

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**  
**TOURISM, DEVELOPMENT & CULTURE COMMITTEE**

**4.00pm 20 JUNE 2019**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL, NORTON ROAD, HOVE, BN3 3BQ**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillor Robins (Chair) Grimshaw (Deputy Chair), Druitt (Opposition Spokesperson), Nemeth (Group Spokesperson), Ebel, Evans, Mac Cafferty, Mears, O'Quinn and Rainey

**PART ONE**

**1 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**1(a) Declarations of Substitutes**

1.1 Councillor O'Quinn was present as substitute for Councillor Williams.

**1(b) Declarations of Interest**

1.2 The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 10 relating to his role as trustee for the Royal Pavilion & Museums Trust.

**1(c) Exclusion of Press and Public**

1.3 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the Act"), the Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100(I) of the Act).

1.4 **RESOLVED** – That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting.

**2 MINUTES**

2.1 **RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the previous meeting be noted.

**3 CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS**

3.1 The Chair provided the following Communications:

“Today I met with the Beach Accessibility Working Group who are looking at beach access for the disabled and to keep new members of the committee informed, the same group presented a petition on that matter to a meeting earlier this year and we agreed to undertaken action in relation to their request.

Progress so far is that there will be a beach accessibility showcase at the Brighton Centre the weekend of the 24th and 25th August that the council are funding and I very much hope you are able to attend.

I attended the Brighton & Hove Heritage Learning Partnership launch of its new Teacher Ambassador scheme on 12th June at a showcase event held at Brighton Dome. Over 50 teachers attended from the city, to hear more about the partners and their schools offers. Partners include Royal Pavilion Museum, Brighton Dome, the Old Police Cells Museum, the Fedora Group, West Pier Centre, Regency Town House, Volk’s Railway, the Keep, Brighton Toy & Model Museum, Take Shelter at Downs Junior school, and the Theatre Royal. RPM leads on the partnership which is funded by Arts Council Wildlife Photographer of the Year at Brighton Museum opened on 18 May, the exhibition has been very popular with visitors with 96% rating it as good or excellent.

Support one of the largest celebrations of community sport, dance and physical activity at the 2019 TAKEPART Festival, taking place at The Level on Saturday 22 June 12 noon to 5pm

This free family event showcases activities for all ages, and features dance and performance stages, workshops, tastings and demonstrations, and a dedicated programme supporting disabled people.

And finally, you can join our Healthy Lifestyles Team for a fabulous free day out with the opportunity to have a go and try something new towards a healthier, happy you.

Discover over 70 local groups and activities you or your family can enjoy all year round along with friendly advice on being active, as well as information about healthy eating, stopping smoking and active travel”.

#### **4 CALL OVER**

4.1 The following items on the agenda were reserved for discussion:

- Item 8: Constitutional Matters- Tourism, Development & Culture Committee
- Item 9: Madeira Terraces Restoration- Petition response and next steps
- Item 10: Royal Pavilion and Museums Service- Moving to Trust
- Item 11: Sports Facilities Contract
- Item 12: Hollingbury Park and Waterhall Golf Courses
- Item 13: Hove Station Neighbourhood Plan- Council Response to Regulation 14 Consultation
- Item 15: Swift Boxes and Bee Bricks in New Development
- Item 16: ERDF Business Support Programme
- Item 17: Major Projects Update

4.2 The Democratic Services Officer confirmed that the items listed above had been reserved for discussion and that the following reports on the agenda with the recommendations therein had been approved and adopted:

- Item 14: Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document

- 4.3 The Chair explained that due to public interest in the report, Item 9: Madeira Terrace Restoration- Petition Response and Next Steps would be taken as the first substantive agenda item.

## **5 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

### **(B) WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

#### **(i) City Plan**

- 5.1. Jim Deans put the following question:

“Clearly the City Plan Volume 2 is now not fit for the purpose, many of the builds listed have either been cancelled or put back many years, while new builds have been started or in planning. will this new committee undertake a complete review of the plan and come up with a genuine plan that shows Number of Properties needed matches number of properties to be built?”

