



RURAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

29th May 2013

Present:

P. Baguley, G.E Botterill, J. Douglas, E. Holmes, E. Hutchinson, J. Illingworth, T. Moncrieff, J. Moulding, J.T Orson (Chairman), J.B Rhodes, M.R Sheldon (Vice Chairman)

Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods,
Head of Regulatory Services, Strategic Director, Chief Accountant,
Administrative Assistant for Communities and Neighbourhoods.

R1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received for this meeting.

R2. MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of the 6th March were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Chairman following the amendments below;

R63: Councillor Gordon left the meeting due to a declaration of interest in this item.

R62: Councillor Sheldon declared a personal non pecuniary interest in this item and did not take part in this item

R3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Rhodes and Councillor Orson declared a personal interest in any item involving the County Council. Councillor Sheldon and Councillor Moncrieff declared an interest in Item 7 by virtue of being parish councillors.

R4. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from other committees.

R5. UPDATE ON DECISIONS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted an update on decisions from the previous meeting on the 6th March 2013, which was noted by the committee.

R6. CAPITAL SCHEME UPDATE- CAR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Councillor Baguley entered the meeting.

The Chief Accountant presented a report seeking Member approval of the business case for a first phase of planned car parking improvements. Members attention was drawn to para 3.2 stating that Members will have the opportunity to consider the overall strategy with regards to the site through the Cattle Market Working Group and by this committee at its next meeting.

Discussion took place over the Car parking charge in the cattle market, and it was stated that Officers would respond to Councillor Holmes query providing the date of when the charges were raised.

The recommendation was carried.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the business case at Appendix A be approved for £38k in respect of car parking improvements for submission to the Policy Finance and Administration Committee.
- 2) The intention not to proceed with the works relating to the Cattle Market at this time be noted.

R7. PARISH COUNCIL ENFORCEMENT PROJECT

The Head of Regulatory Services presented a report to update Members on the Parish Council enforcement project showing the facts and next steps before seeing how the project can evolve and develop.

Discussion took place around enforcement training for Parish Councils as well as the number of investigations that had been taken on by each Parish Council.

The recommendation was carried.

RESOLVED that the content of the report be noted.

R8. BUILDING CONTROL FEE SETTING

The Head of Regulatory Services presented a report asking Members to consider the requirement for Building Control fees to be set on a case by case basis following risk-based approach.

Discussions took place about the increasing work load that this could create for officers, as well as the need for fees to be more competitive without compromising the standard of the service.

The recommendation was carried.

RESOLVED that delegated authority be given to the Head of Regulatory Services to deviate from the Building Control fees published in accordance with the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010, where justified on an assessment of risk, on a case by case basis.

R9. **LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE ALCOHOL AND LICENSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

The Head of Regulatory Services presented a report to inform Members of the aims, objective and outcomes of the Leicester and Leicestershire Alcohol Licensing Improvement Project.

Members attention was drawn to bullet point 5 of para 3.5 explaining that a future paper will be produced to discuss the merits of the scheme for Melton once the operational details have been developed.

The recommendation was carried.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the activity of this project and its outcomes be noted
- 2) the implementation of the project outcomes as set out in para 3.5 be agreed.

R.10 **AMT TOWN CENTRE PERFORMANCE REPORT 2012**

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report for Members to note and comment on the AMT Town Centre Performance Report, comparing performance against other comparable market towns across the East Midlands and against national statistics.

A Member asked about the report statistics and what actions were being taken in response to the performance data. The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods explained to Members that the actions sit within the Economic Development Strategy.

The recommendation was carried.

RESOLVED that the AMT Town Centre Performance Report 2012 be noted.

R11. **SAINSBURY'S TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT SECTION 106 CONTRIBUTION**

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report to update Members on the proposed town centre improvement scheme which will be funded through the revenue income contribution of £70,000 from the Section 106 monies received from the Sainsbury's development for the Town Centre management scheme.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods drew Members attention to paragraphs 3.5-3.8 of improvements.

Discussion took place about the Business Rotary giving feedback that website development and business planning was something that small business's need -support in.

A Member raised concern that the Town Area working group had not yet been consulted on the spending of this monies and moved a motion to defer the paper to the Town Area working group, which was seconded by another Member

8 Member voted against this motion and 1 abstained. The recommendation was carried with 3 abstentions.

RESOLVED that the proposed town centre improvement schemes be approved.

R12. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT- REQUEST TO PURCHASE

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report for members to approve the project mandate, business case and a supplementary estimate to purchase a replacement front line ride on mower/flail unit.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods brought Members attention to para 3.4 stating that Officers were developing a proactive plan of replacement and renewal so that in future any replacements are planned on an up to date condition audit and acquisitions undertaken at the best time of year.

The recommendation was carried.

RESOLVED that the project mandate and business case be approved and a supplementary estimate of £25,000 to purchase a replacement front line ride on mower/flair unit be recommended to the Policy, Finance and Administrative Committee.

The meeting which started at 6:30pm finished at 7:21pm

Chairman