

ECONOMIC SUCCESS POLICY DEVELOPMENT PANEL

Minutes of a meeting of the Economic Success Policy Development Panel of Broadland District Council, held at the council offices on Monday 22 November 2021 at 6pm.

Committee Members Present:	Councillors: Cllr N Brennan, (vice-chairman in the chair), S Catchpole, G Peck and K Vincent
Cabinet Members Present:	Councillor: J Copplestone
Officers in Attendance:	The Assistant Director Economic Growth (GD), the Community Assets Manager (MH), the Strategic Growth Project Manager (NC), the Programme Manager – Economic Growth (DBM) and the Democratic Services Officer (DM)

57 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER PROCEDURAL RULE NO 8

None made.

58 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Crotch and T Mancini-Boyle.

59 MINUTES

The non-exempt minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

60 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

To exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following two items of business because otherwise, information which was exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 would be disclosed to them.

61 ADOPTION OF STREET LIGHTS – DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Members considered the exempt report of the Community Assets Manager which was inviting the Panel to recommend Cabinet to agree proposals for the transfer of Drayton streetlights to Drayton Parish Council. Currently the responsibility for all maintenance and repair of these streetlights, and the associated costs, fell to the district council and a special expense was applied to the council tax for residents of Drayton to cover the costs. The transfer would see the responsibility for future maintenance falling to the Parish Council, with the special expense removed from the council tax. The proposal would also see all the associated special expenses collected by the District Council to date passed to the Parish Council for the purpose of improving and maintaining the streetlights in Drayton.

The Community Assets Manager then answered questions from members. He confirmed that he understood the Parish Council were in support of the proposal and a member commented that this would be an opportunity to utilise local knowledge in the operation of the streetlights.

Members were keen to see the continued replacement of old bulbs with LED bulbs mindful of the environmental impact and the potential cost savings but noted it would be up to the Parish Council to implement a programme of works.

Members noted the actual sums accrued by way of the special expenses up to 31 March 2021 which would be transferred together with the balance of funds available from 31 March 2021 to date when calculated. They also noted the total costs of upgrading remaining columns and lanterns. The total funds to be transferred and the total costs were not likely to be too dissimilar. It was noted that the legal costs involved would be met by the District Council as part of its legal contract with NPLaw.

The Vice-Chairman asked if officers were aware of any issues with the impact of LED lights on wildlife and if there was a need for any action in this respect. Officers undertook to investigate this.

It was then, unanimously

RESOLVED to recommend Cabinet:

- 1 to agree to transfer Drayton Streetlights to Drayton Parish Council;
- 2 to agree to transfer the special expenses funds collected from households in Drayton to Drayton Parish Council for the purpose of improving and maintaining streetlights in Drayton.

62 MINUTES

The exempt minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(The meeting concluded at 6.22pm)

Chairman