- 5.2. The Chair provided the following reply:

“City Plan Part 2 is currently being prepared. There was consultation on the draft Plan last summer and the final version of the Plan is due to be brought back to this committee for approval in November this year.

In terms of housing sites in Part 2 - draft policies H1 and H2 identify housing site allocations to support the delivery the city’s housing delivery target of 13,200 new dwellings in the adopted City Plan Part 1.

The proposed housing site allocations have been identified through a robust study called the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) which is updated each year. Identified sites with planning permission, and where development has commenced, will be removed from the list of proposed residential site allocations in the final version of the Part 2 Plan.

It is important to progress City Plan Part Two towards adoption to ensure the city has an up to date planning framework in place to ensure that the right type of development is being carried out in the right places”.

## **6 ITEMS REFERRED FROM FULL COUNCIL**

### **(A) PETITIONS**

#### **(i) It makes better business sense to restore the three crowdfunded Arches at the Concorde 2 end of Madeira Drive**

- 6.1 The Committee considered a petition, referred from the Full Council meeting held on 28 March 2019 and signed by 3118 people requesting the Council restore three Arches closest to the Concorde 2 using the crowdfunded money.

- 6.2 The Chair provided the following response:

“Thank you for your petition. As you may have noticed, the committee will consider a report on this matter later in this meeting and I hope you are able to stay to hear our consideration of that report”.

6.3 **RESOLVED-** That the Committee note the petition.

## **(C) DEPUTATIONS**

### **(i) Grassroots Brighton & Hove**

6.4 The Committee considered a deputation referred from the meeting of Full Council held on 28 March 2019 that explained the work of Grassroots Brighton & Hove.

6.5 The Chair provided the following response:

“Live music is a major player in the city’s cultural offer, and the coming together of local live music organisations and stakeholders in partnership at the Live Music Venue Roundtable is providing much needed representation for this sector. To reiterate what I’ve said previously, the council is fully supportive of this partnership and recognises the benefits that live music brings to the city, which are especially apparent at this time of year, with huge numbers of people visiting to enjoy live music at festivals such as Brighton Festival and Pride.

Now that the Live Music Venue Roundtable has been set up and is progressing well, with good buy-in from the sector and from key council departments, this is the obvious place for Grassroots Brighton & Hove to interact with the council, and as I understand it, are regular attenders at these meetings. By providing strong representation there from grassroots live music venues and hosts you are already playing a key part in the partnership work that helps grow and sustain the industry in this city, and for this I thank you all. I’d encourage you to continue engaging with and shaping the agenda of the Roundtable.

If you do need an initial meeting with officers in addition to the opportunities offered by the Roundtable, I’m sure that we can arrange this”.

6.6 **RESOLVED-** That the Committee note the deputation.

## **7 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

7.1 No items were received from Members.

## **8 MADEIRA TERRACE RESTORATION - PETITION RESPONSE AND NEXT STEPS**

8.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture that outlined the proposed next steps to restore Madeira Terrace and in doing so, responded to the petition for debate considered by Full Council in March 2019 and referred to the committee.

8.2 On behalf of the Green Group, Councillor Rainey moved to amend recommendation 2.1, and insert recommendation 2.2 as shown below in ***bold italics***;

**2.1** That the Committee delegates authority to the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Culture to procure and award a contract for early design stage work (RIBA 0-1) and engineering of 30 out of a total of 151 Madeira Terrace arches and instructs officers to include a requirement in the contract that ***the use of innovative renewable technology such as solar panels and rainwater harvesting should be made a priority to reduce costs in the long-term and help the city to meet its commitment to achieving a carbon neutral status by 2030.***

**2.2** ***That the Committee instructs the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Culture to bring a report to the November committee outlining proposals to use the crowdfunded funds (alongside the allocated council funding if required) to progress plans for the development of an initial three arches***

