

BUSINESS AND HOUSING POLICY COMMITTEE**22 June 2020**

Attendance:

Councillors

Weir (Chairperson)

Rutter
Bell
Brook
Craske
HiscockHorrill
Lumby
Power
ScottOthers in attendance who addressed the meeting:

Councillors Thompson (Leader and Cabinet Member for Communications), Cutler (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Risk), Learney (Cabinet Member for Housing and Asset Management), Ferguson (Cabinet Member for Local Economy and Climate Emergency) and Murphy.

Audio recording of the meeting

A full audio recording of this meeting is available via this link:
[Full audio recording](#)

1. APOLOGIES AND DEPUTY MEMBERS

No apologies for absence were received.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor Hiscock declared a personal (but not prejudicial) interest in respect of various agenda items due to his role as a County Councillor.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2020

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 February 2020 be approved and adopted.

4. TO NOTE THE DATE AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF THIS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:

That the dates and times of future meetings of the Committee as published in the Council's calendar of meetings be noted.

5. **CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairperson reported that TACT representative Mrs M Gill and Mr M Fawcett were unable to join the virtual meeting due to their IT connection issues and forwarded their apologies.

6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present to make representations.

7. **BRIEFING ON RESTORATION WORK - ECONOMY, HOUSING AND FINANCIAL IMPACTS - PRESENTATION**

The Corporate Heads of Engagement, Housing and the Strategic Director – Services gave a presentation on the Covid restoration work.

Members asked questions and raised various comments which were addressed by Councillors Cutler, Ferguson and Learney and the relevant officers.

RESOLVED:

That the presentations be noted.

8. **BAR END DEPOT - PRESENTATION**

The Corporate Head: Asset Management gave a presentation on the Bar End Depot.

Members asked questions and raised various comments which were addressed by Councillors Thompson and Learney and the relevant officers.

Councillor Thompson informed the meeting that a new cross party consultation group would be established to engage and consult with local residents in respect of the options for the future use of the site, with Terms of Reference to be agreed.

At the invitation of the Chairperson, Councillor Murphy commented in summary that the title of the Presentation 'Bar End Depot Site - Disposal' would cause concern to local residents and therefore the proposed consultation group would provide many advantages as community consultation on the options was required. It would look at all aspects of the Depot site and to formulate a plan for its future. It would clarify the benefits or disadvantages of the options; would be open and transparent to local residents; that the established policy be consistent with the Winchester Vision and would enable discussion of how the site could best support future revenue for the Sport and Leisure Park and how the whole Bar End area could work together in an integrated fashion. Comments that had been made to Ward Members by local residents included a

desire for a convenience store and that the site should not generate extra traffic movements on Milland Road, with access being from the new Sport and Leisure complex site.

At the conclusion of questions and debate, the Committee agreed that there were no particular matters that it wished to raise for Cabinet to further consider.

RESOLVED:

That the presentation be noted and that no particular matters be raised for Cabinet to further consider.

9. **RIVER PARK LEISURE CENTRE DECOMMISSIONING - (BHP015)**

Councillor Learney and the Head of Programme Central Winchester Regeneration gave a presentation on the River Park Leisure Centre Decommissioning.

Members asked questions and raised various comments which were addressed by Councillor Learney and the relevant officers.

At the conclusion of questions and debate, the Committee agreed to raise with Cabinet the points as set out in the resolution below.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Member for Housing and Asset Management take into consideration that the committee wishes to support Option 3 of the Report (decommission, soft strip and retain) and to raise with Cabinet that it appreciates the attention to detail in the proposals for the commitment for the proper recycling of materials removed during the soft strip and it supports the efforts being made to secure the amenities for as many people and clubs using the North Walls Park during the interim period and that a report be brought back to this committee fairly soon to help to maintain the momentum on this site and to be ready to proceed when the opportunity arises in order to reduce the risk of delay in this area.

10. **TO NOTE THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2020/21 - (BHP013)**

The Policy Committee supported the establishment of two Informal Scrutiny Groups – Housing for Younger People and A digital economy for Winchester.

RESOLVED:

1. That subject to the inclusion of updates at every meeting on the Covid restoration plans and the inclusion for the 1 December 2020 meeting of an item on the emerging Housing Revenue Account budget, the Work Programme for 2020/21 be noted.

2. That the following two Informal Scrutiny Groups be established – Housing for Younger People and A digital economy for Winchester, with their terms of reference, number of meetings required to complete their work, the resource implications and membership (to be appointed from the membership of the Business and Housing Policy Committee) to be agreed following consultation between the Chairpersons of the Scrutiny Committee, Policy Committees and Group Leaders.

(i) The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm and concluded at 8.45 pm

Chairperson

(ii)