

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STRATEGY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, CORKS LANE, HADLEIGH ON THURSDAY, 14 JUNE 2012

PRESENT: Ms J A Jenkins – Chairman

Mr N A Bennett	Mr D C Rose
Mrs S Carpendale	Mr R C Smith
Mr N A Ridley	Mr A J Ward
Mr B Riley	Mrs S M Wigglesworth

Mr A C Bavington was unable to be present.

15 SUBSTITUTES

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

Mr D C Rose (substituting for Mr L H Young)
Mr R C Smith (substituting for Mr A J Hinton)
Mr A J Ward (substituting for Mrs A K Pollard)

16 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Mr A J Ward declared a personal interest by virtue of his daughter being a council house tenant in relation to Minute No. 22 below – Paper M37. He indicated that his interests were such that he was able to speak and vote on the matter concerned.

Mr N A Bennett subsequently declared a personal interest by virtue of being a Suffolk County Council employee in relation to Minute No. 21(a) below – Paper M28. He indicated that his interests were such that he was able to speak and vote on the matter concerned.

17 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

18 PETITIONS

None received.

19 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

None received.

20 ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

None received.

21 RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- (a) How to Encourage Work Experience and Apprenticeship Schemes in Mid Suffolk District Council and Babergh District Council (Overview and Scrutiny (Community Services) Committee Minute No.7)

RESOLVED

- (1) **That the relevant Head(s) of Service be directed to set out the aims, objectives and potential initiatives for improving employability of young people across the Councils' districts (as identified by the Joint Working Group on Encouraging Young People Apprenticeships and Work Experience) within a Strategic Plan to be brought forward to the Strategy Committee.**
- (2) **That the relevant Head(s) of Service be instructed to develop a business case to deliver the initiatives identified within the Strategic Plan referred to at Resolution (1) for consideration by the Strategy Committee.**
- (3) **That general policies concerning young people/NEET employability and economic growth be incorporated into the Council's Strategic Priorities and Objectives within the current policy review framework.**

- (b) Suffolk Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Overview and Scrutiny (Community Services) Committee Minute No.6)

During consideration of this item the appropriate officers agreed to ensure that the closing date for responses to the Suffolk Local Flood Risk consultation document was identified and made known to relevant parties.

RESOLVED

That the formal consultation draft of the Suffolk Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (as amended) attached as an Appendix to Paper M26 be endorsed.

- (c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982: Sex Establishment Policy, Fees and Procedures (Licensing and Appeals Committee)

Mr A J Ward, Vice Chairman of the Licensing and Appeals Committee, introduced Paper M31 regarding the adoption of policy and fee levels associated with the Sex Establishment Licensing Functions.

It was noted that Licensing and Appeals Committee had considered this matter at their meeting on 7 June 2012 and had recommended the adoption of the draft policy subject to in the second line of paragraph 15 of page 16 of Appendix B the word "not" to be included after the word "shall".

RESOLVED

That the draft policy, including application fee levels, attached as Appendix B to Paper M31 be adopted, subject to in the second line of paragraph 15 of page 16 of Appendix B the word “not” to be included after the word “shall”.

22 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TASK GROUPS AND PANELS

Reinvigoration of the Right to Buy

Sue Wigglesworth, a Member representative on the Joint Housing Board, introduced Paper M37 advising of the Government’s policy to reinvigorate the Right to Buy scheme which came into effect on 2 April 2012.

The Committee were requested to consider whether they wanted to enter into an agreement with the Department for Communities and Local Government to retain Right to Buy receipts to spend on replacement housing stock as outlined in sections 9 to 14 of Paper M37.

RESOLVED

- (1) That a Local Agreement be entered into with the Department for Communities and Local Government to retain and reinvest capital receipts for additional Right to Buy sales in new affordable housing.**
- (2) That the changes to the Right to Buy regulations are communicated to tenants through the media of new tenancy packs and tenants newsletters.**

23 STRATEGIC AND FINANCIAL PLANNING PROCESS

The Heads of Corporate Organisation and Resources presented Paper M38 relating to the outline approach to the process designed to determine the strategic priorities for the Council and associated joint medium term financial strategy, overall financial planning and budget developmental process for the periods 2013/14 to 2015/16.

RESOLVED

That the proposed approach to the strategic and financial planning process outlined in section 9.1 and 9.10 of Paper M38 and Appendix B be approved.

24 BABERGH CORE STRATEGY (2011 – 2031: SUBMISSION VERSION); PROPOSED CHANGES

The Head of Economy introduced Paper M39 advising Members of responses to the public consultation exercise (in summary form) held late 2011 on the Babergh Development Framework – BDF (Core Strategy Submission Draft). The document provided an assessment of those responses and proposes limited changes to the document.

Circulated at the meeting were amended plans for the strategic allocation at Hadleigh (Map B) and the strategic employment site allocation at Sproughton (Map D).

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

- (1) That the proposed actions and limited changes to the Submission Draft Local Plan Core Strategy and Policies Document (Appendix B to Paper M39), with the inclusion of amended plans – Map B (Hadleigh) and Map D (Sproughton) that require a new round of public consultation be agreed. Further that the Head of Economy be authorised to make basic edit/correction/consistency changes as necessary prior to commencement of the formal consultation process.**
- (2) That proposed arrangements for public consultation and the associated timetable for progressing the Core Strategy towards adoption be noted.**

25 2012/13 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Head of Contract and Asset Management submitted a report (Paper M40) relating to authority to implement two capital schemes within the Council's current general fund and two capital schemes within the current housing revenue account.

RESOLVED

That capital expenditure from the Council's general fund and housing revenue account be approved to carry out the proposed works outlined in the table in paragraph 8.1 of Paper M40.

26 POLSTEAD CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

The Head of Economy submitted a report (Paper M41) recommending the adoption of the Conservation Area appraisal document for Polstead. He advised that in respect of page 5 of the appraisal document where the year 1854 was referred to this should be replaced with 1846.

RESOLVED

That the Conservation Area Appraisal Document for Polstead (Appendix A to Paper M41 as amended) be adopted as non statutory supplementary planning guidance with immediate effect.

27 WORK PLAN

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report (Paper M42) on items identified for the Strategy Committee.

RESOLVED

That the Work Plan set out in Paper M42 be noted.

28 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC (WHICH TERM INCLUDES THE PRESS)

RESOLVED

That pursuant to Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the business specified below on the grounds that if the public were present during this item, it is likely that there would be the disclosure to them of exempt information as indicated against the item.

The Committee was also satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

29 APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY (Exempt information by virtue of Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1)

The Head of Corporate Organisation and the Director of Finance submitted a report (Paper M43) relating to the application for voluntary redundancy from the holder of Post No. CC403.

RESOLVED

- (1) That it be noted that the Chief Executive has approved that the post referred to in Paper M43 (Post No. CC403) be made redundant following application for voluntary redundancy, and that this be implemented immediately, with the statutory notice provisions being provided and worked.**
- (2) That the responsibility to approve voluntary and compulsory redundancies be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman of the Strategy Committee.**

Note: The meeting adjourned for refreshments between 10.55 a.m. and 11.15 a.m.

The business of the meeting was concluded at 1 p.m.

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Chairman