

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Place Scrutiny Committee

Date: Monday, 26th November, 2018

Place: Committee Room 1 - Civic Suite

Present: Councillor K Robinson (Chair)
Councillors M Terry (Vice-Chair), A Bright, K Buck, D Burzotta,
T Byford, M Davidson, M Dent, N Folkard, J Garston, T Harp*,
A Jones, D McGlone, D Nelson, P Wexham, C Willis and R Woodley*

*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.

In Attendance: Councillors J Lamb, J Courtenay, A Moring and L Salter (Cabinet Members)
Councillors B Arscott and H McDonald
A Griffin, A Lewis, J K Williams, S Dolling, P Geraghty, N Corrigan,
G Gilbert, T MacGregor, R Walters, M Murphy, A Penn, G Perry-
Ambrose, B Pegram, S Ford, G Halksworth, M Sargood and T Row

Start/End Time: 6.30 pm - 10.40 pm

463 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chalk (Substitute: Councillor Woodley) and Ward (Substitute: Councillor Harp).

464 Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

- (a) Councillors Courtenay, Lamb, Moring and Salter (Cabinet Members) – Disqualifying non-pecuniary interests in all the called-in/referred items; attended pursuant to the dispensation agreed at Council on 19th July 2012, under S.33 of the Localism Act 2011;
- (b) Councillor Bright – Agenda Item No. 6 (Southend 2050 - Draft Ambition, Desired Outcomes and Road Map) – Non-pecuniary interest: lives on the High Street;
- (c) Councillor Bright – Agenda Item No. 8 (High Street Summit) – Non-pecuniary interest: lives on the High Street;
- (d) Councillor Burzotta – Agenda Item No. 6 (Southend 2050 - Draft Ambition, Desired Outcomes and Road Map) – Non-pecuniary interest: Family business off the High Street;
- (e) Councillor Burzotta – Agenda Item No. 8 (High Street Summit) – Non-pecuniary interest: Family business off the High Street;

(f) Councillor Buck – Agenda Item No. 11 (Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 to 30 September 2018) – Non-pecuniary interest: Governor at Eastwood Academy;

(g) Councillor Davidson – Agenda Item No. 10 (Notice of Motion - Fire Safety) – Non-pecuniary interest: Board Member of South Essex Homes;

(h) Councillor J Garston – Agenda Item No. 13 (Objections to Traffic Regulation Orders - Thorpe Esplanade Charging for Parking and Cliffs Pavilion Car Parking Management Scheme) – Pecuniary interest: Lives in the area affected by the Cliff Pavilion Car Parking Management Scheme (withdrew);

(i) Councillor McGlone – Agenda Item No. 10 (Notice of Motion - Fire Safety) – Non-pecuniary interest: Board Member of South Essex Homes;

(j) Councillor Moring – Agenda Item No. 13 (Objections to Traffic Regulation Orders - Thorpe Esplanade Charging for Parking and Cliffs Pavilion Car Parking Management Scheme) – Non-pecuniary interest: Knows people in the area, including a relative who is not in the charging area;

(k) Councillor Nelson – Agenda Item No. 8 (High Street Summit) – Non-pecuniary interest: Employer is James Duddridge MP who was mentioned in the debate;

(l) Councillor Wexham – Agenda Item No. 10 (Notice of Motion - Fire Safety) – Non-pecuniary interest: Step-son is a fire fighter;

(m) Councillor Woodley – Agenda Item No. 6 ((Southend 2050 - Draft Ambition, Desired Outcomes and Road Map) – Non-pecuniary interest: Daughter is a pilot at Southend Airport which was mentioned in the debate; and

(n) Councillor Woodley – 10 (Notice of Motion - Fire Safety) – Non-pecuniary interest: Board Member of South Essex Homes;

465 Questions from Members of the Public

Written responses from the Cabinet Member for or Healthy Communities and Wellbeing and the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure to questions from Mr Webb were circulated at the meeting.

466 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 8th October, 2018

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 8th October 2018 be received, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

467 Monthly Performance Report

The Committee considered the Monthly Performance Report (MPR) covering the period to end September 2018, which had been circulated recently.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

Note:- This is an Executive Function.

Cabinet Member:- As appropriate to the item.

