

LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2018 commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr. Firth (Chairman)

Cllr. Pett (Vice Chairman)

Cllrs. Barnes, Bosley, Dr. Canet, Dyball, Eyre, Mrs. Hunter, Lake and Pett

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Halford, McGarvey and Raikes

Cllr. Hogarth was also present.

23. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 17 October 2017, and 14 December 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

24. Declarations of Interest

No additional declarations of interest were made.

25. Actions from Previous Meeting

The actions were noted.

26. Update from Portfolio Holder

The Portfolio Holder, and Chairman, advised that: she had held regular portfolio holder meetings since the last meeting; had signed off the written evidence submission to the CLG Committee Inquiry on 'The Impact of Brexit on Local Government'; had attended the Scrutiny Committee; had held one additional meeting on the affordable housing company on 19 December 2017 which had scoped out issues that needed to be looked, with another due to be held soon; and would be launching the second wellbeing walk in West Kingsdown the following week.

27. Referrals from Cabinet or the Audit Committee

There were none.

28. Impact of Brexit on Sevenoaks District Council

The Chairman welcomed Professor Ameila Hadfield Professor of European and International Relations who was accompanied by Christian Turner and Noora Virtanen, and David Firth, Policy Adviser along with the Director of Strategy, Policy, Relationships and Corporate Assurance, David Whittle both from Kent County Council (KCC).

Professor Hadfield gave a [presentation](#) on 'Kent and Medway - Making a success of Brexit: A sectoral analysis of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and the Rural Economy', and Members took the opportunity to ask questions.

The Director of Strategy, Policy, Relationships and Corporate Assurance (KCC) addressed the Committee advising that KCC were looking at how Brexit would impact on their range of services, however at the moment it was difficult to plan with so many unknown factors.

The Chairman thanked all guests for attending and the Committee showed their appreciation.

The Policy Officer presented a report advising with information on the challenges of Brexit and advising that Officers would continue to monitor developments.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

29. Electoral Registration and Elections

The Elections Manager presented the report which set out the improvements which had been made to Electoral Services for electoral registration and elections within the scope of the current legislative framework. Further improvements would be made in 2018 to enable the Council to deliver efficiencies, enhance and automate processes and further improve the service delivered to customers.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

30. Work Plan

Subject to the deletion of 'Quercus 7 update on activities' and the addition on an update on Land Charges and Brexit developments, the work plan was noted.

THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 9.25 PM

CHAIRMAN