

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

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

**Date: Monday, 7th October, 2019**

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

**Present:** Councillor A Moring (Chair)  
Councillors B Ayling, J Beck, A Bright, K Buck, L Burton, A Chalk,  
D Cowan, T Cox, M Dent, N Folkard\*, D Garne\*, George, D Jarvis,  
S Wakefield, N Ward and P Wexham  
(\*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.)

**In Attendance:** Councillors I Gilbert, C Mulroney, M Terry and R Woodley (Cabinet Members)  
A Lewis, S Dolling, P Geraghty, C Robinson, Mr M Gatrell,  
M Ambrose, A Richards, G Gilbert, S Harrington, N Hunwicks,  
J Martin, A Keating and T Row

**Start/End Time:** 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm

#### **374 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Flewitt (substitute: Councillor Folkard) and Walker (substitute: Councillor Garne).

#### **375 Declarations of Interest**

The following interest were declared at the meeting:

(a) Councillors Gilbert, Mulroney, Terry and Woodley (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 Ayling – Agenda Item No. 6 (Parking on Seafront and High Street Areas) – Non-pecuniary interest: Submitted petitions to Council on behalf of residents;

(c) Councillor Bright – Agenda Item No. 6 (Parking on Seafront and High Street Areas) – Non-pecuniary interest: Lives in the High Street area;

(d) Councillor Cox – Agenda Item No. 8 (Notice of Motion - Seaway Car Park) – Disqualifying pecuniary interest (withdrew);

(e) Councillor Wakefield – Agenda Item No. 5 (Fire Safety) – Non-pecuniary interest: Works for South Essex Homes; and

(f) Councillor Woodley – Agenda Item No. 9 (Notice of Motion - Climate Emergency Declaration) – Non-pecuniary interest: Council representative on the LGA which was mentioned during the debate.

**376 Questions from Members of the Public**

The Committee noted the responses to the questions that had been submitted by Mr Grubb and Mr Webb to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, the Cabinet Member for Transport, Capital Inward Investment and the Cabinet Member for Business, Culture and Tourism. Copies will be forwarded to them as they were not present at the meeting.

**377 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 8th July, 2019**

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 8th July, 2019 be received, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

**378 Fire Safety**

The Committee considered Minute 314 of Cabinet held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which had been called in to Scrutiny, together with a report of Deputy Chief Executive (Place) setting out the progress in delivering the Council's Fire Safety Review, which had been established following the Grenfell Tower fire on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

Resolved:-

That the following decisions of Cabinet be noted:-

"1. That the work undertaken by the Council and South Essex Homes with respect to Fire Safety including independent fire engineer assessments of two typical tower blocks and proposals to undertake Type 4 Fire Risk Assessments in a further two typical blocks be noted and endorsed.

2. That the Council's response to the Government Consultation 'Building a Safety Future: Proposals for reform of the building safety regulatory system' be noted and endorsed.

3. That a further update be provided to Cabinet in spring 2020.

4. That it be noted that a request to increase the Fire Improvement Works capital budget for 2019/20 has been included in the Corporate Budget Performance – July 2019/20 report."

That the following recommendation of Cabinet be noted:-

"5. That £750k p.a. be added to the Fire Improvement Works capital budget for the five years from 2020/21 to 2024/25, to be financed by corporate borrowing." ||

Note: The decisions in 1-4 above constitute an Executive Function. The decision in 5 above constitutes a Council Function.

Cabinet Members: Councillors Gilbert and Terry

**379 Parking on Seafront and High Street Areas**

The Committee considered Minute 316 of Cabinet held on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which had been called in to Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) setting out recommendations on a number of highway proposals.

Resolved:-

1. That the following decisions of Cabinet be noted:-

“1. That the content of the report be noted, including the assessment of the proposals.

2. That the recommendations in respect of each of the highway proposals, be approved.”

2. That, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 39, the matter be referred to full Council. ||

Note: This is an Executive Function  
Cabinet Member: Councillor Woodley

**380 Petition - Street Lighting and CCTV in Pleasant Road Area**

The Committee considered Minute 319 of Cabinet held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which had been called in to Scrutiny. This related to a petition presented by Councillor Collins on behalf of residents, requesting improved street lighting and increased CCTV coverage for the Pleasant Road area.

In response to a questions, the Director for Public Protection agreed to provide an update on the installation of additional CCTV cameras to the Committee.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:-

“1. That subject to the availability of funding, infill street lighting be installed in Hartington Road, Pleasant Road and Hartington Place.

2. That as part of the CCTV upgrade programme, CCTV be included in Hartington Road and Pleasant Road”

Note: This is an Executive Function  
Cabinet Member: Councillor Terry

**381 Notice of Motion - Seaway Car Park**

The Committee considered Minute 321 of Cabinet held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which had been called in to Scrutiny. This related to the Notice of Motion in connection with the Seaway Car Park development, presented to Council at its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Resolved:-

1. That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:-

“1. That the Notice of Motion is rejected to ensure the Council’s contractual position is not fettered and that the current planning application can be dealt with through the normal process.

2. That it be noted that consideration is being given to options to create additional parking in the vicinity of Seaway Car Park.”

2. That, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 39, the matter be referred to full Council. ||

Note: This is an Executive Function

Cabinet Member: Councillors Gilbert and Robinson

### **382 Notice of Motion - Climate Emergency Declaration**

The Committee considered Minute 322 of Cabinet held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which had been called in to Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) which had been prepared in response to the Notice of Motion presented to Council on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:-

“1. That in taking forward the Motion, the current position in respect to the Council’s own CO2 emissions which have already been reduced by 75%, be noted. Subject to completion of the current capital programme and that proposed in the 2050 outcomes, the Council is expected to achieve net-zero by 2024/5.

2. That in taking forward the Motion, the implications of the proposed Declaration of Climate Emergency and its potential impact on all areas of the Council, be noted.

3. That in taking forward the Motion, the Council’s leadership opportunity be noted, but that achieving net-zero for the Borough by 2030 will require coordinated actions across all parts of the Borough and will be an enormous undertaking which may take resources from other priorities.

4. That Cabinet lobby Government (via LGA) with other Local Authorities to ensure that funds are made available to increase the work towards achieving carbon neutral status.”

Note: This is an Executive Function

Cabinet Member: Councillor Mulroney

### **383 Review and Update of Tree Policy**

The Committee considered Minute 328 of Cabinet held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which had been called in to Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) on the development of a new Tree Policy.

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Planning undertook to provide a written response to a number of questions regarding some aspects surrounding a new Tree Policy; the responses would be circulated to all Councillors for their information.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:-

“1. That the adoption of an interim approach to tree management, including planting as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report, until the new Tree Policy for the borough is adopted be approved.

2. That the adoption of a new Tree Policy as per the approach set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.

3. That the Council promotes and enhances the donated tree scheme working alongside residents, businesses, organisations and other interested parties who would like to support tree planting within the Borough.”

That the following recommendation of Cabinet be noted:-

“4. That funding (as identified in paragraph 6.3 of the report) be allocated for the planting and maintenance of an additional 1,000 standard trees in the next three planting seasons. This is in addition to the usual c300 replacement trees planted each year.”

Note: The decisions in 1-3 above constitute an Executive Function. The decision in 4 above constitutes a Council Function.

Cabinet Member: Cllr Mulroney

#### **384 Southend 2050 Outcomes Success Measures Report - Quarter 1**

The Committee considered Minute 333 of Cabinet held on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which had been called in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Chief Executive outlining the Southend 2050 Outcomes Success Measures for 2019/20 (first quarter).

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:-

“That the Quarter 1 performance from 1 April – 30 June 2019 be noted.”

Note: This is an Executive Function

Cabinet Member: Councillor Gilbert

#### **385 Annual Comments, Compliments and Complaints**

The Committee considered Minute 337 of Cabinet held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019, together with a report of the Chief Executive providing performance information about comments, compliments and complaints received across the Council for

2018/19. This had been referred direct by Cabinet to all three Scrutiny Committees for consideration.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:-

“1. That necessary changes be made to the Comments, Compliments and Complaints Policy as described in paragraph 5.2 of the submitted report.

2. That the Council’s performance in respect of comments, complaints and compliments for 2018/19 be noted and that the report at Appendix A be referred to each Scrutiny Committee and the reports at Appendix B and Appendix C be referred to the People Scrutiny Committee.”

