



Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee

26 September 2016

2.00 pm

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2016
2.00 - 3.31 PM**

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

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Present

Councillor Vince Hunt (Leader)

Councillors Keith Roberts (Vice Chairman), Dean Carroll, Ted Clarke, Nigel Hartin, Roger Hughes, Christian Lea, Pamela Moseley and Vivienne Parry

22 Apologies for absence and substitutions

22.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Arthur Walpole

23 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

23.1 Councillors P Moseley and K Roberts declared an interest in the Leisure Facilities Strategy report in as far as if the provision of Swimming Facilities in Shrewsbury was discussed they were members of Shrewsbury Town Council who were in discussions with Shropshire Council over the running of swimming facilities in Shrewsbury.

24 Minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2016

24.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2016 had been circulated

24.2 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee held on 11 July 2016 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

25 Public Question Time

25.1 There were no questions from members of the public

26 Member Question Time

26.1 There were no questions from Members

27 Highways and Transport Engineering Consultancy Contract: Mouchel Performance Review

27.1 Members received the report of the Highways, Transport and Environmental Commissioning Manager which gave an overview of the performance, achievements and progress under the highways and transport Engineering Consultancy Term Services Contract from its commencement in April 2015 to the end of March 2016.

27.2 The Highways, Transport and Environmental Commissioning Manager reminded Members that following a competitive tendering process, Mouchel were awarded the contract to supply Highways and Transport Engineering Consultancy for a period of 7 years. He advised the meeting that there was an optional three year break clause built in to the contract but that it was proposed that this would not be applied and that the contract be allowed to run its full seven year term in order to deliver maximum value in service provision. Members were in agreement with this proposal.

27.3 The Highways, Transport and Environmental Commissioning Manager informed Members that the Council and Mouchel had worked on the development of Science, Technology a. Engineering and mathematics (STEM) education project and that the first phase had focussed on a programme of support for the Bishops Castle Community College which had included the recruitment and training of 14 STEM ambassador and site visits for students. He added that three students would be doing work experience with Mouchel.

27.4 A Member referred to paragraph 6.2 and asked what further benefits were envisaged. The Highways, Transport and Environmental Commissioning Manager advised that the move into the new arrangements had enabled the development of a full end to end process and that further.

27.5 The Chairman thanked Officers for the report.

27.6 **RESOLVED:**

1. That the Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee note the report and agree that further annual reports be brought to the Committee regarding the operation and outcomes of the contract.
2. That the Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee endorse the non-application of the optional three year contract break clause thereby allowing the contract to run its full seven year term in order to deliver maximum value in service provision.
3. That the Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee congratulate officers on the development of the STEM project.

28 **Draft Leisure Facilities Strategy**

28.1 Members received the report of the Leisure Services Manager which set out the need to produce an update of the Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy, and the current consultation being carried out.

28.2 The Leisure Services Manager reminded Members that the original strategy was produced in 2009 and that the changes in the way that facilities were managed due to financial constraints had resulted in the need for an updated strategy.

28.3 The Local Commissioning Manager advised members that the consultation was due to close on 30 September 2016 and that a number of responses had been received both from individuals and organisation such as town and parish councils. In response to a request from a Member the Local Commissioning Manager agreed to circulate a summary of the responses to the consultation.

28.4 A Member asked whether there would be need to carry out further consultation if the strategy was changed following the consultation. The Local Commissioning Manager stated that he would need to take legal advice on this.

28.5 **RESOLVED:**

That Members note the reasons why a review of the strategy was needed

29 **Update on Emstrey Crematorium and Bereavement Services**

29.1 Members received the report of the Bereavement Services Manager which provided information and recent activity relating to Emstrey Crematorium and the concession agreement to run wider Bereavement Services.

29.2 The Bereavement Services Manager reminded Members that since 2011 a concession agreement had been awarded to Funeral Services Ltd. (Co-Op) following a competitive tendering process and that the agreement was for a 30 year term ending in 2041. He advised the meeting that in early 2016 a request had been received from Co-Op to sell the entirety of its cremation operations to another provider – Dignity PLC and that following a decision taken by Cabinet agreement to novate the agreement had been given.

29.3 Several Members expressed disappointment that the matter had not come before the Committee prior to the decision being made.

29.4 **RESOLVED:**

That Members note the change in management of the Crematorium and receive a further report in 12 months

30 Date/Time of next meeting

30.1 Members were reminded that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday 28 November 2016 at 2.00pm

Signed (Chairman)

Date: