

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

13<sup>th</sup> August 2020

**OPEN**

**PRESENT:-**

**Conservative Group**

Councillor MacPherson (Chairman) and Councillors Brown, Billings, Dawson, Ford, Hewlett, Mrs. Patten, and Mrs Wheelton (substituting for Councillor Mrs Haines).

**Labour Group**

Councillors Dunn, Mrs. Heath, Singh, Taylor and Tilley.

EDS/13 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs Haines.

EDS/14 **TO RECEIVE THE OPEN MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:-**

***That the open minutes of the following Committees were approved as a true record:***

<b><u>Committee</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Minutes No's</u></b>
Environmental and Development Services Committee	25.11.19	EDS/48 – EDS/63
Environmental and Development Services Committee	05.03.20	EDS/88 – EDS/100

EDS/15 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Ford declared an interest in matters related to EDS/21 Biodiversity Offsetting and Update from Biodiversity Working Group, by virtue of being a County Councillor advising he would not take part in the debate.

Councillor Mrs. Patten declared an interest in matters related to EDS/21 Biodiversity Offsetting and Update from Biodiversity Working Group, by virtue of being a County Councillor advising she would not take part in the debate.

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

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Public had been received.

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

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

**MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE****EDS/18 INTRODUCTION OF ANIMAL WELFARE LICENSING POLICY**

The Senior Licensing Officer presented the report to the Committee and explained that the policy had been prepared following the introduction of new regulations. Following a 12-week consultation changes were made to ensure that any inspection of animals would be conducted by a veterinarian.

Councillor Wheelton raised a query regarding unlicensed breeders in the area. The Senior Licensing Officer informed Members that these were being investigated in conjunction with the RSPCA, the Police and Environmental Health Officers.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1.1 *Members noted the consultation responses received in relation to the Animal Welfare Licensing Policy at Appendix 1 of the report.***
- 1.2 *Members approved the introduction of the Animal Welfare Licensing Policy at Appendix 2 of the report to come into effect on approval by Full Council.***

**EDS/19 HILTON, MARSTON ON DOVE AND HOON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN REGULATION 16 CONSULTATION**

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing presented the report to the Committee outlining the main points. It was noted that highlighting that policies within the Neighbourhood Plan could restrict new development within Hilton but the Committee was informed that the Parish Council had stated in writing to the Council that the Neighbourhood Development Plan fully supported all housing development within the Council's Local Plan including The Mandarin and that beyond 2028 there would be no moratorium on house building and there would be limited new housing proposed to support the needs of Hilton up to 2035. It was further stated by the Parish Council that Hilton had seen a rapid growth over the past few years, more so than any other service village within the District which drove the community led policies. The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing pointed out that future development opportunities could be restricted which in effect could lead to a moratorium in the village.

Following a request from Members for more information the Head of Planning and Strategic Housing clarified several points regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and how housing needs would be addressed and how the requirement for affordable housing would be also meet in the District and confirmed that the Neighbourhood Plan was not strong enough to outweigh any Council policies covered within the current Local Plan.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1.1 The Committee authorised that the Hilton, Marston on Dove and Hoon Neighbourhood Development Plan Regulation 16 Consultation be conducted in accordance with as much of the adopted Statement of Community Involvement as practicable, allowing for the restrictions due to COVID-19.**
- 1.2 The Committee approved the outstanding matters from the Council's Regulation 14 comments, as per Appendix 1 of the report, be made on behalf of the Council to the Regulation 16 Consultation.**

EDS/20 **LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SURVEY 2020**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report referring to a survey conducted during the period January to March which had been based on tried and tested methods which incorporated national indicators as used by the Keep Britain Tidy campaign to assign scores of cleanliness.

Members raised questions about the litter picking processes specifically on major routes such as the A38. The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) advised the Committee that service standards were in place and that collaborative working between many organisations in the District was required to address the issue.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1.1 The Committee noted the content of the Local Environmental Quality Survey report.**
- 1.2 The Committee approved an additional survey to take place in September/October 2020.**
- 1.3 The Committee agreed future performance information from the Local Environmental Quality Surveys be included within the Corporate Plan Performance Reports.**

EDS/21 **BIODIVERSITY OFFSETTING AND UPDATE FROM BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP**

The Planning Policy Officer presented the report to the Committee providing the latest position of the Working Group regarding offsetting losses in bio-diversity due to the Swadlincote Regeneration Area and highlighted the benefits of an

Action Plan for Nature for the District and advised Members that the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust was fully engaged with the Working Group.

Members raised questions regarding the transfer of wildlife to the new site, the selection criteria for the new site, access restrictions to protect the new site and the status of the sites not included in the project. The Planning Policy Officer informed the Committee that all necessary provisions would be made to protect any species that are present and the main considerations for the new sites had been grassland and woodland type habitats and the closeness to the Regeneration Area. The Planning Policy Officer added that training and equipment would be considered to enable appropriate management and protection of the new sites. Members were also informed that other sites could be developed through the Action Plan for Nature or the National Forest.

The Committee expressed thanks to the Planning Policy Officer and the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust for a good report and an excellent result for the District.

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Committee:***

- 1.1 Approved the proposed biodiversity enhancement works to sites outlined in the attached Biodiversity Net Gain Report attached to the report.***
- 1.2 Noted the update on the ongoing work of the Biodiversity Working Group.***

EDS/22 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the Committee Work Programme to the Committee.

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.***

EDS/23 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (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 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.***

**TO RECEIVE THE EXEMPT MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:-**

***That the exempt minutes of the following Committee was approved as a true record:***

<b><u>Committee</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Minutes No's</u></b>
Environmental and Development Services Committee	05.03.20	EDS/101 – EDS/103

EDS/24 **EXEMPT QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

***The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.***

**SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT RELATING TO CONSERVATION ADVICE**

***The Committee approved the recommendation in the report.***

The meeting terminated at 19:35 hrs

COUNCILLOR MACPHERSON

CHAIRMAN