.

**LICENSING
(13) (5-4-4)**

M Coleman
Connell
Field
Jermay (C)
Myers
Rodwell
Robinson-Payne
Smith
Stenhouse
Tate
M Thompson
H Wainwright
Wright

Named Subs:

Any two Members from the Groups.

**STANDARDS
(5) (2-2-1)**

Andrews
Collins
Jeal
Robinson-Payne
Tate (C)

Named Subs:

Any two Members from the Groups.

**APPEALS
(5) (2-2-1)**

Fox
Jermay (C)
Myers
Tate
H Wainwright

Named Subs:

Any two Members from the Groups.

**LOCAL PLAN WORKING PARTY
(9) (3-3-3)**

Andrews
Bird
B Coleman
Hacon
Linden
Peck
D Thompson
T Wainwright
Williamson (C)

**AUDIT AND RISK
(9) (3-3-3)**

B Coleman (C)
Grey
Hacon
Jeal
Peck
Plant
Rodwell
Walker
T Wainwright

**COMMUNITY HOUSING BOARD
(6) (2-2-2)**

Linden (C)
Jones
Peck
Pratt
Stenhouse
M Thompson

Named Subs:

Any two Members from the Groups.

**EMPTY HOMES PROJECT BOARD
(3) (1-1-1)**

Cutting
Linden (C)
Peck

**CIVIC TWINNING WORKING GROUP
(5) (2-2-1)**

B Coleman
Cutting
Fairhead (C)
Shrimplin
T Wainwright

AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE
(7) (3-2-2)

Collins
Connell
Cutting
Jeal
Peck
Robinson-Payne (C)
Williamson

Legend:
(C) = Chairman

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2014-2015.doc

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COUNCIL MEETING

23 September 2014 – 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

The Mayor Councillor Fairhead (in the Chair); Councillors Andrews, Annison, Bird, Blyth, B Coleman, M Coleman, Connell, Cuncliffe, Cutting, Field, Fox, Grey, Jermany, Jones, Linden, Myers, Peck, Plant, Pratt, Robinson-Payne, Rodwell, Shrimplin, Smith, Stenhouse, Sutton, Tate, D Thompson, M Thompson, H Wainwright, T Wainwright, Weymouth, Williamson and Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Collins, Hacon, Jeal, Reynolds and Walker.

In attendance were Mr G Mitchell (Chief Executive Officer), Mr S Duncan (Director of Resources, Governance & Growth), Mrs J Beck (Director of Customer Services), Mr C Skinner (Monitoring Officer), Mr R Hodds (Cabinet Secretary) and Mrs D Summers (Group Manager Finance).

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Plant declared a personal interest in the item relating to the Marina Centre in his role as Chairman of the Leisure Trust as referred to in the Audit and Risk Committee minutes of the 31 July 2014.

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

3. REPORTS TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION

(a) Anti-Money Laundering Policy

The Leader presented the Anti-Money Laundering Policy that had been recommended for approval by the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting in May 2014.

Proposer: Councillor T Wainwright

Seconder: Councillor Pratt

That the Anti-Money Laundering Policy be approved".

CARRIED

(b) Treasury Management Annual Report 2013/14

The Leader presented the Treasury Management Annual Report 2013/14 that had been agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on the 18 September 2014.

Proposer: Councillor T Wainwright Second: Councillor Linden

That the Treasury Management Annual Report 2013/14 be approved.

CARRIED

(c) Annual Governance Risk Report

The Leader presented the Annual Governance Risk Report that had been agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on the 18 September 2014.

The Director of Resources, Governance and Growth reported that the external auditors were in the process of finalising their audit and that once completed details would be circulated to all Members of Council.

Proposer: Councillor T Wainwright Second: Councillor Williamson

That the Annual Governance Risk Report be approved.

CARRIED

(d) Audited Statement of Accounts 2013/14

The Leader presented the Audited Statement of Accounts 2013/14 that had been agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee at its meeting on the 18 September 2014.

Proposer: Councillor T Wainwright Second: Councillor B Coleman

That the Audited Statement of Accounts 2013/14 be approved.

CARRIED

(e) Appointments to Committee Memberships 2014/15

Proposer: Councillor Plant Second: Councillor B Coleman

That Councillor Weymouth replace Councillor Shrimplin as the Shadow Cabinet Member (Environment).

CARRIED

(f) Appointments to Outside Bodies 2014/15

The Shadow Leader reported that at this stage he would not be proposing any replacements for Councillor Hacon on her outside bodies appointments, and that the status quo should remain at present.

