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BRECKLAND COUNCIL

At a Meeting of the

CABINET

Held on Monday, 22 March 2021 at 9.30 am
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

This meeting is in line with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels
(Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings)
(England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

PRESENT

Cllr Sam Chapman-Allen
(Chairman)
Cllr Paul Claussen (Vice-
Chairman)
Cllr Gordon Bambridge
Cllr Paul Hewett

Cllr Mark Robinson
Cllr Ian Sherwood
Cllr Sarah Suggitt
Cllr Alison Webb

Also Present

Cllr Roger Atterwill
Cllr Timothy Birt
Cllr Bill Borrett
Cllr Hilary Bushell
Cllr Marion Chapman-Allen
Cllr Helen Crane

Cllr Terry Jermy
Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris
Cllr Keith Martin
Cllr Philip Morton
Cllr David Wickerson
Cllr Peter Wilkinson

In Attendance

Jason Cole
Andrew D'Arcy
Maxine O'Mahony

Ryan Pack
Rory Ringer
Rob Walker
Simon Wood
Julie Britton
Teresa Smith

- Executive Manager People & Innovation
- Planning Policy Manager
- Executive Director of Strategy & Governance
(Monitoring Officer)
- Innovation and Change Business Partner
- Democratic Services Manager
- Executive Director Place
- Director of Planning & Building Control
- Democratic Services Officer
- Democratic Services Team Leader

Action By

30/21 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

The restricted minutes from the meetings held on 4 January and 1 February 2021 were also confirmed.

Action By

31/21 APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Councillor Cowen.

32/21 URGENT BUSINESS

None.

33/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nothing declared.

34/21 NON-MEMBERS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE MEETING

The Chairman welcomed all non-members present to the meeting.

35/21 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)

Ahead of the National Day of Reflection tomorrow (23 March 2021) the Chairman paid tribute to all those that had lost their lives through the Coronavirus pandemic. He thanked all the NHS workers, Armed Forces personnel, Council Staff and the hundreds of volunteers that had all helped during the pandemic. At 12noon on the 23 March, a minute's silence would take place to pay respects across the country.

He felt that the biggest lesson learnt had been that by pulling together the country can overcome anything.

36/21 BRECKLAND COMMUNITY FUNDING APPLICATIONS (STANDING ITEM)

The Executive Member for Community, Leisure & Culture informed Members that there were no community funding applications to report at this time. However, the Government had announced further support for businesses and communities in the recent budget announcement, and the Team were looking at how this could further benefit the businesses support the District.

37/21 Q3 PERFORMANCE UPDATE

The Executive Member for Governance presented the Quarter 3 performance report which had been delivered in a new format following feedback from Members.

The Customer Contact Centre had previously struggled to achieve the key performance indicators, however, due to better performance management, a new telephone appointment system, and an automated call back system, matters had improved significantly.

The waste service indicator showed that 99.95% bins had been collected. Whilst the report highlighted a rise in staff sickness, this was being monitored by HR.

Members were informed that the Key Performance Indicators would be reviewed at a Overview and Scrutiny Commission meeting in April, this would allow Members to raise any areas of concern.

Members noted the contents of the report.

Action By

38/21 LOCAL PLAN PRODUCTION BUDGET

The Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Planning presented the report that sought approval to carry forward an underspend due to the current Local Plan being on hold.

Members were reminded that in June 2020 it was agreed to undertake a full review of the Local Plan. However, since that decision had been taken, consultation was underway from the Government's White Paper which had led to uncertainty and therefore the Local Plan Review was on hold. Further clarity had been sought from MHCLG where it was hoped more information would be available late April. As soon as further information had been ascertained it would be reported to Members.

Councillor Atterwill asked if there were further costings available for the external reports that would be required to inform the Local Plan. Members heard that as it was not clear what was fully required to be incorporated in the Local Plan, the costings were not known. However the detail would be provided as soon as further information was known.

Councillor Atterwill went on to ask that if the Local Plan was not reviewed by a certain date then some Local Plan policies could be affected and would hold less weight within the planning process. He asked if Members could be advised as to which policies could be affected so that Members could be prepared.

The Executive Member for Planning confirmed that as soon as further clarity had been provided by MHCLG an update would be provided to Members.

Reasons for Recommendation

The Preparation of a Local Plan is a statutory requirement. Plans must be underpinned by an appropriate evidence base, much of which is required at an early stage of the preparation process in order to inform future decisions over development strategies and allocations.

Options

- 1) To agree to the recommendation. This would allow the Council to commence critical work on the review of the Local Plan.
- 2) Not to agree to the carry over of the budget. (Do Nothing). This would mean that some of the evidence required for the review of the Local Plan would not be completed and would result in work on the new Plan being delayed until the required evidence base was resourced and completed.

RESOLVED that the underspend of £73,670 in the forward planning for the local plan production (154 0000 000 4410) from 2020/21 be carried over into the same budget for 2021/22, be approved.

39/21 NEXT MEETING

The arrangements for the next meeting on 4 May 2021 were noted.

Action By

The meeting closed at 9.48 am

CHAIRMAN