

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held at The Cromwell Suite, The Three Swans Hotel,
21 High Street, Market Harborough, LE16 7NJ

Monday 21st June 2021

commencing at 6.30 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Bilbie (Chairman)

Councillors: Bannister, Bateman, Beadle, Dr Bremner, Mrs Burrell, Champion, Critchley, Dann, Dunton, Elliott, Frenchman, Golding, Graves, Hallam, James, Johnson, King, Knowles, Mahal, Nunn, Mrs Page, Rickman, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Simpson, Whelband and Mrs Wood

Officers present: D. Atkinson, R. Chew, L. Elliott, S. Green, S. Hamilton, G. Keeping, C. Mason, N. Proudfoot and V. Wenham

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Bilbie announced that he had been very honoured to attend the Armed Forces Day – Flag Raising Ceremony that morning which had been a very fitting commemorative occasion.

DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were none.

MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor King, seconded by Councillor Hallam and

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of Council held on the 26th April 2021 be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE LEADER

Councillor King, Leader, preceded the presentation of his report with thanks to all those who had been involved in the Armed Forces Day Flag Raising Ceremony :-

COVID-19

Since we last met as a Council the situation with Covid-19 has moved on again.

Vaccinations

The GOV.UK website states that, overall, as per Sunday 20th June, 83.9% of Harborough district residents aged 18 plus have received their 1st vaccination and 66.8% had received their 2nd dose.

From the LG Inform website, up to 13th June 2021:

In total, 64,690 of Harborough's 81,423 residents have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. This equates to a first dose vaccination rate of 79.45 per cent of residents. This is greater than

the English rate of 68.43 per cent and ranks Harborough 10 out of 29 for all local authority districts in East Midlands.

Of the 64,690 Harborough residents who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, 15,391 (23.79%) were aged over 70 at the 31st March 2021. In addition, 5,353 (8.27%) were aged 65-69, 6,108 (9.44%) were aged 60-64, 7,135 (11.03%) were aged 55-59, 7,180 (11.10%) were aged 50-54, 6,086 (9.41%) were aged 45-49, 5,138 (7.94%) were aged 40-44, 4,333 (6.70%) were aged 35-39, 3,491 (5.40%) were aged 30-34 and 2,195 (3.39%) were aged 25-29. The remaining 2,280 (3.52%) residents who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine were under the age of 25 at the 31st March 2021.

Second Dose

To date, 51,271 of Harborough's 81,423 residents have received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. This equates to a second dose vaccination rate of 62.97 per cent. This is greater than the English rate of 49.89 per cent and ranks Harborough 7 out of 29 for all local authority districts in East Midlands.

Of the 51,271 Harborough residents who have received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, 15,183 (29.61%) were aged over 70 at the 31st March 2021. Beyond this, 5,261 (10.26%) were aged 65-69, 5,858 (11.43%) were aged 60-64, 6,691 (13.05%) were aged 55-59, 6,412 (12.51%) were aged 50-54, 4,065 (7.93%) were aged 45-49, 2,598 (5.07%) were aged 40-44, 1,694 (3.30%) were aged 35-39, 1,290 (2.52%) were aged 30-34 and 992 (1.93%) were aged 25-29. The remaining 1,227 (2.39%) residents who have received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine were under the age of 30 at the 31st March 2021.

I continue to offer thanks to all the healthcare staff involved in this programme, along with the scores of volunteers that are helping get this done. And we mustn't forget either the crucial contribution of the UK Military.

Number of new cases

In the past two weeks, there has been a marked increase in the number of positive test outcomes, and as at Sunday 20th June 2021, the GOV.UK website says that the number of new cases for Harborough district over the last 7 days was 149, that's an increase of 112 in the previous 7 days, a 302% increase. I expect that these figures will increase further over the coming days before we see them decline. They have been predominately in age groups under 30, and related to an outbreak at the Kibworth Mead School; the peak age groups are 15-19, 10-14, 20-24 and 25-29 year olds with a rolling rate of 792/100k for 15-19 age, as at 15th June. Correspondingly there seems to be negligible impact on the 60+ age or in those lower age groups, with very high levels of having had both vaccinations.