- ***to showcase what is possible and;***
- ***to gain a deeper understanding of the technical challenges that may present themselves during the development of subsequent arches;***
- ***with the intention that plans are progressed to develop the initial three arches, to similar sustainability standards, without waiting for funds to be available to develop the 30 arches as described in 2.1.***

***This report should contain options for which three arches should be progressed and developed, including an option of the three arches directly outside Concorde 2 and an assessment of the business case for leasing these to Concorde 2 as they have suggested.***

- 8.3 Introducing the motion, Councillor Rainey stated that the motion expressly set out the use of sustainable technology in order to reduce the long-term costs and contribute toward the target of becoming carbon neutral. Councillor Rainey stated that residents in that area of the city felt neglected and therefore the request for a report to the November committee meeting would provide reassurance to those residents that action was being taken.
- 8.4 Councillor Druitt formally seconded the motion.
- 8.5 Councillor Nemeth asked if there was a particular design for the Arches and what the specification to the designers would be.
- 8.6 The Assistant Director, City Development & Regeneration explained that the design work would be commissioned as the unique design of the Arches would require expertise. The brief set to the designers would be a design with the potential for small scale retail in order to create sufficient funding to reinvest in the Arches and maintain them in the long-term.
- 8.7 Councillor Mac Cafferty questioned why it had taken so long to reach approval stage as the work had been agreed in principal in November 2017 and the risk to the entire entity increased the longer restoration was delayed. Councillor Mac Cafferty requested assurance that there would now be proper oversight of the restoration and enquired as to whether the cost should be reviewed by the Audit & Standards Committee.

- 8.8 The Chair stated that he agreed with the observation made on oversight that he believed was mainly due to no committee owning the issue. That had now moved on and there would be a report back to this committee in November 2019.
- 8.9 The Assistant Director, City Development & Regeneration stated that there had perhaps been too much focus on maximising economies of scale and applications for funding had likewise taken up a significant amount of officer time. The Assistant Director, City Development & Regeneration explained that as a Council, there had been a funding issue however, that was now in place together with increased staff resource.
- 8.10 Councillor Mears stated that the Council had received a letter from the Secretary of State detailing that it had failed in its funding application from the Coastal Revival Fund and it was extremely concerning that no progress had been made two years on from that. Councillor Mears stated that such a regeneration project required vision and there was no detail of that in the report. Councillor Mears stated that the committee had to take ownership of the issue and action was required sooner rather than later.
- 8.11 The Estate Regeneration Project Manager agreed that a vision was required with the first stage in that process establishing exactly what the future functions of the Terraces would be. That would be something addressed in the design process.
- 8.12 Councillor Nemeth stated that he was pleased that the issue of Madeira Terraces was receiving much greater attention and asked when the issue of which of the thirty Arches to be renovated would be known.
- 8.13 The Assistant Director, City Development & Regeneration clarified that issue would be part of the design work and noted that the proposed amendment requested earlier clarity on the matter.
- 8.14 Councillor Nemeth requested that discussions with the campaigners should continue on the thirty Arches to be renovated.
- 8.15 Councillor Druitt stated that the Arches were a much-loved part of the seafront and many residents were upset to see them in such a state of disrepair. Councillor Druitt stated that it was important that the council did all it could to showcase the potential of the Arches to attract further investment.
- 8.16 The Chair then put the motion to the vote that passed.
- 8.17 The Chair put the recommendations, as amended to the vote that passed.
- 8.18 **RESOLVED-**
- 1) That the Committee delegates authority to the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Culture to procure and award a contract for early design stage work (RIBA 0-1) and engineering of 30 out of a total of 151 Madeira Terrace arches and instructs officers to include a requirement in the contract that the use of innovative renewable technology such as solar panels and rainwater harvesting should be made a

priority to reduce costs in the long-term and help the city to meet its commitment to achieving a carbon neutral status by 2030.

- 2) That the Committee instructs the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Culture to bring a report to the November committee outlining proposals to use the crowdfunded funds (alongside the allocated council funding if required) to progress plans for the development of an initial three arches
- to showcase what is possible and;
  - to gain a deeper understanding of the technical challenges that may present themselves during the development of subsequent arches;
  - with the intention that plans are progressed to develop the initial three arches, to similar sustainability standards, without waiting for funds to be available to develop the 30 arches as described in 2.1.

