

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

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

**Date: Monday, 12th October, 2015**

**Place: Jubilee Room, Civic Centre, Southend-on-Sea**

**Present:** Councillor S J Habermel (Chairman)  
Councillors M F Evans (Vice-Chairman), M Assenheim, J I Courtenay, T Cox, A Crystall, L Davies\*, J M Garston, D J Jarvis, C A Mulroney, G A F Phillips, K R Robinson\*, M Stafford\*, J G S Ware-Lane and C A Willis  
(\*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31)

**In Attendance:** Councillors G E Longley, D A Norman, M W Terry and Woodley (Executive Councillors)  
Councillors S T Aylen, F Waterworth  
R Tinlin, A Lewis, J K Williams, P Geraghty, N Harris, R Atkins, S May, J Martin, T McGregor and T Row

**Start/End Time:** 6.30 p.m./9.00 p.m.

\*\*\*\* **Part I**

**299 Apologies and substitutions.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Callaghan (Substitute: Councillor Davies), D Kenyon (no Substitute), J McMahon (Substitute: Councillor Robinson) and N D Ward (Substitute: Councillor Stafford).

**300 Declarations of interest.**

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

(a) Councillors Longley, Norman MBE, Terry & Woodley (Executive Councillors) – 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;

(b) Councillor Crystall - Agenda Item Nos. 10 (Surface Water Management Plan) and 11 (Local Flood Risk Management Strategy) - Non-pecuniary interest: Lives within one of the designated areas;

(c) Councillor J Garston - Agenda Item No. 9 (Southend Central Area Action Plan (SCAAP) Preferred Approach Public Consultation) - Non-pecuniary interest: lives within the Clifftown Area which is referred to in the Plan;

(d) Councillor Mulroney - Agenda Item Nos. 10 (Surface Water Management Plan) and 11 (Local Flood Risk Management Strategy) - Non-pecuniary interest: Lives within one of the designated areas;

(e) Councillor Phillips - Agenda Item No. 8 (The London Shipwreck - Seventeenth Century Bronze Cannons) - Non-pecuniary interest: Trustee of the London Shipwreck Trust;

(f) Councillor Terry - Agenda Item Nos. 10 (Surface Water Management Plan) and 11 (Local Flood Risk Management Strategy) - Non-pecuniary interest: Lives within one of the designated areas.

**301 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 13th July, 2015**

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th July 2015 be received, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

**302 Questions from Members of the Public.**

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

**303 Monthly Performance Report - July 2015**

The Committee considered Minute 245 of Cabinet held on 22nd September 2015, together with the Monthly Performance Report (MPR) covering the period to end August 2015, which had been circulated recently.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

Note:- This is an Executive Function.

Executive Councillor:- As appropriate to the item.

**304 Annual Report – Comments, Compliments and Complaints**

The Committee considered Minute 246 of Cabinet held on 22nd September 2015, which had been called in to all 3 scrutiny committees, together with a report of the Corporate Director for Corporate Services presenting the annual report on comments, compliments and complaints received throughout the Council for 2014/15.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:-

“That the performance in respect of compliments, comments and complaints for 2014/15 be noted.”

Note:- This is an Executive Function

Executive Councillors:- Woodley, Moyies and Jones

### **305 Beecroft and Central Muesum Energy Project**

The Committee considered Minute 261 of Cabinet held on 22nd September 2015, which had been called in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Corporate Director for Place on a proposal to install a biomass boiler serving the Beecroft Centre and Central Museum and to replace the lifts at the Beecroft Centre.

Resolved:-

That the following recommendations of Cabinet be noted:-

"1. That the installation of a biomass boiler in the Beecroft Centre, serving both the Beecroft and the Central Museum, and the replacement of the lifts in the Beecroft Centre, be approved.

2. That the project be funded by £720k from the Local Growth Fund and £372k from the Capital Reserve.

3. That the Local Growth Fund budget already in the capital programme be re-profiled, a virement approved to move the £720k to a separate capital project and a new budget be approved for the £372k, to be funded from the capital reserve."

Note:- This is a Council Function

Executive Councillor:- Longley

### **306 The London Shipwreck - Seventeenth Century Bronze Cannons**

The Committee considered Minute 264 of Cabinet held on 22nd September 2015, which had been called in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Corporate Director for Place detailing proposals relating to the three historically-significant cannons illegally salvaged from the site of the 17th Century shipwreck 'the London', lying approximately one mile from the end of Southend Pier.

Resolved:-

That the following recommendation of Cabinet be noted:-

"That in the event that external grant funding is not secured, the 3 cannons be purchased by the Council for a sum of £56,000 to be met from the Contingency Fund."