Testing

Public Health continues to advise us that 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 does not experience any symptoms and may be spreading the virus unwittingly. Rapid testing detects cases quickly, meaning positive cases can isolate immediately. By making rapid tests available to everyone, more cases will be detected, breaking chains of transmission and saving lives.

Since April 9th, it's been official Government advice that everyone, completes two Rapid Lateral flow tests.

Whilst the community facility at Harborough Leisure Centre has been closed from today, everyone can still access FREE, rapid lateral flow tests (LFDs) for themselves and their families to use TWICE a week, in line with clinical guidance to help prevent outbreaks and reclaim a more normal way of life.

Here are some links with information about obtaining a rapid test which you can undertake if you currently have no coronavirus symptoms and have not had a recent positive test result:

- Community collect (home test kit collection from the Community test sites) – eligibility: anyone aged 18 or over <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/.../rapid-asymptomatic...>
- Home test kit collection at a local 'PCR' test site during specific collection times – eligibility: anyone aged 18 or over <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trac...>
- Home test kit collection at a participating pharmacy – eligibility: anyone aged 18 or over <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/findatestcenter.html>
- Home delivery <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow...>

There can be still no room for complacency, and I urge every member of this Council to set the lead in our community by ensuring that you and your family continue to complete your 2 tests per week.

COVID Road Map and Recovery

Following the Prime Minister's Road Map announcement we have now begun to reverse the national restrictions so that we can get on and live our lives again; this has never been more crucial for everyone's mental health and wellbeing; especially young adults, teenagers and school children.

To refresh, the journey started on the 8th March, with the much awaited return to schools and colleges, followed approximately four weeks ago on the 29th March with stage 2, which was the return of the Group of 6, being able to meet outside etc. Then on the 12th April we experienced the re-opening of the so called 'non-essential' retail, leisure centres, gyms, hairdressers, and outdoor service for hospitality, including Market Harborough Market. On the 17th May, hospitality re-opened indoors, and outdoor you can now meet anyone. However the highly anticipated removal of all restrictions today, on midsummers day was postponed by the Government last week to the 19th July.

I share everyone's disappointment with that decision and I hope, as I'm sure many of you and our communities do, that no later than the 19th July, the remaining restrictions will be wholly removed. However, in the meantime this Council and its staff will continue to take its compliance and legal responsibilities seriously.

Survey on local GP services

The local CCGs have launched a GP practice survey exploring views and experiences of GP-led (primary care) services during the Covid-19 pandemic to help to build on the things that people in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland like about the service and to identify areas of care that could be improved.

The CCGs would love to hear your opinion about your experiences, and the views of people in your communities, that will help them to plan for service delivery in the future. Even if you haven't visited your General Practice recently it's still really important that they hear from you so that they can understand the way care needs to be provided in the future. The gathered feedback will inform a series of discussions going forward to help create a shared vision for modern, sustainable primary care.

The survey closes on Monday 12 July 2021 and can be found at: www.bit.ly/PrimaryCareLLR

I urge all Councillors to complete this important survey and encourage as many local residents to complete this also.

Community Safety

I'd also like to say that I was very shocked by the stabbing last weekend of a 21 year old young man in Market Harborough town centre. I'm also relieved, as I've no doubt he and his family are, that it wasn't more serious. I urge anyone with information about that attack to contact Leicestershire Police or Crime Stoppers. The Police advised last week that this is unrelated to the upsurge in ASB.

As many of us are aware, one of the impacts arising from removal of Covid19 restrictions has been an upsurge in anti-social behaviour across the district, which has been repeated nationally.

All across our district, we have seen repeated 'parties in parks', from Little Bowden to Thurnby, to the Kibworths and elsewhere. Much of this is well organised and orchestrated by the key players via social media. Younger people, keen to make up for months of social isolation, have swarmed around likes bees to honey. Frequently they have even had unwitting support and input from parents, to cavort around at these places, much to the frustration and increasing despair of local residents who have been undeservedly and negatively impacted by these events. Loud music, public drunkenness, alleged acts of lewdness, and using outside spaces as toilets to name but a few of the complaints. On top of that is the litter, broken glass, and acts of vandalism. Add to this mix, drugs and those with a more sinister agenda, and many younger people across our district have put themselves at risk of being exploited by 'County Lines' gangs and others.

