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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Date: Wednesday, 17th March, 2021

Place: Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Present: Councillor D Garston (Chair)
Councillors D Nelson (Vice-Chair), B Ayling, D Burzotta, D Cowan, T Cox, P Collins, M Davidson, M Dent, S George, S Habermel, H McDonald, D McGlone, I Shead, M Stafford, S Wakefield and P Wexham

In Attendance: Councillors I Gilbert, T Harp, C Mulroney, M Terry, R Woodley (Cabinet Members), Councillor K Evans, E Cook, G Halksworth, A Lewis, S Moore, J Ruffle, A Smyth, S Tautz and J Williams

Start/End Time: 6.30 pm - 9.40 pm

914 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence from the meeting.

915 Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

- (a) Councillors I Gilbert, T Harp, C Mulroney, M Terry and R Woodley (Cabinet Members) - Interest in the called-in items; attended pursuant to the dispensation agreed at Council on 19 July 2012, under S.33 of the Localism Act 2011.
- (b) Councillor D Garston - Minute 918 (Selective Licensing Designation Report) - Sons are landlords of properties within the areas of designation for the proposed Selective Licencing Scheme (but not within specific roads covered by the proposed scheme); trustee of trust that is landlord of property within the areas of designation for the Scheme (but not within specific roads covered by the scheme) - Non-pecuniary interests.
- (c) Councillor M Dent - Minute 918 (Selective Licensing Designation Report) -Private sector tenant of property within the areas of designation for the proposed Selective Licencing Scheme – Non-pecuniary interest.
- (d) Councillor D Nelson - Minute 918 (Selective Licensing Designation Report) – Parents are landlords of property within the areas of designation for the proposed Selective Licencing Scheme – Non-pecuniary interest.
- (e) Councillor M Davidson - Minute 918 (Selective Licensing Designation Report) and Minute 919 (HRA Land Review Phase 4 (Lundy Close)) - Non-Executive Director of South Essex Homes - Non-pecuniary interests.
- (f) Councillor S George - Minute 918 (Selective Licensing Designation Report) – Council’s representative on the South Essex Alliance of Landlords and Residents (SEAL) - Non-pecuniary interest.
- (g) Councillor I Shead - Minute 918 (Selective Licensing Designation Report) - Local landlord and owns property within the areas of designation for the proposed Selective Licencing Scheme – Disclosable pecuniary interest (withdrew).

- (h) Councillor R Woodley - Minute 918 (Selective Licensing Designation Report) - Non-pecuniary interest.
- (i) Councillor S Habermel - Minute 918 (Selective Licensing Designation Report) - Landlord of property not within the areas of designation for the proposed Selective Licensing Scheme - Non-pecuniary interest.
- (j) Councillor D Cowan - Minute 919 (HRA Land Review Phase 4 (Lundy Close)) - Previous involvement with residents of Lundy Close on this matter - Non-pecuniary interest
- (k) Councillor D McGlone - Minute 919 (HRA Land Review Phase 4 (Lundy Close)) - Previous involvement with residents of Lundy Close on this matter - Non-pecuniary interest.

916 Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions from members of the public relating to the responsibilities of the Committee.

917 Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 February 2021

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 February 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and signed.

918 Selective Licensing Designation Report

The Committee considered Minute 856 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 23 February 2021, which had been called-in to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, together with a joint report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director (Growth and Housing) and Executive Director (Neighbourhoods and Environment) presenting the results of the public consultation on the proposed introduction of a Selective Licensing Scheme within specific neighbourhoods of the Milton, Kursaal, Victoria and Chalkwell wards and setting out the work required to move the scheme forward.

Resolved:

1. That the matter be referred back to the Cabinet for reconsideration, as the Committee felt that further clarity and information was required in respect of aspects of the proposed Selective Licensing Scheme.
2. That in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 39, the matter be referred to full Council for consideration.

Note: This is an Executive Function
Cabinet Member: Councillor I Gilbert

919 HRA Land Review Phase 4 (Lundy Close)

The Committee considered Minute 857 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 23 February 2021, which had been called-in to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, together with a report of the Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director (Growth and Housing) providing an update on the progress of the HRA Land Review Phase 4 (Lundy Close) following the Public Notice for the appropriation of land on the North Site of Lundy Close, and setting out the next steps for the development.

Resolved:

That the following decisions of the Cabinet be noted:

“1. That the responses received following a Public Notice and the considerations and mitigations in regard to these as detailed in section 3.6-3.14 of the submitted report, be noted.

2. That the development of the north site of Lundy Close for Council Housing based on the conclusion detailed in section 3.15 of the report, be approved.”

Note: This is an Executive Function
Cabinet Member: Councillor I Gilbert

920 In-Depth Scrutiny Project 2019/20-2020/21

The Committee was informed of progress on the current in-depth scrutiny project and advised that it was intended that the report and recommendations arising from the project would be brought to the next meeting for consideration.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

Note: This is a Scrutiny Function

921 SO46 Report

The Committee considered Minute 867 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 23 February 2021, which had been called in to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, together with a report setting out action with regard to the delivery of a Costa Coffee drive-through unit at the entrance to Southend Airport Business Park that had been taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Resources) in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 46.

Resolved:

That the following decision of the Cabinet be noted:

“That the submitted report be noted.”

Note: This is an Executive Function
Cabinet Member: Councillor I Gilbert

922 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the item of business set out below, on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

923 SO46 Report Confidential Sheet

The Committee considered Minute 869 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 23 February 2021, which had been called in to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, together

with a report setting out action with regard to the delivery of a Costa Coffee drive-through unit at the entrance to Southend Airport Business Park that had been taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Resources) in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 46.

Resolved:

That the following decision of the Cabinet be noted:

“That the submitted report be noted.”

Note: This is an Executive Function
Cabinet Member: Councillor I Gilbert

Chair: _____