

Minutes of the meeting of the **SCRUTINY (COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION) COMMITTEE** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Wednesday, 13 March 2019 at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor

Councillors: G Cowan
P I Carter
N Dixon
M R Eddy (as substitute for Councillor P Walker)
P D Jull
M J Ovenden
P M Wallace (as substitute for Councillor P M Brivio)

Officers: Strategic Director (Operations and Commercial)
Policy and Projects Manager
Senior Planner (Planning Policy)
Democratic Services Manager
Democratic Services Officer

92 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T A Bond, P M Brivio, R J Frost, L A Keen and P Walker.

93 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

It was noted that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, Councillors P M Wallace and M R Eddy were appointed as substitute members for Councillors P M Brivio and P Walker respectively.

94 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

95 MINUTES

Councillor M R Eddy questioned the rationale for items inclusion in the work programme as he felt that it was not clearly set out in the Minutes. The Democratic Services Manager advised that the items in the Minutes were included in the work programme agreed by Members.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2018 and 16 January 2019 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED: That items identified for inclusion on the Work Programme by the Committee be provided with the reasons for their inclusion.

96 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Democratic Services Manager advised that no members of the public had registered to speak on items on the agenda to which the public speaking protocol applied.

97 DECISIONS OF THE CABINET RELATING TO RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SCRUTINY (COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION) COMMITTEE

The Committee's recommendation made on 13 February 2019 (Minute No 91) to Cabinet was rejected by Cabinet on the grounds that since the review of the Local Plan had not yet been completed the recommendation was considered to be premature.

98 ISSUES REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE BY COUNCIL, CABINET, SCRUTINY (POLICY AND PERFORMANCE) COMMITTEE OR ANOTHER COMMITTEE

There were no items for consideration.

99 ITEMS CALLED-IN FOR SCRUTINY OR PLACED ON THE AGENDA BY A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE, ANY INDIVIDUAL NON-EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OR PUBLIC PETITION

There were no items for consideration.

100 NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING KEY DECISIONS

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions to the Committee for its consideration.

- RESOLVED: (a) That the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions be noted.
- (b) That the Policy and Projects Manager provide Councillor M R Eddy with the date Item 13 will be taken to Cabinet for a decision.

101 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Scrutiny Work Programme to the Committee for its consideration. The Regeneration Update was hoped to be provided to the next meeting of the Committee, subject to purdah.

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme be noted.

102 DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL AUTHORITY MONITORING REPORT 2017/18

The Policy and Projects Manager introduced the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) 2017/18 to the Committee which had been considered at the meeting of Cabinet on 4 March 2019. The AMR was required to be published annually and identified the Council's progress against the Local Development Scheme (LDS) as well as assessing the performance of the Council's current planning policies and providing support to parishes in the preparation of their Neighbourhood Plans. It was a record of how the district was performing in terms of the rate of development and how that met the Council's targets and, setting objections for future development.

A summary of the key findings from the report was provided. The Council was in the process of producing a new Local Plan and reviewing the evidence base which underpinned the plan. The Local Plan was required to be reviewed every five years and this would be the second plan for the Council; it was acknowledged that other authorities had not yet completed one.

During the monitoring period (1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018) there were a total of 446 new dwellings completed of which 99 units were affordable homes and the Council was now able to demonstrate a 5 year housing land supply. It was clarified that sites with planning permission within the 5 years (not including extant permissions) could be included in the total and the Council was proactive in speaking with developers to assess the developments' progress. The issue of how the Council dealt with its windfall allowance was raised. Members were advised that the approach to the windfall allowance, which referred to those sites not specifically identified in the development, was robust in order to prevent any overestimation in respect of the potential housing supply.

Members discussed the Infrastructure Delivery Table and notably Transport (the potential impact of the BRT in respect of sustainable transport provision), Health (the need to review general practice provision in light of changing health provision requirements) and Utilities (how much influence the council had over the utility providers) and it was agreed that Members would be provided with the omitted comment for Adult Social Services. In respect of Green Infrastructure, Members were advised that further information concerning the statement that the Kingsdown to Walmer Local Wildlife Site lacked local support would be provided.

Members praised the graphical Executive Summary within the report and thanked officers for their attendance and presentation.

- RESOLVED: (a) That the Infrastructure Delivery Table be completed with the missing comment for 'Adult Social Services – Local Hubs, day activities for older people including dementia care, Telecare services, Adult Changing Places and drop in service for people with learning disabilities, short term breaks/Training for life flats' and an addendum to the report be published.
- (b) That Members be provided with further information concerning the Infrastructure Delivery Table and the required infrastructure to 'Improve condition of Kingsdown to Walmer Local Wildlife Site (Kent Area Agreement 2008) and the reason for it lacking local support.

The meeting ended at 6.47 pm.