This is complex issue which no single agency can solve by itself. I make no apology for my hard hitting message in the local media. Whilst the vast majority of residents and young people in the Harborough district are decent, law abiding, respectful and responsible individuals, a minority are not. Parents need to wise up fast to the risks that their youngsters are being exposed to.

The District Council is doing what it can and we are working via the Community Safety Partnership to ensure that all partners are positively working to address the ongoing issues and concerns of our communities as a priority. We can solve these problems, but we need to work together. With rights come responsibilities and we need our communities to be the eyes and ears of the Police and report information about those who are responsible for supplying drugs and preying on our impressionable youngsters so that the necessary action can be taken.

www.leics.police.uk or telephone 101 or 999 if an emergency
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Finally, I'd like to welcome Inspector Jim Purdie as the new Police commander for the Harborough, Oadby and Wigston area and offer our thanks to the departing and newly promoted Chief Inspector Gorman. I will be meeting with him very shortly.

Comments on the Leader's report

Councillor Knowles asked whether the Council would take the opportunity to make our facilities available for vaccinations.

In relation to Community Safety, Councillor Knowles asked when the new Officer who would be working with young people would be in place. Councillor Bannister stated that it was encouraging that the Leader would be meeting the new Inspector Jim Purdie and also asked for assurance that a formal meeting would take place between the Leader and the new Police and Crime Commissioner, Rupert Matthews.

Councillor James commented on the various serious incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) which have taken place within his Ward. He asked whether there was a Harborough Community Safety Action Plan for 2021. Councillor Elliott asked when a meeting would be set up between Members and Inspector Jim Purdie.

Leader's response

The Leader stated that despite requests, no informal or formal meetings have taken place yet with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The recruitment for the Youth outreach worker is currently underway. Facilities within the Harborough District have already been offered to the CCG and other healthcare partners regarding mass vaccinations.

Councillor Whelband reported that the Community Safety Partnership has recently refreshed its priorities for the District and he will ensure that these are made available on the HDC website.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC

The following question had been submitted by Canon Brian Davis of Lubenham Hill, Market Harborough:

I am sending this request on behalf of the Sustainable Harborough Community, a local organisation working together with environmental groups and concerned individuals in the Market Harborough area. Our aim is to effect change in relation to the Climate and Ecological Emergency at the individual, local, national and international level.

We are pleased to see that the Climate Action Group, originally set up by HDC in December 2019, but which has not met since March 2020, will be starting up its activities again on April 29th. We would be grateful if you could answer the following questions:

- 1. Who will be on the group, and in particular will there be any representation on the group from individuals or groups other than councillors and officers of HDC?*
- 2. When does HDC hope to deliver a Climate Action Plan, including milestones and targets, that will achieve the commitment of reducing its own emissions to zero by 2030?*
- 3. What plans does HDC have to ensure all carbon emissions in the district, and not just those they are directly responsible for, will be tackled?*
- 4. How does HDC plan to ensure that residents of the district, and groups such as ours, will have the opportunity to have their thoughts taken into account as the Climate Action Plan is developed?*

We do recognise that funding cuts, and reacting to the Covid Pandemic, have severely restricted the activities that HDC has been able to focus on in the last year. However we would now urge you to act with urgency in responding to the Climate and Ecological Emergency we are all facing. We would also commend you to consider the Climate Action Plan recently published by Stroud District Council, which we feel acts as a good exemplar of what HDC could be aspiring to.

Councillor Bateman, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Environment & Waste, responded as follows:

1. The Climate Emergency Action Group is a working group of the council, which reports to directly to council and is a private meeting.

It is made up of council members with support from council officers. The group does not have external members. The members are:

- Cllr Jonathan Bateman
- Cllr Amanda Nunn
- Cllr Dominic Fosker
- Cllr Paul Beadle
- Cllr Paul Bremner
- Cllr Martin Sarfas
- Cllr Michael Rickman

Members can send a substitute.