Councillor Grey expressed her concern with regard to the proposal to replace Councillor Hacon on her appointed outside bodies and commented that appointments to outside bodies should be based on experience and knowledge. Councillor Grey also commented that any appointments to outside bodies in her opinion should not be based on political alignment.

In discussing this item, Council discussed the possibility of whether it would be appropriate for a by-election to be held in Bradwell South and Hopton bearing in mind the intention of Councillor Hacon to change her political allegiance.

Council noted that as no formal nominations had been received to replace Councillor Hacon on her outside bodies then the status quo would remain as at present.

4. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

(a) Council – 22 July 2014

The Mayor presented the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 22 July 2014.

With regard to item 3 (a), Councillor Grey clarified her comment at the Council Meeting in that she did ask whether a recess could be allowed and that procedurally under the Terms of the Constitution it would be at the Mayor's discretion whether such a request should be allowed.

(b) Cabinet – 6 August & 10 September 2014

The Leader presented the minutes of the Cabinet Meetings held on the 6 August and 10 September 2014.

With regard to item 6 relating to the Third River Crossing of the minutes of the 10 September 2014, the Leader asked Council to fully support the proposal that the Leader should write to the Chief Executive Officer of the County Council to reaffirm the Borough Council's continuing full support for the provision of a Third River Crossing in Great Yarmouth as identified in the long term strategic plan. The Leader gave details of all the work and expenditure that had already been carried out in pursuance of the provision of a Third River Crossing for Great Yarmouth. Councillor Plant commented that the Borough Council should be pursuing the County Council and the LEP to include this on their agenda for endorsement and that in fact the County Council should make this a priority scheme. Councillor Williamson also reported that this issue had been raised at the recent Area Board Meeting and confirmed that this matter would be fully discussed at the boards' next meeting with a view to supporting the Third River Crossing proposal.

Proposer: Councillor T Wainwright

Seconder: Councillor Williamson

That Council endorses the proposal that the Leader of the Council should write to the Chief Executive Officer of the County Council to reaffirm the Borough Council's continuing full support for the provision of a Third River Crossing in Great Yarmouth as identified in the long term strategic plan.

CARRIED

(c) Scrutiny Committee – 21 August & 2 September 2014

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meetings held on the 21 August and 2 September 2014.

With regard to the items relating to the call-in on the SeaChange loan, Councillor Plant commented on his concern that this issue had been called-in as Members did have plenty of

time to consult and speak with Officers for clarification on this issue before exercising the call-in on this issue.

(d) Audit and Risk Committee – 31 July & 18 September 2014

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meetings held on the 31 July and 18 September 2014.

With regard to the item relating to the Annual Governance Risk Report, Councillor Shrimplin sought clarification with regard to the staffing levels and capabilities within the Finance Team. The Director of Resources, Governance & Growth explained the problems that the Finance Team had been experiencing but he assured Council that he had taken steps to ensure that all problems had been overcome.

5. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

In accordance with Part 4 (Rules of Procedure) Paragraph 11 of the Constitution, Council was asked to consider the following motion from Councillors Grey, Myers, Bird, Annison and Jones:-

“To change the Council's form of governance in accordance with Section 9K and 9KC of the Local Government Act 2000 to a committee form of governance as provided in Section 9B (1) (B) of that Act, for the committee form of governance to be introduced at the next annual Council Meeting in May 2015”.

The Monitoring Officer explained the procedure under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 if the Council were minded to change its governance arrangements. He reported that if the Council decided to change the governance arrangements at this meeting this would commit the Council to adopting the revised form of governance and that Council would only be able to amend this decision through the staging of a referendum. The Leader asked the Monitoring Officer the timescale for implementation of any new governance arrangements and the Monitoring Officer confirmed that if approved at this meeting the revised arrangements should be in force in May 2015.

Councillor Grey reported that this motion had been proposed by the UKIP Group on the Council following their manifesto pledge in that this proposal was in line with the core principles of democratic representation and would allow the Transformation Programme to be inclusive.

Proposer: Councillor Grey

Seconder: Councillor Myers

That a recorded vote be taken in relation to this item.

CARRIED

Councillor M Coleman commented that in her opinion this was a premature step and that the Cabinet system was working well and that she did not agree with the proposal to introduce a Committee form of governance. Councillor Field stated that she was in sympathy with the motion as she felt that this would be of benefit to the Borough if the new arrangements were approved.