This report should contain options for which three arches should be progressed and developed, including an option of the three arches directly outside Concorde 2 and an assessment of the business case for leasing these to Concorde 2 as they have suggested.

## **9 CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS- TOURISM, DEVELOPMENT & CULTURE COMMITTEE**

- 9.1 The Committee considered a report of the Monitoring Officer that provided information on the committee's terms of reference and requested approval of the appointment of its Urgency Sub-Committee.
- 9.2 Councillor Druitt noted that the Terms of Reference stated that the committee exercised powers in relation to libraries however, he understood that the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Equalities & Communities (NICE) Committee held the responsibility.
- 9.3 The Democratic Services Officer clarified that the Terms of Reference were those detailed in the Constitution and as the Committee could not set its own Terms of Reference, Full Council would need to consider and approve any change.
- 9.4 Councillor Nemeth stated that his belief that the committee should exercise functions relating to all sports and that football, tennis and bowls should be transferred from the Terms of Reference for the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee.
- 9.5 **RESOLVED-**
- 1) That the committee's terms of reference, as set out in Appendix A to this report, be noted; and
  - 2) That the establishment of an Urgency Sub-Committee consisting of the Chair of the Committee and two other Members (nominated in accordance with the scheme for the allocation of seats for committees), to exercise its powers in relation to matters of urgency, on which it is necessary to make a decision before the next ordinary meeting of the Committee be approved.

**10 ROYAL PAVILION AND MUSEUMS SERVICE - MOVING TO TRUST**

- 10.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture that updated the Committee on progress to transfer the Royal Pavilion & Museums to a charitable trust. The report also sought approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Royal Pavilion & Museums Foundation.
- 10.2 Councillor Mac Cafferty sufficient funding was in place for the one-off cost to support initial setup and transition and for any comment on the cost of associated with the Gardens in the context of the warning expressed by Heritage England.
- 10.3 The Head of the Royal Pavilion & Museums explained that National Lottery Heritage Funding (NLHF) would be pursued to fund renovation of the Gardens and a budget amount had been set aside for that. Monitoring of finances had been conducted by officers and had committee oversight through this and Policy, Resources & Growth Committee. The Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture explained that a very sophisticated financial model was in place detailing income and costs of operating and managing the Museum as well as prudent assumptions on visitor numbers and that could be circulated to Members. Maintenance and planned maintenance would be conducted with the Foundation who had a track record of successful fundraising.
- 10.4 Councillor Druitt asked if Brighton & Hove City Council would be a member of the proposed Board to ensure democratic oversight.
- 10.5 The Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture explained that should the committee agree to enter into the MOU, the Foundation would be required to change its governance arrangements to reflect the new need for a Trust. That Trust would include three Members from Brighton & Hove City Council as agreed by Policy, Resources & Growth Committee.
- 10.6 Councillor Mears asked if the rights of staff would be protected if there were any changes proposed by the new Trust.
- 10.7 The Chair stated that if the Trust changed staff terms and conditions and break clause would be triggered as that process would not be compliant with the MOU.
- 10.8 Councillor Mears asked if that would be a legal right.
- 10.9 The Lawyer explained that the TUPE process protected staff to some extent, but a clause would be inserted into staff contracts that there would be a break in service contract if there was a change to terms and conditions.
- 10.10 The Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture added that the difference in the process on this occasion was that trade unions were party to all discussions and inputted on staff needs.
- 10.11 Councillor Mears stated that she would be interested to see the formulation of the legal agreement.



10.12 The Chair stated that the Foundation had been pushing to go beyond the basic TUPE process measures.

10.13 **RESOLVED-**

- 1) That the Committee notes the positive progress made, notes that a Joint Project Board has been established and notes that project is now in the Initiation Phase and has progressed ahead of schedule.
- 2) That the Committee agrees in principle that the Royal Pavilions & Museums service should be transferred to the Foundation (noting that this will be subject to final approval from Policy Resources & Growth Committee) and agrees that the Council should sign an MOU based on the MOU attached at Appendix 1 (noting that it may be subject to further minor amendments).

