

CABINET

Minutes of a remote meeting of the Cabinet of South Norfolk District Council, held on Monday 11 January 2021 at 9.00 am.

Committee Members Present: Councillors: J Fuller (Chairman), Y Bendle, M Edney, K Mason Billig, L Neal, A Thomas and J Worley

Other Members in Attendance: Councillors: B Bernard, V Clifford-Jackson, T Laidlaw and G Minshull

Officers in Attendance: The Managing Director (T Holden), the Director of Resources (D Lorimer), the Assistant Director Chief of Staff (H Ralph), the Assistant Director Governance and Business Support (E Hodds), the Assistant Director Finance (R Fincham), the Assistant Director Community Services (S Phelan) and the Assistant Director Planning (H Mellors)

Also in Attendance: The Greater Norwich Planning Policy Manager (M Burrell)

2854 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared “other” interests in the matters detailed below:

| Member | Minute Number | Interest |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cllr J Fuller | 2857 The Greater Norwich Local Plan | Member of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board. Member of the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association Council |
| Cllr L Neal | 2857 The Greater Norwich Local Plan | Member of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board |
| Cllr A Thomas | 2855 Urgent Item - Flooding | As a resident affected by the recent flooding in the District |

2855 URGENT ITEM - FLOODING

The Chairman referred to the recent flooding across the District and suggested that Cllr Graham Minshull, as Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, undertook a review to investigate the causes, and to seek clarity regarding the various responsibilities across the different organisations involved.

Cllr Minshull agreed that it was an appropriate review for the Scrutiny Committee to undertake and hoped that a report would be presented at its next meeting on Wednesday 27 January.

The Managing Director and members expressed their thanks to all staff, both on the ground and in the Help Hub, who worked throughout the festive period, to assist those residents affected by the flooding.

RESOLVED

That Cllr G Minshull, as Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, undertakes to lead on a review of the recent flooding across the District, to investigate the causes, and to seek clarity regarding the various responsibilities across the different organisations involved.

2876 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 7 December 2020, were confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

2857 GREATER NORWICH LOCAL PLAN – REGULATION 19, PRE-SUBMISSION PUBLICATION

Members considered the report of the Place Shaping Manager, which sought agreement to publish the Greater Norwich Local Plan under regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Greater Norwich Planning Policy Manager outlined the salient points of his report, explaining the purpose of the Regulation 19 stage of the Plan and the tests of soundness on which the Plan should comply. He briefly outlined the changes from the Regulation 18 consultation version, and those made since the Cabinet agenda was published.

Members noted that it was proposed that the draft GNLP would be published for comment from 1 February to 15 March 2021. Representations received would assist members in deciding whether to submit the Plan in July 2021 and would be critical in informing the independent examination process. In response to queries regarding the consultation process, the Greater Norwich

Planning Policy Manager explained that stakeholders and residents could respond through the website, although hard copies would be made available to those not able to respond online. The Chairman stressed the importance of clearly signposting how consultation responses could be made.

The Chairman referred members to the revised version of the GNLP Strategy (v 1.7), which had been emailed out to all members the previous Friday. He felt confident that a Plan was in place that would work for South Norfolk residents and provided clarity on the number of homes required, together with sound justification for the approach to village clusters in South Norfolk.

However, the Chairman still wished to see some further minor amendments to the document, stressing that additional work was required on the retail policies, and he also suggested that an adjustment was required to the provision for supported housing and active retirement homes in Harleston where he considered the 30 units allocated to be insufficient.

The Chairman made particular reference to Costessey and the provision to enable the Showground to adapt and provide additional leisure and dining amenities for the area. One member referred to the large contingency site of 800 homes in Costessey and sought clarification with regards to how this contingency would be triggered. The Greater Norwich Planning Policy Manager explained that any trigger was based on an annual housing delivery of 15% below target for three consecutive years, in addition to other development sites collectively not coming forward. The Chairman stressed that it was most unlikely that the contingency in Costessey would be required. Members were reminded of the traffic management issues in Costessey around the Longwater Retail Park, and in response to a query regarding the need for a pedestrian crossing on the site, the Chairman explained that this could not be acquired through the Local Plan; it was a Highways issue, although there might be scope for it to be developed through conditions on a future retail development.

Discussion followed regarding the proposal for a new settlement, and the Chairman stressed that this would not form part of the current Local Plan but did require consideration for a future Plan. He considered it necessary to begin to positively prepare for a new settlement and he suggested that the Regulation and Planning Policy Committee needed to work to frame any future debate and identify the success factors for any new settlement proposals. In response to queries, he suggested that a new settlement was necessary to avoid coalescence with existing settlements.

Voting was carried out by way of a roll call and it was unanimously

RESOLVED

To

1. Agree to publish the Greater Norwich Local Plan, subject to minor amendments, under regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, from 1 February to 15 March 2021;
2. Delegate authority to the Assistant Director for Planning in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for The Economy and External Affairs, to make any minor or factual corrections to the GNLP ahead of its publication.

The Reason for the Decision

To ensure the timely progress of the GNLP to ensure that the Council's Development Plan remains effective and that the policies of the Development Plan continue to have full weight in the determination of planning applications.

Other Options Considered

None.

2858 CABINET CORE AGENDA

Members noted the latest version of the Cabinet Core agenda.

2859 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was

RESOLVED

To exclude the public and press from the meeting under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 for the following item of business on the grounds that it involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended)

2860 CONTRACT FOR WHEELED BINS FOR SOUTH NORFOLK COUNCIL

Members considered the exempt report of the Senior Waste Operations Manager, regarding the contract to provide wheeled bins for domestic and trade use, managed at Ketteringham depot.

The Portfolio Holder, Cllr M Edney, briefly outlined the salient points of the report to members.

Voting was then carried out by way of a roll call and it was unanimously

RESOLVED

To agree the recommendations, as outlined in paragraph 8 of the report.

The Reason for the Decision

To ensure best value for the Council and its residents.

Other Options Considered

None.

(The meeting concluded at 9.50 am)

Chairman