

Environment Sub-Committee

8 June 2016

Present: Councillor B Burdis (Chair)
Councillors G Bell, L Bell, D Drummond, E Hodson, M
Huscroft, F Lott, G Madden, M Rankin and M Thirlaway.

E1/06/16 Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P Brooks and W Lott.

E2/06/16 Substitute Members

There were no substitutes reported.

E3/06/16 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

E4/06/16 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2016 be confirmed.

E5/06/16 Biodiversity Action Plan Update 2015

It was **AGREED** that consideration of this report be deferred to the next meeting

E6/06/16 Work Programme 2016/17

Consideration was given to a report which invited Members to give consideration to and agree the Sub-committee's work programme for 2016-17. Details of the suggested topics were outlined together with the process which had been adopted to generate topics for consideration.

In considering the suggestions Members had regard to the previously agreed criteria for the selection of topics:

- Does the topic relate to one or more of the Council Plan Themes?
- Would a scrutiny investigation make a positive contribution to the formulation of future policies or strategies?
- Is the topic of interest or concern to members of the public and is there an opportunity for the public to contribute to the review?

- Is an overview and scrutiny investigation the most appropriate route for addressing the issue?

The Sub-committee agreed the following topics for further consideration:

- The options for domestic and business users to increase their usage of renewable energy;
- The creation of a community woodland in the borough – with particular reference to the location, age and type of species of trees and other planting to be incorporated in to the scheme;
- Coastal erosion;
- The capital value of flora and fauna in the borough;
- The examination of how the local authority and others can contribute to increasing the number of wildlife habitats into development within the borough.

It was suggested that a briefing paper on each of the topics be presented to a future meeting of the Sub-committee to inform Members of the current position and to allow the Sub-committee to determine which of the topics, if any, merited an in-depth investigation.

The Sub-committee also requested an update on the progress being made in relation to the formation of the sub group agreed by Cabinet as part of the recommendations of the Public Rights of Way Sub Group report.

The Sub Committee agreed that the two other suggestions relating to pedestrian walking routes and street cleansing should not be added to the work programme for this year.

It was **AGREED** that (1) a briefing paper be presented to a future meeting of the Sub-committee on the following topics:

- The options for domestic and business users to increase their usage of renewable energy;
- The creation of a community woodland in the borough;
- Coastal erosion;
- The capital value of flora and fauna in the borough;
- The examination of how the local authority and others can contribute to increasing the number of wildlife habitats into development within the borough.

(2) An update be provided on the implementation of the recommendations of the Public Rights of Way Sub-group.

E7/06/16 Report of the Waste Collections Post 2017 Sub Group

It was **AGREED** that consideration of this item be deferred for consideration at the next meeting

E8/06/16 Date and Time of Future Meetings

Consideration was given to a report which invited the Sub-committee to determine the date and start times of future meetings of the Sub-committee.

It was **AGREED** that the Environment Sub-committee would meet at 6.00pm on the following dates:

- 6 July 2016
- 7 September 2016
- 5 October 2016
- 9 November 2016
- 11 January 2017
- 8 February 2017
- 8 March 2017