

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

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

**Date: Monday, 28th November, 2016**

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

**Present:** Councillor K Robinson (Chair)  
Councillors P Wexham (Vice-Chair), A Bright, D Burzotta,  
T Callaghan, M Davidson, F Evans, N Folkard, J Garston,  
S Habermel, D Jarvis, D Kenyon, H McDonald, D McGlone, M Terry,  
C Willis and R Woodley\*  
\*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.

**In Attendance:** Councillors J Lamb, A Holland, M Flewitt and T Cox (Executive Councillors)  
Councillors C Mulroney and C Nevin  
J K Williams, Cooney, S Dolling, P Geraghty, D Patel, Z Ali and  
T Row

**Start/End Time:** 6.30 - 9.45 pm

#### **477 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Assenheim (Substitute: Councillor Woodley).

#### **478 Declarations of Interest**

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

(a) Councillors Cox, Flewitt, Holland and Lamb (Executive Councillors) – 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.

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

The Executive Councillor for Enterprise, Tourism and Economic Development and the Executive Councillor for Traffic, Waste and Cleansing responded to written questions from Mr Webb.

#### **480 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10th October 2016**

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016 be received, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

#### **481 Monthly Performance Report**

The Committee considered the Monthly Performance Report (MPR) covering the period to end September 2016, which had been circulated recently.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

Note:- This is an Executive Function.

Executive Councillor:- As appropriate to the item.

**482 In-depth Scrutiny report - 20mph speed restrictions in residential streets**

The Committee considered Minute 441 of the meeting of Cabinet held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016, which had been called-in for scrutiny, together with the report of the Chief Executive presenting the in-depth scrutiny project – ‘20mph Speed Restrictions in Residential Streets’.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:

“That the report be received and noted.”

Note:-This is an Executive function

Executive Councillor :- Cox

**483 Gambling Policy**

The Committee considered Minute 452 of the meeting of Cabinet held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 which had been called-in for scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) setting out the draft revised statement of Gambling Licensing Policy as the basis for formal consultation.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:

“That the draft revised Policy document be endorsed for the purposes of consultation.”

Note:-This is a Council function

Executive Councillor :- Flewitt

**484 PVX Policy**

The Committee considered Minute 453 of the meeting of Cabinet held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 which had been called-in for scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) proposing amendments to the existing Permanent Vehicular Crossing (PVX) Policy in light of the outcome of the review.

The Executive Councillor for Transport, Waste and Cleansing gave the following two assurances:

- (a) The new policy would be reviewed after 18 months in operation; and
- (b) During the next 18 months, consideration would be given to the possibility of a Council ground maintenance trading company undertaking PVX work.

Resolved:-

That the following decisions and recommendations of Cabinet be noted:

“1. That the issues identified in Section 5 of the submitted report relating to the PVX Policy, process and procedures, be noted.

2. That the amendments to the PVX Policy set out in paragraphs 5.2(a)-(d) of the report, be approved.

3. That the matters that are not considered to amount to exceptional circumstances, set out in paragraph 5.5 of the report, be approved.

4. That the approach to refusing applications set out in paragraph 5.6 of the report, be approved.

5. That the approach to exceptional circumstances set out in paragraph 5.8 of the report, be approved (acknowledging that each application is different and each exceptional circumstances case will be considered on its own merits).

6. That the recommendations in Paragraph 5.9 of the report be approved (i.e. no changes to remaining policy or criteria).

7. That the approach to fees set out in paragraph 5.11 of the report, be approved.

Recommended:-

8. That the exceptional circumstances PVX applications be included as part of the terms of reference of both the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee, so as not to preclude the democratic process, with the Cabinet Committee having full delegated powers to determine the applications and that the call-in process shall not apply to the decisions of the Committee to ensure that the applications are dealt with in a timely manner.

9. That, accordingly, the following amendments be made to the Constitution:

(a) Part 3 Schedule 2 – Terms of Reference of Traffic and Parking Working Party. Add the following to the terms of reference of the working party under paragraph 3.6.3: (c) To consider exceptional circumstances PVX applications and make appropriate recommendations to the Cabinet Committee.