2. A revised work programme and timescale with milestones was agreed by the portfolio holder . The consultation opened on 31st May until 31st July. The consultation and project plan will then

be reported to council in September. The action plan will then deliver against agreed points and a report will be collated annually.

3. The Harborough District Council Climate Action Plan has been devised to both reduce the council's own emissions, but also to use all opportunities to reduce emissions in the district overall. The Action plan has concentrated on areas where HDC has influence to promote or deliver reductions, including domestic energy efficiency, electric vehicle charging infrastructure and active travel.
4. The Climate Emergency Action Plan is out to full community consultation ending on 31st July. This consultation will seek to engage widely to ensure that the action plan recognises opportunities for action on climate across Harborough District.

The consultation is available on the Harborough District Council website under the Climate emergency section https://www.harborough.gov.uk/info/20047/climate_emergency

Paper copies of the survey are also available in Market Harborough, Lutterworth and Broughton Astley libraries.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS

- i. The following question was submitted by Councillor Sarfas :

It is believed that the Aldi in Lutterworth will be completed by September 2021. Do you think the access in and out of Aldi's will be safe especially when you consider this access if off the very busy main routes including the Sir Frank Whittle roundabout, for Lutterworth ?

The Leader responded as follows :-

As part of the consideration of planning application 19/00646/FUL (New Aldi Store, Lutterworth), which was approved by Planning Committee on 12.05.20, Leicestershire County Council Highways Officers were satisfied that both the proposed new access into/out of the site, and the impact of additional traffic on the Whittle roundabout would be acceptable, and when considered together with other developments, the impacts on the road network would not be severe.

Based on the information provided, the development does not conflict with paragraph 109 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019), subject to relevant conditions and planning obligations. Paragraph 109 of the NPPF states:

'Development should only be prevented or refused on highways grounds if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, or the residual cumulative impacts on the road network would be severe'.

The decision to grant planning permission was, therefore, based on evidence from the Highway Authority that highway safety was not compromised. In reaching this conclusion the evidence was tested as required against paragraph 109 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019), and subject to relevant conditions and planning obligations, found acceptable to satisfy this.

The Highways conditions agreed in the planning application process include the implementation of the agreed access, visibility and off-site highways works and parking. Further conditions relate to the provision of a shared footway/cycleway, linking to the existing footway/cycleway network.. As part of the agreed Section 106, contributions are required for funding a Traffic Regulation Order, along the relevant section of the A426, to prevent parking on the road.

Additional information was submitted throughout the planning process to demonstrate that a safe access can be provided, without significant highway safety implications. This included consideration of road traffic models predicting future traffic, including that associated with the Lutterworth East Strategic

Development Area and the developments at Magna Park (strategic distribution centre). Further, likely traffic flows leaving the site and how these will be integrated into the existing and future road networks have been taken into account. Leicestershire County Council Highways Officers have concluded that the proposal can be accommodated without significant adverse highway impact. Typically, highway works are also subject to separate section 278 agreement with LCC. S278 is a section of the Highways Act 1980 that allows developers to enter into a legal agreement with a Council (in its capacity as a Highway Authority) to make permanent alterations or improvements to a public highway, often as part of a planning approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET

1. Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) relating to Housing and Employment Land (March 2021)

Councillor King introduced the recommendations of the Cabinet from its meeting on the 10th May 2021.

A suggestion was made by Councillor Knowles to include a 'Critical Facts Summary' in order to assist Members with long reports.

It was moved by Councillor King, seconded by Councillor Bateman and

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) relating to Housing and Employment Land (March 2021) be noted.
- (ii) the Council becomes a signatory to the Statement of Common Ground (as detailed in Appendix A to the report).

2. Section 106 Policy

Councillor Bateman introduced the recommendations of the Cabinet from its meeting on the 10th May 2021.

Thanks were expressed to the Director of Planning and Regeneration and his team of Officers for the considerable amount of work involved in the reform and review of the Section 106 Policy.

It was moved by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Whelband and

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the new S106 end to end process flow chart (as set out at Appendix A to the report) be approved.
- (ii) the revised S106 Policy Grant award application process (as set out in Section 3, 'Grant Application Awards', Paragraph 3.1 to the report) be approved.
- (iii) the new simplified S106 application form for S106 funding (set out at Appendix B to the report) be approved.
- (iv) the revised S106 Policy Grant application process being given effect to from Monday 2nd August 2021 be approved.

