

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
(STEWARDSHIP) COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL
OFFICES, CORKS LANE, HADLEIGH ON THURSDAY, 21 JUNE 2012

PRESENT: Mr D M Busby – Chairman

Mr S R Barrett	Mr R E Kemp
Mr P D Burgoyne	Mr J M Nunn
Mr J R B Cave	Mr C A Roberts

Mr D G Grutchfield, Miss D L Kendall and Mr F R Lawrenson were unable to be present.

Ms J A Jenkins, Chairman of Strategy Committee, attended the meeting to explain the decision of Strategy Committee the subject of the call-in referred to in Minute No. 12 below.

8 SUBSTITUTES

It was noted that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 5, a substitute was in attendance as follows:-

Mr P D Burgoyne (substituting for Mr F R Lawrenson).

9 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

10 PETITIONS

None received.

11 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

None received.

12 CALL-IN – STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10 MAY 2012 -
PROPOSED APPROACH TO BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL/MID SUFFOLK
DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICE ACCOMMODATION

The Head of Corporate Organisation advised that following the Decision Notice circulated on 10 May 2012 outlining decisions taken by the Strategy Committee on 10 May 2012, a call-in request had been submitted, and had been circulated to Members as Paper M46, together with a copy of the report the subject of the call-in (Paper M25).

Mr D M Busby, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny (Stewardship) Committee referred Members to the criteria against which the Council expects any call-in to be judged as detailed in the Council's Constitution. He explained that in this case Members felt that the Strategy Committee had overlooked some relevant and material consideration in arriving at its decision.

Members noted that the call-in decision was to retain both HQ's (Hadleigh and Needham Market) in the medium term (3-5 years).

Mr S R Barrett presented the reasons for the call-in by the Members.

Ms J A Jenkins, Chairman of the Strategy Committee, explained the process and why the decision was made.

Members of the Committee questioned Ms Jenkins.

Mike Hammond, Interim Director of Transformation and Ryan Jones, Lead Officer of the Accommodation Working Group explained the background and reasoning behind the proposal.

Members of the Committee questioned the Interim Director of Transformation and the Lead Officer of the Accommodation Working Group.

Members discussed the evidence they had heard and noted the options open to them as follows:-

- (i) To concur with the Strategy Committee's decision.
- (ii) To refer the matter back to Strategy Committee for reconsideration.
- (iii) To refer the matter to the Council for the final decision or referral back to Strategy Committee.

RESOLVED

That the Committee are satisfied with the Chairman of Strategy's explanation of the grounds for making the decision and upon this basis would not wish the decision to be referred back to Strategy Committee for reconsideration. However, given that considerable amounts of information gathering, strategic planning and partnership negotiations were still to be completed, the Committee felt that the 3-5 year term should be considered as an expectation rather than an instruction. Therefore the business cases for the location of the new officer teams should reflect all information available and predictable at that time.

The business of the meeting was concluded at 9.45 a.m.

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Chairman