The Leader stated that in his opinion the motion was premature as at the present time the Council had not considered any facts and figures and reminded Council that this issue had

been included in the Work Programme 2014/15 of the Scrutiny Committee and in fact the Scrutiny Committee would be considering a report at its meeting in November. He also stated that no decisions on this matter had been taken behind closed doors and reminded Members that under a committee form of governance there would be no Scrutiny process. He stated that the Scrutiny Committee was politically balanced and was therefore the appropriate body of Members to look at this issue.

Councillor M Thompson commented that the Council needed to make an informed and rational decision on this matter following receipt of full details of cost and requirements for this form of governance. Councillor Plant reported on the need for transparency on this issue and on the need for Council to fully understand the implications of amending the governance arrangements. Councillor Williamson commented that there was a need to agree the best system of governance for Great Yarmouth. Councillor Myers commented that he understood that the implementation of the committee form of governance at the County Council had resulted in savings of £165,000. Councillor Shrimplin commented that he was in favour of the committee form of governance but that the Council needed to consider all the facts before making a formal decision on this matter. Councillor B Coleman commented on the advantages and disadvantages of both the Cabinet form of governance and the committee form of governance and reaffirmed many Members comments on the need for full information to be available.

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the Leader proposed the following amendment to the motion:-

Proposer: Councillor T Wainwright

Seconder: Councillor Plant

“To consider a change to the Council’s form of governance in accordance with Section 9K and 9KC of the Local Government Act 2000 to a committee form of governance as provided in Section 9B(1)(B) of that Act, but that the implications of the cost and requirements of introducing a committee form of governance, which is already included in the Scrutiny Committee’s Work Programme for 2014/15, be fully considered by the Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet and Full Council before a final decision is made”.

For the Motion: Councillors Blyth, B Coleman, M Coleman, Cuncliffe, Fairhead, Fox, Jermany, Linden, Peck, Plant, Pratt, Robinson-Payne, Shrimplin, Smith, Sutton, Tate, D Thomson, M Thomson, H Wainwright, T Wainwright, Weymouth, Williamson and Wright.

Against the Motion: Councillors Andrews, Annison, Bird, Connell, Cutting, Grey, Jones, Myers, Rodwell and Stenhouse.

Abstentions: Councillor Field.

CARRIED

Under the Terms of the Constitution, Councillor Grey then proposed the following further amendment:-

Proposer: Councillor Grey

Seconder: Councillor Myers

“That this Council agrees to a Cross Party Committee consisting of two Members of each party, that they will agree upon a preferred format of committee system and that this will include all cost implications, with the agreed system to be ready for implementation upon the outcome of a vote at the next Council AGM in May 2015 which will either leave the Council with the status quo or to move immediately to the committee system”.

For the Motion: Councillors Andrews, Annison, Bird, Connell, Cutting, Field, Grey, Jones, Myers, Rodwell and Stenhouse.

Against the Motion: Councillors Blyth, B Coleman, M Coleman, Cuncliffe, Fairhead, Jermany, Linden, Peck, Plant, Pratt, Robinson-Payne, Shrimplin, Smith, Sutton, Take, D Thomspn, H Wainwright, T Wainwright, Weymouth, Williamson and Wright.

Abstentions: Councillor Fox and M Thomson.

LOST

Under the Terms of the Constitution, the Monitoring Officer reported that following the Council's decisions on the above amendments that Council now needed to vote on the substantive motion as follows:-

“ To consider a change to the Council's form of governance in accordance with Section 9K and 9KC of the Local Government Act 2000 to a committee form of governance as provided in Section 9B(1)(B) of that Act, but that the implications of the costs and requirements of introducing a committee form of governance, which is already included in the Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for 2014/15, be fully considered by the Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet and Full Council before a final decision is made”.

For the Substantive Motion: Councillors Andrews, Blyth, B Coleman, M Coleman, Cuncliffe, Fairhead, Fox, Jermany, Linden, Peck, Plant, Pratt, Robinson-Payne, Shrimplin, Smith, Sutton, Tate, D Thomson, M Thomson, H Wainwright, T Wainwright, Weymouth, Williamson and Wright.

Against the Substantive Motion: Councillors Annison, Bird, Connell, Cutting, Grey, Jones, Myers, Rodwell and Stenhouse.

Abstention to the Substantive Motion: Councillor Field.

CARRIED

6. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm.

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CABINET

8 October 2014 – 6.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor T Wainwright (in the Chair); Councillors Jeal, Linden, Walker and Williamson.

Councillors Grey and Plant also attended.