3. Open Spaces Strategy 2021

Councillor Bateman introduced the recommendations of the Cabinet from its meeting on the 7th June 2021.

A number of concerns were raised by Members regarding the following issues : the omission of any mention of public toilets and the need for these to be open particularly over Bank Holidays; and the provisions for children and young people.

It was moved by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor King and

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the Open Spaces Strategy and its supporting evidence, appended to the Strategy, as set out in Appendix A to the report which sets out the evidence and recommendations supporting the provision of open space in the district, be adopted.
- (ii) the Open Spaces Sport and Recreation Delivery Plan, as set out in Appendix B to the report which sets out the mechanism for bringing forward new open space including financial obligations from developers based on the evidence provided in the Open Spaces Strategy at Appendix A to the report, be adopted.

4. ICT Strategy

Councillor Hallam introduced the recommendation of the Cabinet from its meeting on the 7th June 2021.

It was moved by Councillor Hallam, seconded by Councillor Dann and

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the ICT Strategy attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

5. Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy

Councillor Hallam introduced the recommendation of the Cabinet from its meeting on the 7th June 2021.

It was moved by Councillor Hallam, seconded by Councillor King and

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy be approved.
- (ii) delegation be given to the Director: Finance and Assets, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources, of the use of up to £500k of potential 2021/22 Non-Right to Buy receipts to provide additional flexibility.

REPORT FROM THE CABINET

The report from the Cabinet was noted.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

There were none.

REPORTS ABOUT AND QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE BUSINESS OF JOINT ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

There were none.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Councillor Mrs Page presented the Annual Scrutiny Commission report for 2020/21 as set out below:

Introduction

Despite the problems placed in our way by the Covid-19 crisis, I am pleased to say that I can still look back at a busy and successful year for Scrutiny. One unexpected benefit of all the remote meetings has been a record level of attendance, which I will comment on later in my report.

Once again, my report, as well as covering last year, looks forward to the 2021/22 year and incorporates details of the Scrutiny Workplan agreed by the Commission earlier this month, which promises to keep us busy over the coming year.

The Role of Scrutiny

Some Council meetings, such as the Cabinet, are “decision making” bodies. Scrutiny does not make decisions but is instead made up of bodies who monitor and influence those meetings that do. The role, carried out by non-Cabinet members, is designed to support the work of the Council in the following ways:

- By reviewing and scrutinising decisions taken by the Cabinet, also known as acting as a “critical friend”
- By considering aspects of the Council’s performance
- By assisting in research, policy review and development
- By involving itself with external organisations operating in the District to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working
- By providing a means of involving the community in the Council’s work

Scrutiny may be consulted by the Cabinet on the development of policy and may also be consulted by the Cabinet or the Council on forthcoming decisions. Scrutiny allows citizens to have a greater say in Council matters by holding public inquiries into matters of local concern, which may lead to reports and recommendations that advise the Cabinet and the Council as a whole on its policies, budget and service delivery. The Scrutiny Commission and Panels also monitor the decisions of the Cabinet and in certain circumstances can ‘call-in’ a decision, which has been made by the Cabinet but not yet implemented, to consider whether the decision is appropriate and whether or not to recommend that it be reconsidered.

Structure of Scrutiny in Harborough District Council

Scrutiny Commission

Harborough District Council has a Scrutiny Commission which meets up to four times a year to agree and review the Scrutiny Work-plan. The Commission has ten non-executive members appointed by the Council at the Annual Council Meeting. The Commission Chair may not also be a Panel Chair or Panel Vice-Chair. The role of a Commission Member is to suggest and approve topics for the workplan and to oversee and monitor all Scrutiny work.

The Council’s rota of meetings includes two regular Scrutiny Commission meetings each year, with a further two dates reserved in case additional meetings need to be arranged. The Workplan is set at the June and December meetings, with the Chairman of the Scrutiny Commission making any changes that are required in between.

