

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

3rd October 2013

**PRESENT:-**

**Conservative Group**

Councillor Watson (Chairman), Councillor Roberts (Vice-Chairman)  
and  
Councillors Mrs Brown, Harrison (substitute for Councillor Ford),  
Lemmon (substitute for Councillor Stanton).

**Labour Group**

Councillors Chahal, Frost, Shepherd (substitute for Councillor  
Mulgrew), Southerd (substitute for Councillor Tilley).

EDS/11 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors  
Ford, Mulgrew, Stanton and Tilley.

EDS/12 **MINUTES**

The Open and Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2013  
were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE**

EDS/13 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING REPORT**

The Committee received a report from Stuart Bachelor the Director of  
Community and Planning Services.

He reminded Members that the Council had made it a priority in the  
Corporate Plan to encourage local neighbourhood plans.

Mr Bachelor explained the legislative background and whereby a rural  
parish or urban neighbourhood can create its own localised plan to guide  
development, provided that it complies with national policy and the District  
Council's Local Plan. He reminded Members that the plans must follow a  
statutory process and that it must go through both an independent  
assessment and be approved by a local referendum.

He advised Members that there would be financial advantages to adopting  
such a plan including the provision for local areas to retain 25% of  
Community Infrastructure Levy sums. The Council can also draw down  
£30,000 from Central Government to fund the local plan process. However,  
Mr Bachelor advised that the process was not one to be entered into lightly  
and that there would be a considerable cost and time input needed to

complete the process. The District Council can offer support and assistance to help local communities and Parishes to produce a neighbourhood plan.

**RESOLVED:-**

***Members approved the proposal for supporting the community in the development of Neighbourhood and associated plans.***

EDS/14 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The committee considered the updated work programme.

**RESOLVED:-**

***The Committee approved the updated work programme.***

EDS/15 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**RESOLVED:-**

***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 is 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.***

**A REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S STRUCTURE (Paragraph 1)**

***The Committee supported the proposals relating to the review of the Council's structure.***

P. WATSON

CHAIRMAN