Mr G Mitchell (Chief Executive Officer), Mrs J Beck (Director of Customer Services), Mr A Dyson (Group Manager – Property & Construction), Mr R Hodds (Cabinet Secretary) and Mr D Wiles (Publicity and Communications Officer).

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Pratt.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 10 September 2014 were confirmed, subject to the addition of Councillor Plant as an attendee at the meeting.

4. ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, ADVISORY GROUPS, REGULATORY COMMITTEES AND AREA COMMITTEES

Cabinet were advised that there were no issues to consider.

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 9 Schedule 12(A) Local Government Act 1972 in relation to confidential terms relating to a development agreement.

6. BEACON PARK – DELIVERY OF SAINSBURY’S ROUNDABOUT AND EXTENSION OF BEAUFORT WAY WITH ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

Cabinet considered the Director of Resources, Governance and Growth’s confidential report which detailed issues regarding the delivery of the roundabout on Beaufort Way, the spine road through Beacon Park, which will soon link through to the A143 Beccles Road with the funding support from the Department of Transport and construction started in early September. The report asked for consideration to advancing the construction works to give certainty over when the roundabout will be completed and therefore the A12-A143 Link Road will be fully open to through traffic.

The Group Manager (Property & Construction) reported that nplaw had advised that the Council were currently satisfying the terms of the contract with Sainsbury’s. Members also discussed issues relating to the Transco pipeline.

The Cabinet Secretary reminded Cabinet that this item was subject to the call-in procedure.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That approval be given to proceed with construction works as quickly as possible.
- (ii) That the Chief Executive Officer be asked to send a letter to Transco to express the importance of the completion of the pipeline works.

7. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 6.40 pm.

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CABINET

12 November 2014 – 6.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor T Wainwright (in the Chair); Councillors Linden, Walker and Williamson.

Councillors B Coleman, Grey, Plant and Stenhouse also attended.

Mr G Mitchell (Chief Executive Officer), Mrs J Beck (Director of Customer Services), Mr R Reed (Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods), Mr R Hodds (Cabinet Secretary), Mr C Rowland (Corporate Policy and Performance Officer) and Ms S Slade (Senior Planner Policy).

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jeal and Pratt.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8 October 2014 were confirmed.

4. ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, ADVISORY GROUPS, REGULATORY COMMITTEE AND AREA COMMITTEES

(a) Yarmouth Area Committee Constitution

On reference from the Yarmouth Area Committee, Cabinet was asked to agree to the following changes to the Yarmouth Area Committee Constitution:-

- (a) The co-option of community representatives would be on a yearly basis.
- (b) That all community representatives who wish to be co-opted to the committee would be asked to attend an informal interview with the chairman.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed changes to the Yarmouth Area Committee Constitution as outlined above be approved.

5. NORFOLK COAST AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY MANAGEMENT PLAN 2014 – 19

Cabinet considered the Group Manager (Growth) report on the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2014 – 19. Members were advised that the Management Plan formulates policies and actions in relation to the management of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Cabinet Secretary advised Members that this matter was subject to Call-In.

RESOLVED:

That the Norfolk Coast Partnership Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2014 – 19 be adopted.

6. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT – KEY PROJECTS AND CORPORATE MEASURES

Cabinet considered the Chief Executive Officer's report on the Quarter Two Performance Report. The Corporate Policy and Performance Officer reported that the report gives an update on the current performance for the second quarter of 2014/15 (July-September 2014) for Key Projects and Performance Measures.

Members were advised that the report also reviews the list of current key projects to determine if the project could be considered as complete and remove from the list after going through the committee process or could be deleted as the project is now part of the Transformation Programme. The report also recommends that the summary report be changed to provide Members with a clearer position of each project by showing the "current position" and a "risk rating". The report recommends a change to the summary report for the Corporate Performance Measures with an additional column being added showing "status".

The Cabinet Secretary advised Members that this report was subject to the Call-In procedure.

RESOLVED:

That the 2014/15 Second Quarter Performance Report be approved.

7. SEPTEMBER FINANCE MONITORING REPORT

Cabinet considered the Group Manager (Resources) September 2014 Finance Monitoring Report.

The Cabinet Secretary reported that this matter would be subject to the Call-In procedure. The report would also be considered by the Scrutiny Committee at its next meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the September Finance Monitoring Report be noted.

8. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 6.40 pm.

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SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

25 September 2014 – 6.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Plant (in the Chair); Councillors B Coleman, M Coleman, Fox, Jones, Myers, Robinson-Payne, Smith, Weymouth and Wright.