Scrutiny Panels

The Commission has appointed two Panels with overview and scrutiny 'broad-brush' responsibility: 'Communities' and 'Performance'. Both Commission and Panel meetings are open to members of the public and involvement of the public is actively encouraged by the invitation of members of the public and representatives of outside bodies to Scrutiny panel meetings.

Each Panel has seven members including a Chair and Vice-Chair and is subject to the proportionality rules in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The roles of the Chair and Vice-Chair are to oversee and provide leadership, management and strategic direction to the Scrutiny Panels. Panel Members receive and consider information on workplan items, make recommendations, as appropriate to Cabinet or Council. Panel Members may also undertake research and report back to the Panel or Commission.

Scrutiny Task Groups

In addition to the committee-based work carried out through the Panels, the Scrutiny Commission can also set up time-limited working groups to look at particular subjects in more detail. Scrutiny Task Groups, as they are known, are made up of seven members and their recommendations are submitted to the relevant parent Panel.

Scrutiny Activity 2020/21

Summary

Despite disruption at the beginning of the year, as we adapted to ways of remote working, Scrutiny managed to make up lost ground, with the following headline statistics:

- 10 Scrutiny meetings held
- 35 reports considered
- 23 hours of public debate

Attendance has been high, no doubt helped by the convenience of remote meetings, and I am pleased to report that attendance at Scrutiny meetings was 93% over the year, compared with 88% in 2019/20. The breakdown for the individual groups over the past two years is:

	2019/20				2020/21			
Scrutiny Cycle	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Commission	100%	N/A	80%	N/A	80%	N/A	90%	N/A
Performance	100%	100%	86%	86%	N/A	100%	100%	86%
Communities	71%	86%	86%	-	N/A	93%	100%	100%
Overall	88%				93%			

Work of Scrutiny during 2020/21 in more detail

The Scrutiny Commission, together with the Communities and Performance Panels, have covered a very wide variety of topics during the course of the year, including:

- Quarterly Performance
- Financial performance
- Corporate Plan & Corporate Delivery Plan
- Council Budget 2021/22
- The Council's working arrangements with SLM (Everyone Active)
- Homelessness
- RIPA
- Provision of ICT Services to Members
- Registered Housing Providers
- Planning Enforcement
- Built Facilities Strategy
- Open Space Strategy
- Voluntary Sector Strategy
- Charities and Voluntary Organisations Reports

- Empty Property Strategy Review
- Harborough District Commercial Services Limited
- Section 106 Policy
- Lutterworth Town Centre Masterplan
- Community Safety Partnership Annual Review

During the year Scrutiny Task Groups have looked at the Council's Response to Covid-19 and have reviewed the Council's S106 Policy in detail. The suggestions from this last Scrutiny review have fed into Cabinet's recommendations to this meeting of Council.

Scrutiny Membership – 2020/21

Scrutiny Commission

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Dr Paul Bremner • Cllr Barry Champion • Cllr Peter Elliott • Cllr Colin Golding • Cllr Barbara Johnson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Phil Knowles • Cllr Bill Liquorish • Cllr Amanda Nunn • Cllr Mrs Rosita Page (Chair and Commissioner) • Cllr Michael Rickman |
|---|---|

Performance Scrutiny Panel

- Cllr Neil Bannister
- Cllr Barry Frenchman
- Cllr Mark Graves
- Cllr Phil Knowles
- Cllr Rani Mahal
- Cllr Michael Rickman (Chair)
- Cllr Mrs Charmaine Wood

Communities Scrutiny Panel

- Cllr Mrs Janette Ackerley
- Cllr Barry Champion
- Cllr Dominic Fosker
- Cllr Robin Hollick
- Cllr Amanda Nunn (Chair)
- Cllr Mrs Geraldine Robinson
- Cllr Mrs Julie Simpson

Looking Ahead to 2021/22

The coming year will feature a detailed review of the Scrutiny Function, when, as part of the Council's Budget Challenge process, we will look at new ways of working to make the process of Scrutiny more efficient and streamlined. I fully hope that we will be able to reduce the number of regular reports being brought to the two Panels, so that they can concentrate their efforts on feeding into the development of policy, rather than merely on commenting on decisions that have already been made.

