

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TRANSFORMATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Customer Service and Transformation Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne, on Monday 7th October 2019 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Rita Turner in the Chair

Councillors Jane Bryson, Anne Clarke, Tricia Clough, Paul Cooper, David Dixon, Ray Heffer and Andrew Joesbury.

Officers:- Dan Swaine (Chief Executive Officer), Lee Hickin (Joint Strategic Director – People), Grant Galloway (Joint Head of Property & Commercial Services), Ian Barber (Property Services Manager), Scott Chambers (Communications Manager) and Neil Barker (Web Development Manager), Joanne Wilson (Scrutiny & Elections Officer) and Alison Bluff (Governance Officer).

0338. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Rose Bowler.

0339. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

0340. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

0341. MINUTES – 9TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Moved by Councillor Ray Heffer and seconded by Councillor Andrew Joesbury
RESOLVED that the Minutes of a Customer Service and Transformation Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 9th September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

0342. LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Moved by Councillor Ray Heffer and seconded by Councillor Tricia Clough

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TRANSFORMATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that the List of Key Decisions and items to be considered in private document be noted.

0343. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC (DISCUSSION OF AN EXEMPT ITEM ON THE LIST OF KEY DECISIONS)

Moved by Councillor Ray Heffer and seconded by Councillor Tricia Clough

RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following item of business to avoid the disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1, Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

EXEMPT PARAGRAPH 3

0344. WHITWELL CLUSTER – BE@HOME FRAMEWORK

The Joint Head of Property & Commercial Services and the Property Services Manager attended the meeting to address Members concerns and questions with regard to an exempt report, which would be considered at a meeting of Executive on 14th October 2019, in relation to the Whitwell Cluster Be@Home Framework.

Committee suggested that '***subject to Planning approval***' be added to each of the three recommendations in the report.

The Joint Head of Property & Commercial Services agreed to take on board the amendment to all three recommendations as part of the presentation of the report to Executive on 14th October 2019.

In addition, Officers agreed to further consultation and investigation in relation to a specific proposal within the report.

The Joint Head of Property & Commercial Services and the Property Services Manager left the meeting.

OPEN ITEMS

0345. REDEVELOPMENT OF BDC WEBSITE – IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR BODIES (WEBSITES AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS) (NO.2) ACCESSIBILITY REGULATIONS 2018

Committee considered a presentation provided by the Communications Manager and the Web Development Manager in relation to progress on the development of a new BDC website which would be launched at the end of this calendar year.

The Communications Manager advised Committee that the Council's current website was accessed more frequently via mobile phones than personal computers so the new

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TRANSFORMATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

website would be 'scaleable' for mobile phone compatibility.

New user friendly elements had been developed for the new website and included 6 interchangeable featured service boxes which could be changed at different times in the year. The website would also link to Modern.Gov, the Council's new Governance software system, which would be available in early 2020, for public access to Committee meeting information including minutes and agendas and Councillor information.

In response to Members' queries, the Communications Manager highlighted the following;

- the Contact Centre Back Office Web Chat feature on the current website provided the Communications Team with data on the type of items that customers searched for.
- the new website would also provide data on how people searched for items which could also be searched for by postcode.
- information not required by a customer could be turned off on the results search bar.
- the new website could be used in different languages.
- for customers using a personal computer, they would be able to navigate the new website with a keyboard as well as a mouse.
- the success of the new website would be measured by the number of hits it received.

The Strategic Director – People noted that the new website was a digital shift for customers and would change how they contacted the Council and accessed the Council's services in the future. He added that transactions from telephone calls to online services had already increased by 60% and this was expected to rise with the new website.

Members welcomed the presentation and looked forward to the new website being available. They thanked the Communications Manager and the Web Development Manager for providing the update.

Moved by Councillor Ray Heffer and seconded by Councillor Tricia Clough
RESOLVED that the update be noted.

The Communications Manager and the Web Development Manager left the meeting.

0346. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Moved by Councillor Ray Heffer and seconded by Councillor Tricia Clough
RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following item of business to avoid the disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1, Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND TRANSFORMATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

0347. POST SCRUTINY MONITORING: REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC ALLIANCE – PROGRESS UPDATE

Committee considered a joint presentation of the Chief Executive Officer and Strategic Director – People, which provided an update regarding the progress of the Joint Strategic Alliance.

At its meeting held on 15th July 2019, Committee had agreed that the monitoring period for Recommendation 2.4 of their Review of the Strategic Alliance would be extended to October 2019, to enable Members to receive the report of the Strategic Director – People.

The presentation included information on;

- recent changes in some service areas at the Council with regard to staffing structures and creation of new posts including consideration of future staffing capacity,
- investments in key sites at both councils,
- a business case to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP),
- successes achieved by the Joint Committee since its formation in 2011, including improvements/advances and savings via the joint Transformation Programme.

Members asked questions to which the Chief Executive Officer and Strategic Director – People replied.

Moved by Councillor Ray Heffer and seconded by Councillor David Dixon
RESOLVED that the Presentation be noted.

The Chief Executive Officer and the Strategic Director – People left the meeting.

OPEN ITEMS

0348. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

Committee considered their Work Programme 2019/20.

Committee considered and agreed the scoping document for the Review of New Bolsover New Beginnings – Evaluating the Customer Experience.

Moved by Councillor Ray Heffer and seconded by Councillor Andrew Joesbury
RESOLVED that (1) the Work Programme 2019/2020 be noted,

(2) the Scoping Document for the Review of New Bolsover New Beginnings – Evaluating the Customer Experience be agreed.

The meeting concluded at 1130 hours.