Councillor Bird attended as substitute for Councillor Grey.

In attendance were Councillors Jeal and T Wainwright.

Mrs J Beck (Director of Customer Services), Mr R Read (Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods), Mr R Hodds (Cabinet Secretary) and Mr C Rowland (Corporate Policy and Performance Officer).

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest given at the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Collins, Field and Grey.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 21 August 2014 were approved subject to an amendment to item 4 relating to the call-in on the Seachange loan to record that the call-in had been exercised by Councillors Bird, Grey and Myers and not by Councillor Fox.

4. CAR PARKING SERVICE

The Committee considered the Director of Customer Services' report which outlined the current position of off-street parking service, potential additional car parks and current charges.

The Director of Customer Services reported that under the Transformation Programme, a Car Parking Working Group had been set up to look at all elements across pay and display and free car parking areas. It was hoped that the Working Group would report on their findings by the end of October. There were currently six Members who had volunteered to

serve on the Working Group and Members of the Scrutiny Committee were now asked if they wished to participate in the Working Group.

In discussing the report, the Director of Customer Services confirmed that comparisons had been sought with other coastal District Councils as to their car parking charging regime. Councillor B Coleman commented that it was a view that extra charging would be counter-productive and that, in fact, lower charges could prove to be more beneficial. He asked that this issue be considered by the Working Group as part of their deliberations.

RESOLVED:

That the Director of Customer Services' report on the car parking service be noted.

5. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

The Committee considered the Corporate Policy and Performance Officer's report on the 2014/15 first quarter performance report.

With regard to Key Projects, the Corporate Policy and Performance Officer reported that KP03 had now been completed; KP14 was now part of the Transformation Programme; and that KP21 had been deleted. With regard to KP15, the Leader reported that the problems associated with regard to ICT were currently being worked on and that specialists were looking into all issues. Councillor B Coleman also reported that KP09 relating to the Local Plan was very important to the Borough Council and should be completed as soon as possible. The Leader confirmed that the Local Plan work was, in fact, well advanced at this stage.

The Corporate Policy and Performance Officer also presented the Corporate Measures Summer Report for the quarter April – June 2014/15.

RESOLVED:

That the Corporate Policy and Performance Officer's report on Performance Management (Key Projects and Corporate Measures) be received.

6. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15

The Cabinet Secretary updated the Committee on the Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2014/15. He advised Members that an additional item had been included in the Work Programme relating to quarter reports to be received by the Committee with regard to the Transformation Programme.

7. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 7.30 pm.

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SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

23 October 2014 – 6.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Plant (in the Chair); Councillors B Coleman, Collins, Fox, Grey, Jones, Robinson-Payne, Weymouth and Wright.

Councillor Sutton attended as substitute for Councillor Field.

In attendance were Councillors T Wainwright and Williamson.

Mr G Mitchell (Chief Executive Officer) Mr R Read (Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods), Mr T Chaplin (Group Manager Housing Services), Mr R Hodds (Cabinet Secretary) and Mrs Hartley (Sport and Leisure Manager).

Mr J McIntosh (SeaChange) and Ms A Bourne (Arts Council for England) also attended.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest given at the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Coleman, Field, Myers and Smith.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 25 September 2014 were confirmed.

4. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

The Chief Executive Officer gave Members a strategic overview on the Council's Transformation Programme. The Chief Executive Officer highlighted the following issues:-

- The financial driver for the programme was significant.
- Outlined the scale of the problems facing GYBC.
- The work carried out by PriceWaterhouse Cooper.
- Fees and Charges and Revenue being currently examined.
- Possible significant loss of staff.
- Use of the Council's assets.

- Regular monthly Member Seminars are being held.

Chief Executive Officer outlined the potential risks which were:-

- Does the Borough Council have sufficient expertise, and the action that needs to be taken to address this.
- Continuing ICT problems.
- Early engagement with Group Managers.
- Engagement with Members.

CEO reported that the core work on customer change was progressing very well; a way forward had been agreed on the IT problems; we now have the capacity of expertise needed; and the Group Managers are on board. There is generally a good focus on the biggest issues.

In response to a request from Councillor Sutton, the Chief Executive Officer agreed that, upon request, any Member could have notes of the meetings of the Transformation Board made available to them.

Councillor Williamson commented that it was very important that all Members should attend the monthly briefing sessions. The Leader also commented that the Transformation Board was not a decision making body.