Scrutiny Commission

The Commission returned to face-to-face working with its meeting on 3rd June and set a workplan which has reprioritised the business of the Commission and Panels to reclaim time that has been lost due to the impact of Covid-19 and the cancellation of meetings in June 2020. To achieve this, an extra meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Panel is to be take place on 29th July 2021 to consider the Local Plan.

The Commission will also be considering an Evaluation of the HDC Covid Recovery Map at its meeting in November 2021. This meeting will give a further opportunity to consider the workload until the end of the 2021/22 year, but at present the work of the Panels stands at:

Performance Scrutiny Panel

- Quarterly Financial Performance
- Quarterly Performance
- Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)
- Harborough Innovation Centre and Grow-on Centre
- Corporate Plan, Corporate Delivery Plan and Performance Management Framework
- ICT strategy

- Flexible Use of Capital Receipts
- Revenue and Capital Budgets
- Leisure Centres working arrangements and Covid recovery

Communities Scrutiny Panel

- Smarter Services Programme
- Lightbulb Service Delivery
- Equality Policy
- Empty Property Strategy
- Local Plan
- Community Safety Partnership – annual meeting
- Charities & Voluntary Organisations
- Registered Housing Providers
- Health & Wellbeing Strategy
- Market Harborough Town Centre Masterplan
- Rural Strategy
- Young People's Strategy

Scrutiny Membership 2021/22

Scrutiny Commission

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Dr Paul Bremner • Cllr Barry Champion • Cllr Peter Elliott • Cllr Colin Golding • Cllr Barbara Johnson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Phil Knowles • Cllr Bill Liquorish • Cllr Amanda Nunn • Cllr Mrs Rosita Page (Chair and Commissioner) • Cllr Michael Rickman |
|---|---|

Performance Scrutiny Panel (Chair to be confirmed)

- Cllr Neil Bannister
- Cllr Barry Frenchman
- Cllr Mark Graves
- Cllr Phil Knowles
- Cllr Rani Mahal
- Cllr Michael Rickman
- Cllr Charmaine Wood

Communities Scrutiny Panel (Chair to be confirmed)

- Cllr Janette Ackerley
- Cllr Barry Champion
- Cllr Dominic Fosker
- Cllr Robin Hollick
- Cllr Amanda Nunn
- Cllr Mrs Geraldine Robinson
- Cllr Mrs Julie Simpson

Conclusion

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their input into a challenging, but ultimately rewarding, 2020/21 year for Scrutiny, despite all the difficulties, and I look forward to working with all Scrutiny colleagues during 2021/22.

In addition I would like to thank George Keeping for all of his assistance and support over the past year.

NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURE RULE 11.1 OF PART 4(1) OF THE COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

It was moved by Councillor Knowles, seconded by Councillor Dunton:

“The Constitution is an evolving document and there are clear needs from time to time to amend, upgrade and/or take steps to avoid ambiguity.

Keeping ward members informed is an important part of the functioning of Harborough District Council.

Having spoken at length to senior officers within HDC there seems to be support for taking a look at the specifics and mechanics of keeping ward members informed. I therefore move that officers be asked to draw up a report on this matter and to bring it as soon as possible for consideration to the Constitutional Review Committee".

On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

THE 2023 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES – INITIAL PROPOSALS

The Council considered a report on the Boundary Commission for England's initial proposals for the 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies.

Following the passing of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 2020 in December 2020, and the publication of the relevant Parliamentary electorate data in January 2021, the Boundary Commission is undertaking a review of all Parliamentary constituencies in England.

The Boundary Commission has now published its initial proposals which would create a Harborough County Constituency based on the Harborough local authority boundary. A public consultation period commenced on 8th June 2021 and ends on 2nd August 2021.

It was moved by Councillor Dann, seconded by Councillor King and

RESOLVED that the Boundary Commission for England's initial proposal to create a Harborough County Constituency that is coterminous with the Harborough District local authority boundary be noted.

Summary of Reasons

To allow Council the opportunity of considering the initial proposals published by the Boundary Commission for England and submitting a formal response to the current consultation which ends on 2nd August 2021.

URGENT ITEMS

There were none.

The Meeting ended at 9.14 p.m.