

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

21ST AUGUST 2014

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Peter Watson (Chairman), Councillor Andy Roberts (Vice Chairman) and Councillors Mrs Brown, Ford, Mrs Hall, Murray (substitute for Councillor Mrs Patten) Stanton

Labour Group

Councillors Dunn (substitute for Cllr Taylor), Mulgrew, Shepherd (substitute for Cllr Chahal) Stuart and Tilley

In attendance

Councillor Mrs Plenderleith, Councillor Harrison

EDS/13 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors Mrs Patten, Chahal and Taylor. Councillors Murray, Shepherd and Dunn substituted for them.

EDS/14 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th June 2014 were approved as a true record.

EDS/15 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Dunn declared an interest on Item 8, the permanent diversion of a footpath, Swadlincote, in his capacity as a County Councillor. He made it clear that he would neither participate in the discussion or in the decision making on this matter.

EDS/16 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from elected members had been received.

EDS/17 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the public had been received.

EDS/18 REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee was informed that there were no Overview & Scrutiny Committee reports for it to consider.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

EDS/19 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Committee was asked to endorse the publication of the Local Development Scheme (LDS). The scheme was considered by the Committee in April and was a necessary step for preparing the 'Local Plan'. The Council had a statutory duty to maintain an up to date LDS, setting out the programme for preparing those documents required for the Local Plan and also those documents to be written as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's).

It was explained that since the scheme had been produced the Local Plan had been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

Members welcomed the progress made on the Local Development Scheme and Local Plan; and especially the fact that the plan had now been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. There was some discussion about what progress had been made on the special planning documents and the likely time line for their production. In this context, it was noted that progress on the Greenways SPD was linked on the review by the County Council of their Greenways strategy

RESOLVED:-

That the Local Development Scheme be published

EDS/20 PERMANENT DIVERSION OF FOOTPATH - SWADLINCOTE

The Committee then considered a report recommending that part of the Public Footpath 46, which runs through Swadlincote, be permanently diverted in the area of William Nadin Way. The diversion would, it was explained, enable the construction of 158 new dwellings on the site.

Members discussed the proposal. They saw this as a sensible measure, which would benefit the local community, by creating a more pleasant, vehicle free, walking route than the existing footpath. They concluded that the diversion ought to be supported.

RESOLVED:-

To authorise the making of an order to divert the named footpath to enable the site of 158 dwellings to be implemented

EDS/21 **REVIEW OF THE RATIONALISATION OF WASTE BRING SITES**

The Committee received a report on the rationalisation of the Waste Bring Sites. The Committee had agreed earlier in the year to reduce the number of these sites from 83 to 10. But as part of this they asked for a further update on what the impact had been. The report made it clear that there continues to be sufficient capacity to receive waste and that as a consequence there had been no increase in the incidence of fly tipping in the District.

The Committee discussed the conditions at some of the specific sites, including Willington. In answers to concerns raised, it was confirmed that there were no plans to reduce further the number of Waste Bring Sites. Any changes would, it was stated, require the approval of the Committee.

RESOLVED:-

To note the conclusion of the report that the capacity of the existing Brings Sites is sufficient to meet demand and that there has been no increase in fly tipping as a result of the reduction in Bring Sites.

EDS/22 **CORPORATE PLAN 2009-15: PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Members considered the latest performance report for the Corporate Plan 2009-15. This covered the first quarter of the current financial year, or 1st April to 30th June 2014. The Committee was informed that most of the targets included in the plan had been achieved. The reasons for the lack of progress in some areas were explained. For instance, it was pointed out that the Local Plan had actually only been submitted four days late. Other delays had been caused by staffing difficulties.

In this context, the Committee discussed the Council's performance on dealing with planning applications, which had fallen slightly. This had been caused, it was explained, by staff shortages, which had now been rectified.

RESOLVED:-

To note the performance information in relation to the Council's Corporate Performance Plan for the period 1st April to 30th June 2014.

EDS/23 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered its revised work programme for the year.

RESOLVED:-

To approve the updated work programme

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RESOLVED:-

EDS/24 *That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.*

EDS/25 **EXEMPT QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from elected members had been received

EDS/26 **EXEMPT MINUTES**

The Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th June 2014 were approved as a true record.

P. WATSON

CHAIRMAN

The meeting terminated at 18.35