Note:- This is a Council Function

Executive Councillor:- Longley

### **307 Southend Central Area Action Plan (SCAAP) Preferred Approach Public Consultation**

The Committee considered Minute 264 of Cabinet held on 22nd September 2015, which had been called in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Corporate Director for Place detailing the development principles, opportunity sites and policies within the Preferred Approach version of the SCAAP.

In response to questions from Members of the Committee, the Executive Councillor for Housing, Planning & Regulatory Services agreed that officers in the Planning Policy Team would meet with the Shoebury Ward Councillors to discuss the formulation of a Shoebury Area Action Plan. The timing of the development of the plan will however, be dependent on their workload.

Resolved:-

That the following recommendations of Cabinet be noted:-

"1. That the SCAAP Preferred Approach, as set out in Appendix A to the submitted report, and associated Policies Map, as set out in Appendix B, be approved for at least a minimum 6 week statutory consultation in accordance with the Southend Local Development Scheme timetable.

2. That the consultation comments received on earlier iterations of the SCAAP, as set out in Appendix C to the submitted report, be noted.

3. That the Corporate Director for Place, in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Housing, Planning and Regulatory Services, be authorised to make any minor adjustments to the approved Preferred Approach version of the SCAAP, which are considered necessary to ensure accuracy, correct references and presentation for public consultation and to take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with the relevant statutory consultation."

Note:- This is a Council Function  
Executive Councillor:- Norman

### **308 Surface Water Management Plan**

The Committee considered Minute 270 of Cabinet held on 22nd September 2015, which had been called in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Corporate Director for Place and PowerPoint presentation presenting the draft Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) and detailing the measures taken to consult on this document. A copy of the slides used in the presentation were circulated at the meeting.

The Committee also had before it a summary of the responses received as a result of the consultation process, together with the response received from the Garrison Residents Association. These had been circulated at the meeting of the Cabinet.

The Committee discussed the matter in detail and asked a number of questions which the Executive Councillor Public Protection, Waste and Transport and officers responded to. In response to a question regarding the concerns that had been expressed by residents in Shoebury, the Executive Councillor assured members that he would be meeting with them shortly.

Resolved:-

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

"1. That the Plan be adopted as the Council's high-level assessment of the sources of surface water flooding across the Borough, along with its proposals to mitigate the effects of those sources of flooding.

2. That the Corporate Director for Place, in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Public Protection, Waste & Transport, be authorised to make amendments to the document arising from Members' or consultees' comments.

3. That the Plan be approved for publication on the Council's website."

2. That, in accordance with Standing Order 39, the matter be referred to full Council for consideration. ||

Note:- This is an Executive Function  
Executive Councillor:- Terry

### **309 Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

The Committee considered Minute 271 of Cabinet held on 22nd September 2015, which had been called in for Scrutiny, together with the report of the Corporate Director for Place presenting the draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and detailing the measures taken to consult on this document.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:-

"1. That the Strategy be adopted as the Council's strategic approach to mitigating the effects of surface water flooding throughout the Borough.

2. That, if required due to imposed timescales, the Corporate Director for Place, in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Public Protection, Waste & Transport, be authorised to make amendments to the document arising from Members' or consultees' comments.

3. That the Strategy be submitted to the Environment Agency and published on the Council's website."

Note:- This is an Executive Function  
Executive Councillor:- Terry

### **310 Members' Requests List**

The Committee considered Minute 235 of Cabinet Committee held on 17th September 2015, together with the relevant excerpt from the report of the Corporate Director for Place regarding the Member's Request ref no.15/13 seeking the introduction of waiting restrictions, operating from 11am to noon, in St James Avenue and Marcus Avenue between Fermoy to Johnstone Road, together with the removal of existing waiting restriction in Fermoy Road, Marcus Avenue to St James Avenue on alternating sides to provide staggered parking to compensate for the new waiting restrictions.

Resolved:-

That Minute 235, in respect of the Member's Request ref no. 15/13, be referred back to the Cabinet Committee for reconsideration.

Note:- This is an Executive Function  
Executive Councillor:- Terry

### **311 Minutes of the Meeting of Chairmen's Scrutiny Forum held on Tuesday, 8th September, 2015**

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the meeting of Chairmen's Scrutiny Forum held on Tuesday, 8th September, 2015 be received and noted and the recommendations therein endorsed.

Note: This is a Scrutiny Function.

### **312 In-depth Scrutiny Project - 20mph in Residential Streets**

Further to Minute 125 of its meeting held on 13th July 2015, the Committee considered the project plan in relation to its agreed in depth scrutiny project for 2014/15 – '20mph speed limits in residential streets'.

The Committee was informed that the project plan incorporated the comments that had been made by the member project team at its meeting on 8th October 2015.

Resolved:-

That the project plan be agreed.

Note:- This is a Scrutiny Function.