(b) Part 3 Schedule 2 – Terms of Reference of Cabinet Committee. Add the following at the end of the terms of reference to the Cabinet Committee under paragraph 2 (b): The Cabinet Committee will consider the recommendations from the Traffic and Parking Working Party in respect of exceptional circumstances PVX applications and determine such applications. The decisions will not be available for call-in.

(c) Part 4(e) – Call-in. Add the following to the list of exceptions to the call-in process under paragraph 15(e): (iv) in respect of exceptional circumstances PVX applications determined by the Cabinet Committee.”

Note:-The decisions in 1-7 above constitute an Executive function. The decisions in 8 and 9 above constitute a Council function.

Executive Councillor :- Cox

#### **485 125th Anniversary Celebrations**

The Committee considered Minute 454 of the meeting of Cabinet held on 8th November 2016 which had been called-in for scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) proposing a programme of events in 2017 celebrating both the 125th anniversary of the Borough Charter for Southend-on-Sea and the centenary of Priory Park.

In response to a question regarding the funding of these celebrations in the current financial climate, the Executive Councillor for Culture, Tourism and the Economy drew the Committee’s attention to paragraph 6.2 of the report and gave her assurances that:

- (a) the Council would attempt to attract as much sponsorship as possible; and
- (b) a report will be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee back to the Committee on the progress of such sponsorship.

Resolved:-

That the following recommendations of Cabinet be noted:

“1. That the proposed series of celebrations to mark the 125th anniversary of the signing of the Borough Charter and the centenary of Priory Park, be approved.

2. That the nationally significant award of Poppies: Wave exhibition to Shoeburyness which will form part of the year’s celebrations, be noted.

3. That one-off financial support of the collective activity up to £580k and funded from the Business Transformation Reserve across 2016/17 and 2017/18, be approved.”

Note:-This is a Council function

Executive Councillor :- Holland

#### **486 Standing Order 46**

The Committee considered Minute 456 of the meeting of the meeting of Cabinet held on 8th November 2016 which had been called-in for scrutiny. This concerned item 1.1 regarding the Pier Entrance and 21 Pier Arches only.

Resolved:-

That the submitted report be noted.

Note:- This is an Executive Function  
Executive Councillor:- As appropriate to the item.

**487 Growth Strategy**

(This is a pre-Cabinet Scrutiny item.)

The Committee received a report by the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) and presentation by the Director of Regeneration and Business Development by way of pre-Cabinet scrutiny. This updated Members on the empirical evidence base and trends which are shaping Southend's economic growth and sought Members' views on the key principles and approaches which the new Economic Growth Strategy (2017-2022) will be predicated on.

The Director offered to provide a separate briefing for Members to interrogate the data set out in Appendix 1 to the report should it be required.

Resolved:-

1. That the evidence base and resulting findings are noted.
2. That the report be noted and endorsed for submission to Cabinet for consideration with the following comments:
  - Reflect employment opportunities and trends in neighbouring authorities which have a material effect on the Borough, such as the airport and aviation businesses, to give a more holistic picture of employment for Southend residents;
  - Explore the role of fisheries in Southend's economy to better understand its economic impact and opportunity
  - Reflect, where possible within the limitations of the data available, that retirement age is increasing and therefore working age population is generally now exceeding 64.

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

**488 In-depth Scrutiny Project - 'To investigate the case for additional enforcement resources for Southend'**

The Committee received an oral update on the progress that had been made in respect of the agreed joint in-depth scrutiny project for 2016/17 entitled 'To investigate the case for additional enforcement resources for Southend'.

Resolved:-

That the progress be noted.

Note:- This is a Scrutiny Function.

**489 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 items of business set out below, on the grounds that they 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.

**490 Waste Management PFI**

The Committee considered Minute 458 of the meeting of Cabinet held on 8th November 2016 which had been called-in for scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) on the above.

Resolved:-

That the following decision of Cabinet be noted:

“That the recommendations in the submitted report, be approved.”

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

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