The Chairman concluded this item by thanking the Chief Executive Officer for his presentation.

5. SEACHANGE ARTS ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

As part of the committee's 2014/15 work programme, SeaChange Arts presented a review of activities and services currently provided within the Borough. Members were advised that Local Authorities had long recognised the valuable contribution that Arts and Culture can play in achieving their objectives for an area. An opportunity to experience and be entertained by the arts is an essential part of the fabric of a successful community and helps to promote the wellbeing of those who live there. There are also significant benefits for the local economy in that arts and culture events can play an important role in attracting visitors, encouraging spend in the area through use of local restaurants, shops or staying in hotels as part of their visits. In an area like Great Yarmouth this is especially important as part of a tourism strategy which seeks to attract visitors outside the traditional summer months in order to help extend the visitor season. The arts can create employment and have also been seen to help redefine and regenerate local areas. They can help to build and sustain resilience in communities by improving wellbeing, developing skills and providing learning opportunities.

Mr J McIntosh, SeaChange Arts Chief Executive, reported that the SeaChange Trust was established in 1997 as an independent Arts Development Charity with a trading arm set up as company limited by guarantee. It operates as the arts development and promotion service and strategic arts advisor on behalf of the Council under a Service Level Agreement. Mr McIntosh reported that the trust had also worked through seventeen international partnership projects and had levered in over £1.58m from Europe. SeaChange was now recognised as one of UK's leaders in this field. Members were also advised that the Out There Festival which was launched in 2007 was now one of the largest and best regarded in the UK outdoor arts sector attracting audiences of 40,000 and contributing

£1.2m to the local economy. This contribution combines direct spend of the festival on local services and estimates of visitors spend based on annual surveys.

Mr McIntosh also reported that the trust had purchased the York Road Drill Hall from Norfolk County Council in February 2012 and had now renamed the property to Drill House which serves as a base for regular community engagement activities including Circus School, Parkour, theatre groups, music activities, community events and projects as well as for artistic companies working on new productions through creation residencies and combining their time here with community engagement. The venue also provides the administrative base for the organisation. Over the last ten years the activity and turn over of the organisation has increased from £165,000 per year to over £1m in the last financial year. The trust is currently preparing Capital Development Plans for the Drill House.

Ms A Bourne from the Arts Council for England reported on the level of support given by the Arts Council to the SeaChange Trust, and confirmed that the Art Council were looking to continue to support arts activities in the borough. She stated that Great Yarmouth was strategically important to Arts Council England.

Councillor Coleman asked about the level of involvement in arts activities by those members of the public living in the rural parishes and also the issue of the co-operation between arts organisations in Great Yarmouth. In response, Mr McIntosh stated that all residents of the borough could attend activities arranged at the Drill House. He also reported further on the capital aspirations for the future use of the Drill House and confirmed that this would not be a rival to the activities currently being staged at St Georges. Members were advised that there was a significant capital investment required at the Drill House with regard to the need to repair and insulate the roof. There were also currently no plans to install any seats in the Drill House.

Councillor Collins and Robinson-Payne both stated their support for the activities carried out by the SeaChange Trust and congratulated them on the work carried out to date.

The Leader reaffirmed the need for the Drill House to carry out capital investment and stated his support to the trust's activities and reaffirmed the current administrations support to assist the trust financially under the Service Level Agreement.

RESOLVED:

That the report in respect of the SeaChange Arts activities and services be received.

6. REVISED ALLOCATION SCHEME 2014

The Committee considered the Group Manager Housing Services report on the impact of the Revised Allocation Scheme. The Group Manager reminded Members that a Revised Allocation Scheme was adopted by the Borough Council earlier this year and the scheme had come into effect from the 4 August 2014. Given that the scheme had been running for two months there was limited information on the impact the scheme was having on applicants. In particular, the ability to offer properties outside the geographical area of the applicant's preference or alternative type of property will not be effective until three months after the scheme commenced.

RESOLVED:

That the Group Manager Housing Services report on the impact of the Revised Allocation Scheme be noted and that the Group Manager be requested to submit a further report once the revised allocation scheme has been in operation for six months.

7. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15

The Cabinet Secretary updated the Committee on the Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2014/15.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman reported that the next scheduled meeting on the 20 November would be cancelled and that a special one off meeting would be held on Thursday 4 December to consider the item relating to a committee system form of governance, and that the Committee's scheduled meeting on the 18 December would take place and would consider the issues relating to budget monitoring, review of key performance indicators and events at the Town Hall.

9. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 8.20 pm.