

Minutes of the Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE held on 11 June 2018

PRESENT -

Councillor Peter O'Donovan (Chairman); Councillor Tella Wormington (Vice-Chairman); Councillors Steve Bridger, Alex Coley, Lucie Dallen, Chris Frost, Rob Geleit, David Reeve (as nominated substitute for Councillor Mike Teasdale) and Peter Webb

Absent: Councillor Jane Race and Councillor Mike Teasdale

Officers present: Damian Roberts (Chief Operating Officer), Sue Emmons (Senior Accountant), Richard Chevalier (Parking Manager), Oliver Nelson (Environmental Health Team Leader) and Fiona Cotter (Democratic Services Manager)

1 QUESTION TIME

No Questions had been submitted or were asked by members of the public.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by councillors regarding items on the Agenda.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on 27 March 2018 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4 CORPORATE PLAN: KEY PRIORITY TARGETS FOR 2018 TO 2019

Members received a report that provided a list of Key Priority Targets relevant to the Environment Committee in relation to the corporate priorities of "Keeping our Borough clean and green", "Managing our Resources" and "Supporting businesses and the local economy".

The report outlined that delivery of the Corporate Plan would be captured in the performance reports detailing what would be done, what the Key Priority Targets were and how these would be measured. Progress would be reported directly to members via Members' Update but all targets would continue to be reported for scrutiny to the Audit, Crime & Disorder and Scrutiny Committee.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed 14 Key Priority Targets for 2018 to 2019 as detailed in Annex 1 to the report.

5 FOOD & HEALTH AND SAFETY INTERVENTION PLANS

A report was presented to the Committee containing monitoring information on action taken in 2017/18 and which proposed new targets for 2018/19.

It was noted that the number of establishments awaiting food hygiene inspection month on month (September 2017 to May 2018) had gone up. The Committee was assured that this was a factor of business turnover and not a result of a lack of inspection. Year on year, the service focussed on addressing the lowest performing premises. A successful project this year, designed to address persistently poorly performing premises had seen a 100% success rate. These businesses had been offered free, intensive coaching sessions instead of formal enforcement and every business that had taken this up had improved their food hygiene rating.

Accordingly, the Committee:

- (1) Adopted the service plan for food safety;
- (2) Adopted the intervention plan for health and safety;
- (3) Agreed to receive revised food and health and safety plans for 2019-20 at its meeting in the summer of 2019.

6 LONG GROVE CAR PARK

The Committee received and considered a report that proposed that the Long Grove car park be added to the Off-Street Parking Places Traffic Order and that enforceable parking restrictions be introduced within the car park.

The Committee was informed that there were issues with traffic management at school pick-up and dropping-off times. Informal action had not proved successful in addressing these issues and the Council had been approached about the introduction of enforceable measures.

It was noted that Ward councillors welcomed the proposals and the Committee:

- (1) Agreed to a proposal to add the Long Grove car park to the Off Street Parking Places Order;
- (2) Authorised the Chief Legal Officer to publish such notice(s) and/or make such order as is considered necessary to give effect to the recommendations;
- (3) Authorised the Chairman of the Environment Committee and the Chief Operating Officer to consider any objections or representations received following consultation, with the option of bringing them to a future committee;

- (4) Agreed to Epsom and Ewell Borough Council officers enforcing specific parking restrictions within the car park as detailed in paragraph 3.2 should the proposal be approved.

7 CAR PARKING WORKING GROUP

The Committee agreed that the Car Parking Working Group comprise the Chairman and Vice Chairman of this Committee together with Councillors Tony Axelrod (Town Ward representative), Michael Arthur (Ewell Ward representative), Jane Race (Conservative Group representative) and Rob Geleit (Labour Group representative).

The report highlighted that this was a body with no decision-making powers constituted under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 and would report to the Environment Committee as necessary.

8 FORWARD PLAN FOR COMMITTEE ITEMS

The Committee received a report that set out a work plan for the next Municipal Year.

The report highlighted that not all of the Committee's Key Priority Targets required a committee report prior to implementation. However, the forward plan for committee items would assist officers in delivering those targets that required a decision on a matter of policy prior to implementation.

Accordingly, the Committee noted the forward plan for items, which would be reported regularly to the Committee and updated as necessary.

The meeting began at 7.30 pm and ended at 7.54 pm

COUNCILLOR PETER O'DONOVAN (CHAIRMAN)