

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITIES, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16 JULY 2019**

**Present:** Councillors M Burton, Joy, Khadka, Mortimer  
(Chairman), Powell, Purle, D Rose, M Rose and Young

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

26. NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

There were no Substitute Members.

27. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

28. NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS

There were no Visiting Members.

29. DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no disclosures by Members or Officers.

30. DISCLOSURES OF LOBBYING

There were no disclosures of lobbying.

31. EXEMPT ITEMS

**RESOLVED:** That all items be taken in public as proposed.

32. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JUNE 2019

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed.

33. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

34. QUESTIONS AND ANSWER SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from members of the public.

35. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the Work Programme and noted that:-

- The Homelessness Strategy would be considered at the September meeting.
- The Crime and Disorder Committee had been scheduled for Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee Work Programme be noted.

36. OUTSIDE BODY REPORT 2019/20

The Principal Democratic Services Officer presented a report which outlined the arrangements for Outside Bodies relevant to the Committee for the 2019/20 municipal year.

It was noted that there were six vacancies in total for Outside Bodies attributable to the Committee, two of which had received nominations and Members were asked to consider the nominations received and appoint as appropriate. These were as follows:-

Cutbush and Corral Charity – Councillor Mrs Joy  
Vinters Valley Park Trust – Councillor B Hinder

The Committee was also asked to consider a course of action to fill the vacancies and made the following suggestions:-

- That the organisations who are seeking nominations be invited to give a presentation to the Committee on what their work involved.
- That the vacancies attributable to this Committee be re-advertised.
- That the Democracy and General Purposes Committee be asked to consider:-
  - 1) That there should be more automatic appointments of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to outside bodies from the Service Committees
  - 2) That it be suggested to organisations where any positions are not filled by Members within a year that the position be opened up to other persons whilst still maintaining contact with their local Councillors.

**RESOLVED:** That

- 1) The current Council Representatives be noted.
- 2) Councillor Mrs Joy be appointed as the Council's representative for the Cutbush and Corral Charity with effect from 13 August 2019 for a duration of 4 years.
- 3) Councillor B Hinder be appointed as the Council's representative for the Vinters Valley Park Trust with immediate effect for a duration of 4 years.
- 4) The Chairman invites organisations who are seeking nominations to give a presentation to the Committee so they can appreciate the work that the organisation undertakes.
- 5) That all the vacancies attributable to this Committee be re-advertised.
- 6) That the Democracy and General Purposes Committee be recommended to consider as part of their ongoing review of outside bodies the following:-
  - 1) That there should be more automatic appointments of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to outside bodies from the Service Committees
  - 2) That it be suggested to organisations where any positions are not filled by Members within a year that the position be opened up to other persons whilst still maintaining contact with their local Councillors.

Voting: For: Unanimous

### 37. HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Housing and Community Services which detailed the results of the consultation responses to the amended draft Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy.

It was noted that the Licensing Committee, at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 had requested some minor amendments be made to the policy prior to consultation and agreed on a 6 week consultation to take place.

The consultation was carried out between 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 with relevant organisations, hackney and private hire drivers and operators.

The Licensing Committee, at its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019, made no further amendments and resolved to recommend the draft Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy to this Committee.

**RESOLVED:** That the amended draft Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy be adopted.

Voting: For: Unanimous

38. DURATION OF MEETING

6.30 p.m. to 7.04 p.m.