



RURAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

30th October 2013

Present:

Councillor 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)

As Observer

P. Chandler, J. Wyatt

Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, Head of Central Services,
Employment and Skills Officer, Economic Development Officer,
Administrative Assistant for Communities and Neighbourhoods.

R26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from P. Baguley

R27. MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of the 4th September were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Chairman.

R28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Rhodes and Councillor Orson declared a personal interest in any item arising involving the County Council.

R29. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from other committees.

R30. UPDATE ON DECISIONS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted an update on decisions from the previous meeting on the 4th September 2013, which was noted by the committee.

R31. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2013

The Head of Central Services presented a report to update Members on the progress of schemes within the Capital Programme to 30th September 2013.

The Head of Central Services drew Members attention to Appendix A and explained that Bus Shelter Improvements expenses have been moved to the revenue budget.

A Member raised concern that the machine in the Cattle Market car park does not register all coins after the change in weight of coinage.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods brought to Members attention that a Car Parking Strategy will be brought to this committee next year.

RESOLVED that the progress made on each capital scheme be noted.

R32. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013-18

The Head of Central Services presented a report to determine the Committees Capital Programme for 2013-18 based on a review of spending in the current year's programme and schemes included in the programme for later years.

Members attention was brought to Appendix B where the schemes for deferral were set out.

The Head of Central Services brought Members attention to para 3.1.1 explaining that the £89K of schemes being included in the Capital Programme is now £26K due to the Cattle Market Mandate not currently being ready.

The recommendation was carried.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the revised Capital Programme for 2013-18 be approved
- 2) the schemes being submitted on 2013-18 be considered for funding as part of the budget setting process .
- 3) the business case as outlined at para 3.3.2 be submitted to Policy, Finance and Administration committee for approval
- 4) the proposed rationalisation of the two elements of the Burton Street Car Park scheme as outlined in paragraph 3.2.3 be approved.

R33. REVENUE BUDGET 2014-15 COMMITTEE ESTIMATES

The Head of Central Services submitted a report to inform Members on the latest position of this committee's revenue budget estimates.

RESOLVED that the latest position on this committee's revenue budget estimates be noted.

R34. FOOD ENTERPRISE CENTRE (FEC)

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on behalf of the Strategic Director, to update the Committee on the recent feasibility work undertaken by the County Council regarding the potential scope for establishing a Food Enterprise Centre.

The Chairman noted the comments from Councillor M O'Callaghan, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods drew Members attention to para 3.1-3.5 outlining the Strategic Context.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the report, update and proposed next steps be noted
- 2) the principal of the development of a Food Enterprise Centre in Melton Mowbray be supported
- 3) the Officers further investigation into the location be endorsed, detailing financial implications and potential grant and income opportunities for taking this project forward, working with Leicestershire County Council, the LLEP and other partners.

R.35 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY & ECONOMIC GROWTH PLAN

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report for Members to comment and approve the refreshed Economic Development Strategy and Economic Growth Plan.

Members attention was brought to para 3.6 outlining the strategic priorities.

A Member raised awareness about the proportion of the working age population being qualified below NVQ level 2 outlined on page 11 of the Economic Development Strategy. The Leader of the Council stated that that Melton Community Partnership has invited local schools to attend to raised this issue.

Discussion took place around the actions to take from this strategy, the rural economy and the timescales and milestones for the actions within the EDS report.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the refreshed Economic Development Strategy be approved
- 2) the Economic Growth Plan be approved

R36. **ECONOMIC INWARD INVESTMENT GUIDE**

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report for members to note and comment on the Economic Inward Investment Guide which has been used to progress a strategic priority within the Economic Development Strategy.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods explained that the Economic Inward investment plan will be transformed into an Action Plan.

Discussion took place on the road infrastructure of Melton and the number of jobs available to young people in the borough.

RESOLVED that the Melton Economic Inward Investment Guide be noted

R37. **SAINSBURYS EMPLOYMENT OUTCOME**

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report to update the committee on the Sainsbury's Employment Outcomes and Evaluation of the s.106 agreement.

The Employment and Skills Officer brought Members attention to para 3.11 providing feedback from Sainsburys which praised the relationship work between partners and Appendix A which gave a detailed breakdown of statistics.

A Member congratulated the Employment and Skills worker on the work that had been carried out.

A Member raised concern that the Bottesford Ward had been excluded from the employment process because of the recruitment policy, which suggests that Bottesford was too far from the location of the new store

Discussion took place around the topic of the enforcement of the s106 agreement and whether the terms of the agreement had been adhered to.

Councillor Illingworth moved a motion, which was seconded by Councillor Botterill, that the s106 agreement be looked into by the enforcement officer to find out if the agreement had been broken. The motion was carried.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the Learning from the Sainsbury's project to support further development work with Business within the Borough be approved.
- 2) The data gathered from the Sainsbury's Project be noted
- 3) The enforcement officer, or as appropriate, to look into the s106 agreement, specifically the employment and training plan to ensure it was adhered to and a report be brought back to the next committee showing the findings.

R38. **CITY DEAL**

The Head of Communities and presented a report to provide Members with an update on the Leicester and Leicestershire City Deal, outlining the strategic context, the key components and the timescales for the next steps in the process.

The recommendation were proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Botterill.

RESOLVED that

- 1) in principle, the submission of the final negotiation document for the City deal to central government, be endorsed.
- 2) the establishment of the Leicester and Leicestershire Economic growth Board to facilitate the negotiation of the City Deal, EU strategy and Growth Deal be noted by Members and it be agreed that the Leader of the Council be appointed as the Council's representative on the board.

R39. **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business, however a report was submitted by Cllr Douglas for information only regarding the Leicestershire and Northampton Railway Network.

The meeting which started at 6:30pm finished at 8:00pm

Chairman