**11 SPORTS FACILITIES CONTRACT**

11.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture that set out the proposed review of options for the future operation of seven indoor sports facilities (including three swimming pools and four paddling pools within the council's Sports Facilities Contract. The current ten-year contract is due to expire on 31 March 2021.

11.2 Councillor Ebel moved a motion to amend recommendation 2.1 and 2.2 and insert recommendation 2.3 as shown below in ***bold italics***

2.1 Approves the development of a Sports Facilities Investment Plan for the council's indoor sports facilities ***and paddling pools*** within the Sports Facilities Contract.

2.2 Approves the development of an Options Appraisal informed by the Sports Facilities Investment Plan of the potential delivery models for the future management of the council's indoor ***sports facilities and paddling pools***

***2.3 That this work, including the Options Appraisal and completion of the Sports Facilities Investment Plan, be developed with the express aim to keep all 11 facilities open, and in order to review the potential delivery model for the future operation of all 11 facilities.***

11.3 Introducing the motion, Councillor Ebel explained that the report did not include the council's outdoor facilities, including paddling pools that were important to keep open to increase wellbeing and reduce pressures upon the health care service in the long-term.

11.4 Councillor Druitt formally seconded the motion.

11.5 Relating to the discussion earlier in the meeting relating to the functions for sports facilities to be transferred to the TD&C Committee, Councillor Mears observed that many locations would not be included in the review. Furthermore, Saltdean Lido was not identified in the report.

- 11.6 The Head of Sport & Leisure explained that the scope of the report was the current Sports Facility contract and sites operated by Freedom Leisure, not all sport and leisure sites in the city. Furthermore, Saltdean Lido was not a site operated by Freedom Leisure.
- 11.7 Councillor Mears stated that such a review did not demonstrate joined up thinking by including all sports facilities and would have no wider vision of sport and recreation.
- 11.8 Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that a strong commitment was made to support those in low income to access council sport and leisure facilities and requested assurance that similar measures was being sought in any new arrangement.
- 11.9 The Head of Sport & Leisure replied that the introduction of the leisure card had been very positive and continuation of that would certainly be part of the review of future operation.
- 11.10 Councillor Grimshaw stated that she fully supported the proposed motion as paddling pools were highly important for those on low incomes.
- 11.11 Councillor Nemeth noted that the report did not explicitly state that paddling pools were part of the tendering process and asked what was proposed in relation to this issue. Councillor Nemeth noted that the King Alfred may potentially be redeveloped and asked if there would be a break clause in the contract should that proceed. In addition, Councillor Nemeth noted that Freedom Leisure were a not for profit company with an emphasis on social value however, there may be other providers that operated better but missed out in the tender process because they didn't meet that criteria.
- 11.12 The Head of Sport & Leisure answered that the term indoor was used as a focus to distinguish between facilities however, it was always intended that paddling pools would be part of the review and therefore, the proposed motion was helpful for clarity. In relation to the King Alfred, it was explained that the current contract had a break clause and with the new contract to begin in April 2021, there would hopefully be more clarity on the King Alfred site by that point. The Head of Sport & leisure supplemented that the current contract followed the strict procurement process in 2011 however, he was uncertain as to whether social value was within the assessment criteria at that point.
- 11.13 Councillor Druitt asked what the implication of a no deal Brexit would be for the King Alfred site.
- 11.14 The Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture stated that was uncertainty about the impact of a no deal Brexit however, officers were in positive dialogue with Crest Nicholson and if a positive outcome could be realised, that would be brought to the committee at the earliest opportunity.
- 11.15 Councillor Druitt stated that he was very keen to see an options appraisal that explored the issue of bringing the service in-house as had been undertaken by Islington recently.
- 11.16 The Chair then put the motion to the vote that passed.
- 11.17 The Chair put the recommendations, as amended, to the vote that passed.