468 Southend 2050 - Draft Ambition, Desired Outcomes and Road Map

The Committee considered Minute 423 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6th November 2018, which had been referred direct to all three Scrutiny Committees for consideration, together with the report of the Chief Executive setting out the proposed draft Ambition, Themes and Outcomes and Southend 2050 Five Year Road Map.

The Committee also received a presentation by Tim MacGregor (Team Manager - Policy and Information Management) and Rob Walters (Senior Partnership Advisor, Engagement) which provided:

- An overview of the scope and findings of the Southend 2050 engagement programme; and
- Feedback received from councillors and others to date, which will inform a revised version of the documentation to be submitted to Cabinet on 4th December 2018.

The Leader of the Council thanked all of those who had submitted feedback so far. He also explained that further issues raised by the Scrutiny Committees would be taken on board in the preparation of the revised Road Map, including the following additional matters raised at this meeting of the Scrutiny Committee:

- Sea defences
- Improved cycling infrastructure
- Improving communications with residents

Resolved:-

1. That the following decisions of Cabinet be noted:

“1. That the findings of the Southend 2050 engagement programme be welcomed and noted.

2. That the Ambition, Themes & Outcomes and the Southend 2050 Five Year Road Map, as set out in Appendices A, B and C to the submitted report, be endorsed.

3. That the Transforming Together programme, outlined in paragraph 6 of the submitted report, be noted and endorsed.

4. That the matter be referred direct to the Policy & Resources, Place and People Scrutiny Committees.”

2. That the officers involved in the 2050 programme be thanked for their hard work.

Note: [Approval of the Southend 2050 Ambition, Themes & Outcomes and Five Year Road Map](#) is a Council Function.

Referred direct to: all three Scrutiny Committees

Cabinet Member: Cllr Lamb

469 Adoption of a Low Emission Strategy (part of the Air Quality Action Plan)

The Committee considered Minute 425 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6th November 2018, which had been called-in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) proposing the adoption of the submitted Low Emission Strategy.

Resolved:

That the Low Emission Strategy as set out in Appendix 3 to the submitted report, be approved.

Note: This is an Executive Function

Cabinet Member: Cllr Flewitt

470 High Street Summit

The Committee considered Minute 426 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6th November 2018, which had been called-in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place). This provided an update on work being undertaken following the High Street Summit which took place on 24th September 2018, including the emerging action plan and approaches being organised through which to coordinate and drive this work.

Resolved:-

That the following decisions of Cabinet be noted:

“1. That the progress being made be endorsed.

2. That the additional officer resource already aligned to support the implementation and delivery of this project, be endorsed.”

Note: This is an Executive Function

Cabinet Members: Cllrs Lamb, Courtenay and Flewitt

471 Gambling Policy

The Committee considered Minute 430 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6th November 2018, which had been called-in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), concerning the submitted Gambling Licensing Policy which had been prepared following the completion of the formal consultation process.

Resolved:-

That the following recommendation of Cabinet be noted:

“That the Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy, set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be adopted.”

Note: This is a Council Function
Cabinet Member: Cllr Flewitt

472 Notice of Motion - Fire Safety

The Committee considered Minute 431 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6th November 2018, which had been called-in for Scrutiny. This concerned the Notice of Motion calling on the Council to review fire safety in all its tall buildings with a level 4 risk assessment and install automated fire alarms and sprinkler systems.

This had been proposed by Councillor Ware-Lane and seconded by Councillor Nevin.

Resolved:-

That the following decisions of Cabinet be noted:

1. That the Council and South Essex Homes continue their pro-active, evidence and risk based approach to delivering fire safety enhancements across their respective property portfolios.
2. That the Council and South Essex Homes maintain their active dialogue with Essex Fire and Rescue in relation to any changes that may be taken forward to enhance fire safety measures across their respective property portfolios.
3. That the Council write to the Secretary of State for the Housing, Communities and Local Government requesting that the Department progress its formal response to the Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety and, in particular, any changes to Approved Document B. This will enable the Council to fully assess whether additional resources are required to meet the changes enacted and to plan accordingly.

Note: This is an Executive Function
Cabinet Member: Cllr Flewitt

473 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 to 30 September 2018

The Committee considered Minute 436 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6th November 2018, which had been called-in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), setting out the Council’s revenue and capital budgetary performance as at September 2018.