Note: This is an Executive Function

Cabinet Member: Councillors Terry, Harp and Jones

### **386 Requests for Waiting Restrictions (Thorpe Bay Gardens)**

The Committee considered Minute 308 of Cabinet Committee, which had been called in to Scrutiny together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place). This related to the proposed introduction of new waiting restrictions at various locations in the Borough and the introduction of speed humps in Thorpe Bay Gardens to address anti-social behaviour in the form of speeding.

Resolved:-

1. That the following decisions of Cabinet Committee be noted:-

“1. That the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) be authorised to publish the relevant statutory notice and undertake the necessary consultation for a traffic regulation order(s) for the following requests and, subject to there being no objections received following statutory advertisement, to arrange for the order to be sealed and the proposals implemented:

(i) the introduction of no waiting at any time restrictions on the north side of Lundy Close, the relocation of the existing disabled parking bay to the south side of Lundy Close and the making of individual parking bays to regulate indiscriminate parking;

(ii) the introduction of new and the relocation of the existing disabled parking bays in Warrior Square between the High Street and Chichester Road;

(iii) the relocation and extension of the existing loading bay in Warrior Square between the High Street and Chichester Road and its conversion to a dual purpose taxi rank/loading bays

(iv) the relocation and reduction of the number of disabled parking bays, the introduction of a loading bay to enable loading from 7.00 am to 7.00 pm Mondays to Fridays and 8.00 am – 1.00 pm Saturdays, together with the relocation of the existing Fire Service lane in Whitegate Road between the High Street and Chichester Road;

(v) the introduction of a loading bay, the hours of which to be from 7.00 am to 7.00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and from 8.00 am to 1.00 pm Saturdays. The loading bay to be a dual purpose with a taxi rank at all other times;

(vi) the introduction of two new parking bays for disabled persons on the highway and the introduction of a loading bay, the hours of which to be from 7.00 am to 7.00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and from 8.00 am to 1.00 pm Saturdays, in York Road at its junction with Chichester Road;

(vii) the introduction of no waiting at any time restrictions in Cannonsleigh Crescent, Leigh on Sea on the corner on the north side opposite the school entrance.

2. That the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) requested to investigate the feasibility of introducing no waiting at any time restrictions on the south side of Lundy Close opposite the designated parking lay by and, if appropriate, the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) be authorised to publish the relevant statutory notice and undertake the necessary consultation for the relevant traffic regulation order and, subject to there being no objections received following statutory advertisement, to arrange for the order to be sealed and the proposals implemented.

3. That the proposed introduction of speed humps in Thorpe Bay Gardens to address anti-social behaviour in the form of speeding, not be progressed.”

2. That, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 39, the matter be referred to full Council.

Note: This is an Executive function  
Cabinet Member: Councillor Woodley

### **387 Hadleigh Road Area**

The Committee considered Minute 309 of Cabinet Committee held on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which had been called in to Scrutiny, together with a report a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place). This sought approval to authorise the advertisement and introduction proposed traffic calming measures in Hadleigh Road, Leigh on Sea and the adjacent side roads as illustrated in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, in accordance with the statutory processes.

Resolved:-

That the following decisions of Cabinet Committee be noted:-

“That the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) be authorised to publish the relevant statutory notice and undertake the necessary consultation for the introduction of the traffic calming measures as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report and the plan displayed at the meeting and, subject to there being no objections received following statutory advertisement, to arrange for any traffic regulation order(s) to be sealed and the proposals implemented.”

Note: This is an Executive function  
Cabinet Member: Councillor Woodley

**388 In-Depth Scrutiny Project - Domestic Waste Recycling**

Further to Minute 153 of its meeting held on 8th July 2019, the Committee considered the project plan in relation to the agreed joint in-depth scrutiny project 2019/20 entitled "To review the level of domestic waste recycling in the Borough, in order to examine what influences residents in terms of their recycling habits and the barriers to achieving a higher rate of recycling and to consider ways of working with residents to improve domestic waste recycling".

The Committee also received an oral update on the progress that had been made with the study to date.

Resolved:-

That the project plan be agreed.

Note:- This is a Scrutiny Function.

**Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_