
CABINET

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT on Wednesday, 5 October 2016 from 7.00pm - 7.27pm

PRESENT: Councillors Bowles (Chairman), Mike Cosgrove, Duncan Dewar-Whalley, Alan Horton, Gerry Lewin (Vice-Chairman), Ken Pugh and David Simmons.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Vicky Hadfield, Abdool Kara, Jo Millard, Donna Price, Mark Radford, Dave Thomas, Nick Vickers and Emma Wiggins.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors Nicholas Hampshire, Mike Henderson and Ted Wilcox.

919 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chairman drew attention to the evacuation procedure.

920 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 September 2016 (Minute Nos. 852 – 861) were taken as read, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

921 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

Part B Report for Decision by Cabinet

922 COMPLAINTS, COMPLIMENTS AND COMMENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

The Leader

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Commissioning and Customer Contact and the above Cabinet Member. The Leader highlighted the decreasing number of complaints received in the context of an increasing population, and congratulated Officers for their achievements. A Member drew attention to the improved speed in responding to complaints and thanked all staff for their efforts.

Resolved:

(1) That the report be noted.

923 CABINET RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCRUTINY REVIEW OF SITTINGBOURNE TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Cabinet considered the report of the Interim Director of Regeneration and the above Cabinet Member, which responded to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee's review of Sittingbourne Town Centre Regeneration.

A Member welcomed the acceptance of recommendations one and two at Appendix 1 on page 14 of the report, but requested more regular, factual updates on progress of the scheme. The Leader advised that updates would be given, but updates relating to on-going negotiations could not be given.

Resolved:

- (1) That the responses to the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations, as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed.**

924 SWALE LOCAL PLAN: UPDATED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Cabinet Member for Planning

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Planning Services and the above Cabinet Member, which sought to agree the current programme for production of local planning documents for the updated Swale Borough Local Plan Development Scheme (October 2016).

The Cabinet Member for Planning drew attention within the programme to the Examination in Public (EIP) Part 2 scheduled for January 2017, and advised that the delay was caused by the Inspector's availability. He further advised that the production of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on parking for new developments had also been delayed due to changes in the programme.

A Member highlighted the Swale Landscape Character and Biodiversity Appraisal Supplementary Planning Document (2011) in the list of documents at 3.1 on page 24 that formed the Local Plan, and asked whether the Faversham Town Heritage, Landscape Setting and Characterisation Study (June 2015) could also be included as a SPD? The Spatial Planning Manager advised that formal procedures to include the document would have to be followed, but she would investigate. The Leader agreed this should be considered, but warned against creating unnecessary delays.

A Member said that it was important to progress the programme, but drew attention to the need to consider infrastructure when any decisions on development were made. He also raised concern over the commitment of Section 106 (S.106) and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies, and how the funding was allocated. The Cabinet Member for Planning agreed that it was important to consider infrastructure, and was also concerned that Kent County Council (KCC) Education may use funding from S.106 from developments in other areas than those it was allocated for.

Resolved:

- (1) That the updated Swale Borough Local Development Scheme (October 2016) be agreed as the current programme for production of local**

planning documents, operative from the date of the Cabinet Meeting (5 October 2016).

925 SWALE LOCAL PLAN: REFRESH OF DELEGATED POWERS TO CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES TO COVER THE REMAINING STAGES OF THE EXAMINATION IN PUBLIC ON THE LOCAL PLAN

Cabinet Member for Planning

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Planning Services and the above Cabinet Member.

A Member drew attention to the importance of the Swale Borough Local Plan and its impact on residents, and considered it vital that all Members should be updated with regular progress and any decisions made. The Cabinet Member for Planning reminded Members that no decisions would be made under the proposed delegation, and all Members could view responses from the Planning Inspector on the Council's website.

Resolved:

- (1) That delegated authority be renewed for the Head of Planning Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning to agree the following for publication and debate at the Local Plan EIP:**
 - (a) draft responses to representations made on the main modifications to the plan;**
 - (b) If deemed necessary by the Inspector, draft further modifications to the plan which may arise from consideration of the above; and**
 - (c) If deemed necessary by the Inspector, draft modifications which may arise from the discussions during the course of the EIP.**

926 AWARD OF MERCHANT SERVICES CONTRACT

Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Finance with the above Cabinet Member which sought authority to award the merchant services contract to the preferred supplier.

The Cabinet Member advised that a small saving of £30,000 per annum would be made in remaining with the preferred supplier.

Resolved:

- (1) That in principle the Cabinet decides to place its merchant services requirements with Worldpay.**
- (2) That the period of the contract should run for 3 years from 16 January 2017 and with the additional option to extend for a further 2 years.**
- (3) That delegated authority be approved to the Head of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance to**

enter into the contract with Worldpay and to determine whether the contract should be extended by a further 2 years after the conclusion of the basic 3 year term.

927 BUSINESS RATE POOLING

Cabinet Member for Finance & Performance

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Finance and Performance and the above Cabinet Member. The Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance reminded Members of the Business Rate Pooling arrangements between ten Borough Councils in Kent, and advised that SBC had benefitted from the pooling arrangement by receiving approximately £660,000 additional business rate income in 2015/16.

Resolved:

- (1) That the Head of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance be delegated to make any decision to enter into a business rates pool for 2017/18.***

928 MINUTES OF THE SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2016

Cabinet considered the recommendations from the Swale Joint Transportation Board (JTB) held on 12 September 2016.

Resolved:

- (1) That the recommendations in Minute No. 866 Swale Freight Management Plan be approved.***
- (2) That the recommendations in Minute No. 867 Formal Objections to Traffic Regulation Order Swale Amendment 1 be approved.***
- (3) That the recommendations in Minute No. 868 Informal Consultation on Proposed Waiting Restrictions at Love Lane, Faversham and Capel Road (West), Sittingbourne be approved.***

Chairman

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All Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel