

Public Document Pack

Minutes of the meeting of the **SCRUTINY (COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION) COMMITTEE** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Wednesday, 16 January 2019 at 6.01 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor L A Keen

Councillors: T A Bond
P I Carter
N Dixon
R J Frost
P D Jull
K Mills (as substitute for Councillor P M Brivio)
M J Ovenden

Officers: Head of Assets and Building Control
Democratic Services Manager
Democratic Services Officer

68 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P M Brivio, G Cowan and P Walker.

69 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

It was noted that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, Councillor K Mills was appointed as substitute member for Councillor P M Brivio.

70 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

71 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2018, 3 October 2018 and 7 November 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2018 were deferred.

72 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.

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

The Committee's recommendation made on 5 December 2018 (Minute No 67) to Cabinet were rejected at its meeting held on 14 January 2019 since it was considered that the Council was addressing private sector landlord issues by other means (e.g. by engaging regularly with landlords). Furthermore, the Council would

want to see more data and received further information regarding government strategy before committing itself to the principle of a compulsory registration scheme.

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

There were no items for consideration.

75 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.

76 NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING KEY DECISIONS

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions to the Committee for its consideration. Members identified the following items from the Notice of Forthcoming for inclusion within the work programme:

- Item No 38 (Purchase of affordable housing in Aylesham)
- Item No 31 (deed of Variation to the Aylesham Development Agreement)

RESOLVED: That the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions be noted.

77 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Scrutiny Work Programme to the Committee for its consideration.

Members requested the inclusion of S106 agreements within the work programme and East Kent Housing Update be removed.

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme be noted subject to the inclusion of the additional items identified in Minute no 76 and S106 agreements.

78 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was moved by Councillor R J Frost, duly seconded and

RESOLVED: That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the remainder of the business on the grounds that the items to be considered involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

79 WORKS TO RETAIL UNITS AT MARKET SQUARE, AYLESHAM

The Head of Assets and Building Control was in attendance to present the report to the committee which had been considered at the meeting of Cabinet on 14 January 2019 and that it was agreed that the use of the Capital Contingency fund to cover

the final cost of fitting out the retail units at Market Square, Aylesham be approved (CAB 84).

A summary of the works to date was provided to Members. The retail units, which had residential units above, were constructed as part of the Aylesham Garden Village development. The units were fitted out and the shop fronts were improved with robust, discreet security shutters. The quality of the finished units had been noted by the community and other businesses had approached the council for their advice on making improvements to other shops within the Market Square. To date, two of the five retail units were trading with negotiations underway for the remainder.

The report further provided Members with the costings of the retail unit fit-out, purchase price amounts and the average rental income figures per annum.

RESOLVED: (a) That CAB 84 be endorsed.

(b) That the Head of Assets and Building Control explore where the assets will be placed in the Council's portfolio.

The meeting ended at 6.45 pm.