11.18 **RESOLVED-** That the Committee:

- 1) Approves the development of a Sports Facilities Investment Plan for the council's indoor sports facilities and paddling pools within the Sports Facilities Contract.
- 2) Approves the development of an Options Appraisal informed by the Sports Facilities Investment Plan of the potential delivery models for the future management of the council's indoor sports facilities and paddling pools
- 3) Agrees that this work, including the Options Appraisal and completion of the Sports Facilities Investment Plan, be developed with the express aim to keep all 11 facilities open, and in order to review the potential delivery model for the future operation of all 11 facilities.

## **12 HOLLINGBURY PARK AND WATERHALL GOLF COURSES**

12.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture that requested a marketing exercise for Hollingbury Park and Waterhall golf courses due to the forthcoming expiry of the management contract.

12.2 On behalf of the Green Group, Councillor Ebel moved add a recommendation 2.4 as shown below:

**2.4 That as part of the further report, committee agrees to consider an additional alternative option, as set out below:**

***Option 5: To bring the operation of both golf courses back in-house with the option to convert one or both of the courses into a different type of leisure facility or environmental space***

***This option will explore the opportunity and financial viability of bringing both courses back in-house, with the option of converting one or both of the golf courses into different types of leisure facilities, as referred to in 4.3 of this report, and including the option to explore the feasibility of a rewilding project.***

12.3 Introducing the motion, Councillor Ebel explained that both the Green Group and Labour Group manifestos had pledged to bring more services in-house. Converting one or both of the golf courses into a different type of leisure facility would be welcome as golf courses did not promote biodiversity and required chemical treatments. Furthermore, a different facility would appeal to a wider demographic.

12.4 Councillor Mears sought clarification as Option 3 on page 119 of the agenda gave clear advice as to why it was not recommended to bring the facilities in-house.

12.5 The Chair stated that it was entirely acceptable for any of the political groups to seek to amend the recommendations by submitting a motion to do so to a meeting and it was for the committee to decide whether to agree with that motion or not.

- 12.6 Councillor Nemeth queried that if the default position was to bring services in-house, why that had not been listed as one of the options in the report.
- 12.7 The Chair stated that the Labour Group had committed to examining the feasibility of bringing services in-house on a case by case basis and he welcomed the motion submitted by the Green Group.
- 12.8 Councillor Nemeth queried why it an opposition group had submitted such a motion and not the administration.
- 12.9 The Chair replied that the Green Group submission was how the decision-making process worked.
- 12.10 Councillor Druitt formally seconded the motion and explained that climate change was the biggest issue of this generation and golf courses represented an opportunity to decide how the council used its land to promote bio-diversity and combat climate change.
- 12.11 The Chair then put the motion to the vote that passed.
- 12.12 The Chair put the recommendations, as amended, to the vote that passed.
- 12.13 **RESOLVED-** That Committee:

- 1) Approves the marketing of Hollingbury Park Golf Course and the Waterhall Golf Course on long term leases for either golf or other leisure use. 2.2 Delegates authority to the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture to undertake the marketing exercise referred to in 2.1. 2.3 Notes that a further report will be brought back to a future meeting of the Committee which will set out the outcome of the marketing exercise referred to in 2.1.
- 2) Delegates authority to the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture to undertake the marketing exercise referred to in 2.1. 2.3 Notes that a further report will be brought back to a future meeting of the Committee which will set out the outcome of the marketing exercise referred to in 2.1.
- 3) Notes that a further report will be brought back to a future meeting of the Committee
- 4) Agrees that as part of the further report, committee agrees to consider an additional alternative option, as set out below:

Option 5: To bring the operation of both golf courses back in-house with the option to convert one or both of the courses into a different type of leisure facility or environmental space

This option will explore the opportunity and financial viability of bringing both courses back in-house, with the option of converting one or both of the golf courses into different types of leisure facilities, as referred to in 4.3 of this report, and including the option to explore the feasibility of a rewilding project.

