

## **SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **Meeting of Place Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: Monday, 30th November, 2015**

**Place: Committee Room 1 - Civic Suite**

Present: Councillor Habermel (Chair)  
Councillors Evans (Vice-Chair), Callaghan, Courtenay, Cox, Crystall,  
J Garston, Jarvis, McMahon, Mulrone, Phillips, Robertson, Ward,  
Ware-Lane, Willis, Stafford\* and Endersby

\*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.

In Attendance: Councillors Gilbert (Executive Councillor), Betson and Arscott  
A Lewis, J K Williams, S Dolling, D Patel, S May and T Row

Start/End Time: 6.30 - 7.30 pm

#### **429 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Assenheim (substitute: Councillor Stafford) and from Councillor Kenyon.

#### **430 Declarations of Interest**

The following interest was declared at the meeting:

(a) Councillor Gilbert (Executive Councillor) – interest in the referred/called-in items; attended pursuant to the dispensation agreed at Council on 19th July 2012, under S.33 of the Localism Act 2011.

#### **431 Questions from Members of the Public**

The relevant Executive Councillor responded to two written questions that had been received from members of the public.

#### **432 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 12th October, 2015**

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 be received, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

#### **433 International Marketing**

The Committee received a PowerPoint presentation by the Head of Economy, Regeneration & Tourism on the marketing of Southend on Sea overseas and, in particular, the marketing campaign currently underway in Groningen, in the north of the Netherlands.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked Mr Dolling for an informative and enthusiastic presentation.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

**434 Monthly Performance Report**

The Committee considered Minute 404 of Cabinet held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015, together with the Monthly Performance Report (MPR) covering the period to end September 2015. The Committee also had before it an Exceptions Report which had been circulated on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015, copies of which were tabled at the meeting.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

Note:- This is an Executive Function.

Executive Councillor:- As appropriate to the item.

**435 Beecroft Building**

The Committee considered Minute 413 of Cabinet held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, which had been called-in for scrutiny, together with the report of the Corporate Director for Place presenting the results from the consultation on the future of the former Beecroft Art Gallery Building, Station Road, Westcliff-on-Sea.

In response to questions regarding the current condition of the building, the Corporate Director for Place confirmed that he would be happy to provide a copy of the latest condition survey for Members' information.

Resolved:

That the following recommendations of Cabinet be noted:

“1. That the Council acting as Trustees give permission for officers of the Council to investigate the viability of using the former Gallery Building as artist studios. (This option would further the objects of the Trust and merits further investigation to determine if it would be financially viable and therefore in the best interests of the Trust.)

2. That, if the feasibility study finds that the conversion of the building into artist studios will not be viable, the Trustees should proceed with one of the identified options for disposal (As set out in section 5.1.1 of the submitted report).”

Note:- This is a Council Function.

Executive Councillor:- Cllr Gilbert (as substitute portfolio holder)

**436 In-depth Scrutiny Project - 20mph in Residential Streets**

The Committee received and noted an oral update on the in-depth Scrutiny project “20mph in residential streets”.

Resolved:

That update be noted.

Note: This is a Scrutiny function.

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_