Resolved:-

That the following recommendations of Cabinet be noted:

“In respect of the 2018/19 Revenue Budget Monitoring, as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report:

1.1 That the forecast outturn for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account, as at September 2018, be noted.

1.2 That the planned management actions of £3,230,000 to achieve that forecast outturn, be noted.

1.3 That the planned budget transfers (virements) of £2,610,170, be approved.

1.4 That the potential transfer of £1,293,000 from the Business Transformation Reserve in respect of the forecast General Fund overspend unless further management action and savings are identified to rebalance the budget, be noted.

1.5 That the potential transfer of £93,000 to the HRA Capital Investment Reserve in respect of the forecast HRA underspend, be noted.

In respect of the 2018/19 Capital Budget Monitoring, as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report:

1.6 The expenditure to date and the forecast outturn as at September 2018 and its financing, be noted.

1.7 That the requested changes to the 2018/19 capital programme as set out in Section 2 of Appendix 2, be approved.”

Note: This is a Council Function
Cabinet Member: Cllr Lamb

474 Proposed Guidance for Traffic and Parking Related Issues

The Committee considered Minute 413 of the meeting of the Cabinet Committee held on 1st November 2018, which had been called-in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), that sought approval of revisions to the current working practices to encompass any improvements and amendments.

Resolved:-

That the following decisions of Cabinet Committee be noted:

“1. That the revised policies, processes and procedures as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved, subject to the exclusion of the proposed amendment set out in section 2, sub-section (ii) so that it now reads:

(ii) Any proposals in this regard should have at least two ward councillors’ agreement.

2. That officers be instructed to follow the revised policies for all future consideration of traffic & parking requests.”

Note:- This is an Executive Function
Cabinet Member: Councillor Moring

475 Objections to Traffic Regulation Orders - Thorpe Esplanade Charging for Parking and Cliffs Pavilion Car Parking Management Scheme

The Committee considered Minute 462 of the meeting of the Cabinet Committee held on 20th November 2018, which had been called-in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place), concerning the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders for:

- (i) the introduction of parking charges in controlled parking bays on Thorpe Esplanade; and
- (ii) the conversion of some areas of permit only parking to shared permit/pay and display parking areas, the removal of seasonal waiting restrictions in Clifftown Parade and its replacement with shared permit/pay and display parking.

Resolved:-

That the following decisions of Cabinet Committee be noted:

“1. That The Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (Various Roads) (Stopping, Waiting, Loading and Unloading Prohibitions and Restrictions, Parking Places and Permit Parking Zones)(Consolidation) Order 2016 (Amendment No. 14) Order 2018 be confirmed as advertised and the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) be authorised to implement the proposals.

2. That, The Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (Cliffs Pavilion Area) (Prohibition of Waiting & Permit Parking Places) (Zone CP) Order 2016 (Amendment No. 2) Order 2018 be confirmed, subject to the following amendment, and that the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) be authorised to implement the approved proposals;

(a) amend Cambridge Road, north side between Marine Avenue and Wilson Road to now read Cambridge Road, north side between Marine Avenue to a point opposite the eastern boundary of the property known as “The Pavilions”;

(b) delete Scratton Road – north side, from a point approximately 35 metres west of its junction with Milton Place, to a point approximately 15 metres east of its junction with Park Road; and

(c) delete Westcliff Parade – south side, from a point opposite the common boundary between Nos 31 and 32 Westcliff Parade eastwards to its junction with Clifftown Parade.”

Note: This is an Executive function
Cabinet Member: Moring

476 Minutes of the meeting of the Chairmen's Scrutiny Forum held on Tuesday, 20th November 2018

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the meeting of Chairmen's Scrutiny Forum held on Tuesday, 20th November, 2018 be received and noted and the recommendations therein endorsed.

Note: This is a Scrutiny Function.

477 In-depth Scrutiny Project - Re-imagining the Town Centre in the context of the vision for Southend 2050

The Committee received an oral update on the progress that had been made with the joint in-depth study with the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee to date.

Resolved:-

That the update be noted

Note:- This is a Scrutiny Function.

478 Council Procedure Rule 44.2

During consideration of Agenda Item No. 9 and upon the hour of 10.00 p.m. having being reached, the Committee agreed to continue with the remaining items of business on the Agenda.

Chairman: _____