**13 HOVE STATION NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – COUNCIL RESPONSE TO REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION**

- 13.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture that set out the Council's response to the Draft Hove Station Neighbourhood Plan that was published for consultation between 23 March and 11 May 2019 under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) regulations 2012.
- 13.2 Councillor Ebel ask for clarification on the assertion that the area had potential to deliver a higher number of properties than identified in the City Plan.
- 13.3 The Planning Manager answered that the Neighbourhood Plan could make that suggestion and officers would consider that suggestion and the likely impacts as that was not currently clear.
- 13.4 Councillor O'Quinn stated that she was surprised about the comments made on traffic as she knew residents were very concerned, particularly in relation to the proposed development on Sackville Road.
- 13.5 The Planning Manager replied that a number of observations had been made about extending the current Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) that was not something that could be addressed through a Neighbourhood Plan. It was explained that this process would provide clarity on what could be done to ensure the Plan was sound when it reached the Planning Inspector.
- 13.6 Councillor O'Quinn asked for confirmation that if an area had a Neighbourhood Plan, residents could determine the allocation of 25% of S106 funding.
- 13.7 The Planning Manager confirmed that to be the case and that would rise from a level of 15% for those areas without a Plan.
- 13.8 Councillor Grimshaw asked why the Plan did not include the Conway Street Masterplan.
- 13.9 The Planning Manager explained that a Masterplan was a Supplementary Planning Document that provided guidance on future development amongst a hierarchy of other planning documents.
- 13.10 Councillor Nemeth stated a map of the area the Plan would include would have been helpful as the boundary was curious.
- 13.11 Councillor Mac Cafferty supported the statement made by Councillor Nemeth and noted his concern relating to an increase in traffic relating to the Sackville Road development and the potential for a CPZ. Councillor Mac Cafferty noted that the only time he recalled that parking enforcement had been part of the planning process was for the development of the Amex Stadium.
- 13.12 The Head of Planning stated that there was a set programme for consultation upon and introduction of CPZ's and the planning process could not directly influence that process.

- 13.13 Councillor Druitt stated that the Hove Station Neighbourhood Forum had conducted an outstanding process on community engagement and consultation and asked if other areas could learn from the process.
- 13.14 The Planning Manager stated that there were currently five designated Forums in the city and if they had interest in developing a Plan the Council could assist and advise on that and provide help and information.
- 13.15 **RESOLVED-** That the Committee agrees the officer comments set out in Appendix 1 which have been submitted to the Hove Station Neighbourhood Forum as a draft response to its recent public consultation on the Draft Hove Station Neighbourhood Plan under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

#### 14 EXTENSIONS AND ALTERATIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

- 14.1 **RESOLVED-** That the Tourism, Development & Culture Committee:
- 1) Agrees the draft document for consultation which will inform the final Design Guide for Extensions and Alterations SPD;
  - 2) Notes the background information provided in this report regarding the process for preparing the SPD; and
  - 3) Authorises the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Chair of Committee, to make any necessary minor amendments prior to public consultation.

#### 15 SWIFT BOXES AND BEE BRICKS IN NEW DEVELOPMENT

- 15.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture that outlined the current and emerging planning policy framework that can support the incorporation of nature conservation features such as swift boxes and bee bricks and further considers the process required to ensure these features could be incorporated into more new developments where practically feasible. The report had been requested by the Committee following the submission of a Notice of Motion and deputation to its meeting in March 2019.
- 15.2 On behalf of the Conservative Group, Councillor Nemeth moved the following motion to amend recommend 2.2 and add a recommendation 2.3 as shown below in bold italics and as struck through:

That the Committee:

- 2.2 Agrees to officers finalising ***and implementing*** the further actions set out in the report in paragraphs 3.13 and 3.14 in terms of seeking additional further guidance and introducing standard planning conditions so that, where appropriate, these nature conservation features can be secured as minimal net gains and/or 'best practice' through the council's development management process ***so that bee bricks are installed as standard on new-builds unless unfeasible.***

**2.3 Agrees to officers undertaking further research on swift boxes as set out in paragraph 3.15 so that a report can be brought back to the next meeting of this committee with a view to installing as standard swift boxes/bricks on all suitable new-builds.**

- 15.3 Introducing the motion, Councillor Nemeth explained that whilst he was broadly in support of the recommendations, they did not address the key issue. Referring to page 193, Councillor Nemeth explained that the policy left discretion and the measures proposed may get lost in discussions with developers. Councillor Nemeth stated that swift boxes and bee bricks should be a standard requirement of any development and rolled out immediately. Councillor Nemeth added that only implementing swift boxes in central areas of the city may miss the critical mass and a report to the next meeting would acknowledge the sense of urgency.
- 15.4 Councillor Mears formally seconded the motion.
- 15.5 Councillor Druitt enquired as to why the report had not suggested proceeding as quickly as possible.
- 15.6 The Planning Manager replied that whilst bee bricks could be implemented quickly under a standard planning condition, the case for swift boxes was more complex. The Planning Manager explained that the understanding from the RSPB was that not all planning applications would be suitable. The Planning Manager stated that it was logical to prioritise the areas swifts were known to be loyal to on a ward by ward basis and more information was needed to that end before implementation.
- 15.7 The Chair then put the motion to the vote that passed.
- 15.8 The Chair then put the recommendations, as amended to the vote that passed.
- 15.9 **RESOLVED-** That the Committee:
- 1) Notes the planning policy framework already in place (in terms of the adopted City Plan Part One) and that further policy is being prepared through City Plan Part Two to positively support the incorporation of swift boxes/bricks and bee bricks in suitable new development.
  - 2) Agrees to officers finalising and implementing the further actions set out in the report in paragraphs 3.13 and 3.14 so that bee bricks are installed as standard on new-builds unless unfeasible.
  - 3) Agrees to officers undertaking further research on swift boxes as set out in paragraph 3.15 so that a report can be brought back to the next meeting of this committee with a view to installing as standard swift boxes/bricks on all suitable new-builds.
- 16 ERDF BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME**
- 16.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture that proposed an additional role for the Council in helping to manage the

business grants element of the ERDF Business Support Programme on behalf of the lead partner, the University of Chichester.

- 16.2 Councillor Druitt noted that the project was one example of the many benefits of membership of the EU. Councillor Druitt asked what would happen to the funding should the UK leave the EU in October 2019 as planned.
- 16.3 The Economic Business Development Manager clarified that the government had given a commitment that the project would be funded for its duration regardless of exiting the EU.
- 16.4 **RESOLVED-** That Committee:
- 1) Approves the proposal for the Council to manage the £2.865 million business grants fund which forms one element of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Business Support Programme led by the University of Chichester.
  - 2) Grants delegated authority to the Executive Director Economy Environment and Culture to enter into the agreements necessary to put the recommendation set out in 2.1 into effect, including:
    - (i) A grant management agreement with the University of Chichester; and;
    - (ii) Grant agreements with the recipients of the business grant fund.
  - 3) Notes the delayed start to the ERDF Business Support Programme and agrees that the Council's match funding contribution of £90,000 will now be made from 2019/ 2020 to 2021/2022.

## 17 MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

- 17.1 Councillor Mears noted that the developer had suspended negotiations on the redevelopment of the King Alfred site awaiting the outcome of Brexit and asked how many other developers had done as such.
- 17.2 The Assistant Director, City Development & Regeneration replied that this was the only case where this had been raised specifically adding that viability was a consideration of all projects.
- 17.3 Councillor Druitt noted that 64% of aggregate and building material used in the UK was imported from the EU and asked what the likely impact would be on the price of those materials in the event the UK left the EU without a deal.
- 17.4 The Assistant Director, City Development & Regeneration stated that this was an acknowledged risk.

## 18 ITEMS REFERRED FOR FULL COUNCIL

- 18.1 Item 8- Madeira Terrace Restoration- Petition Response and Next Steps was referred to the next meeting of Full Council for information.



The meeting concluded at 6.40pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of