

GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2016

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GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2016

Present:

Councillor C Smith(Chair)
Councillor J Windle (Vice-Chair)
Councillor S Boyle
" A Powell Councillor R Smith

Also Present

Robert Rowan – Derbyshire County Council's Digital Derbyshire Programme Manager (Min No 348)
Alison Westray- Chapman – Assistant Director Economic Growth (Min Nos 349 & 351)
Alan Marsden – Project Officer Transportation Projects Derbyshire County Council (Min No 349)
Graham Hill – Principal Engineer Derbyshire County Council (Min No 349)
Dan Swaine – Chief Executive (Min No 350)
Grant Galloway – Assistant Director Property and Estates (Min No 350)
Matt Scarborough – Derbyshire County Council (Min No 350)
Kath Drury – Information Engagement and Performance Manager (Min No 347)
Sue Veerman – Overview and Scrutiny Manager
Sarah Cottam – Governance Officer

341 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Cupit and B Rice.

342 Declarations of Interest

Members were requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

There were no interests declared at this meeting.

343 Minutes of Last Meeting

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee held on 6 October 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

344 Change of Order of Agenda Items

The Chair, with the consent of the Members of the Committee agreed to change the order of the Agenda as set out within the Minutes.

345 List of Key Decisions – Issue No 54

The Committee considered Issue No 54 of the List of Key Decisions which set out the major decisions being taken over the next few months. The Chair of the Committee requested information on the adoption of Coney Green Balancing Pond at Clay Cross and Chesterfield and District Crematorium Delivery Options. It was also requested that the Key Decision List states clearly whether the decision would either result in savings or expenditure.

RESOLVED – That the List of Key Decisions Issue No 54 be noted and the queries raised would be actioned by the Governance Team. (Governance)

346 Work Programme

The Committee considered its Work Programme for 2016-2017 which set out the items which the Committee would consider over the forthcoming year. The Overview and Scrutiny Manager advised the Committee that the work programme was a reminder for the Committee to show what was scheduled for upcoming meetings.

RESOLVED – That the Growth Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for 2016/17 be noted.

347 Growth Performance Indicators

The Committee received an update on the Growth Performance Indicators from Kath Drury, Information and Engagement and Performance Manager.

A summary of the progress against the Corporate Plan Priorities for 2016/17 (April to September 2016) as outlined in the half year position summary. Members of the Committee raised various queries upon the performance indicators and it was advised that the Information, Engagement and Performance Manager would contact the relevant officer to provide the detail to the Committee.

The Chair on behalf of the Committee thanked the Information Engagement and Performance Manager for attending the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Growth Scrutiny Committee notes the update on the Growth Performance Indicators. (Information, Engagement and Performance Manager)

348 Digital Derbyshire

The Committee considered a presentation on the progress of the Digital Derbyshire Programme and Robert Rowan from Derbyshire County Council attended the meeting to update Members and answer questions.

The Committee considered a video presentation explaining what Digital Derbyshire was and were advised of the upgrade fibre services in rural/semi urban areas and the complex infrastructure projects taking place.

The Committee were advised that Phase 1 of the project was on track in Derbyshire and was nearly complete. 425-429 cabinets had been enabled and were now live. Fibre broadband was available to over 94,000 premises in Derbyshire with over 545 miles of fibre cable already been laid.

Phase 2 of the project had only just started and it was advised that more funding would be available shortly from central government. The aim was to extend coverage to 98% of Derbyshire premises and deployment of this started in September 2016 and would run until the end of 2018.

On completion of Phase 2, Phase 3 of the project would commence and this would look at the underspend monies from Phase 1 and decide where best to spend this. £2.41m would be available to Derbyshire County Council and public consultation was undertaken in August 2016 through digital.derbyshire.org.uk/get-involved.

Over North East Derbyshire District, 50 out of 50 cabinets were live with 13,300 premises enabled with fibre services through the Digital Derbyshire Programme. There had been a 36% take up of fibre services in Derbyshire in October 2016 which was an increase from the 10.77% in April 2015. The Committee noted that there had been a low take up of fibre services in Holmewood.

The Committee were also advised of the Better Broadband Subsidiary Scheme (BBSS) which was a voucher scheme put in place as an interim solution for households receiving less than 2 megabytes per second of internet. The voucher would provide the household with a wireless or satellite provision as an interim solution until fibre services were enabled.

To date, out of the hundreds of enquiries regarding the BBSS scheme, only two households had redeemed the voucher.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee thanked Robert Rowan from Derbyshire County Council's Digital Derbyshire Programme for attending the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Growth Scrutiny Committee notes the presentation on the Progress of the Digital Derbyshire Programme.

349 Scrutiny Review – A61 Corridor

The Committee discussed and considered a scene setting exercise on the Scrutiny Review into the A61 corridor. Alison Westray-Chapman, Assistant Director Economic Growth along with Alan Marsden and Graham Hill from Derbyshire County Council were in attendance to answer any questions.

The A61 corridor was a collaborative project with Derbyshire County Council (DCC) funded through the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). Alan Marsden, Project Officer at DCC looked at how to make best use of funding for economic improvement. Funding was currently being used to look at a package of measures to deal with the consequences as a result of major economic growth developments on the corridor. A bid for funding had been submitted to D2N2 in 2014 and £12.8m was allocated to the project, subject to a business case being approved. Mouchel Consultants were asked to hold the project stakeholder meetings which took place last year.

A strategy being put together for the A61 was not yet finalised and a report was due to go to Derbyshire County Council's Cabinet before Christmas to agree the strategy as it is, but to review it where necessary to consider the HS2 implications.

The Committee were advised that Derbyshire County Council would be meeting with Network Rail regarding upgrading the access to the Callywhite Lane Site at Dronfield. A feasibility study had been agreed by NEDDC's Cabinet for Callywhite Lane and a project plan would be submitted to the LEP for funding. The Committee were advised that unlocking the land at Callywhite Lane would add value and give plenty of scope for economic development within the site.

The Committee suggested that DCC give a presentation to full Council on the progress of the A61 Corridor work.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee thanked the Assistant Director Economic Growth and the two officers from Derbyshire County Council for attending the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Growth Scrutiny Committee note the scene setting presentation on the A61 Corridor.

350 One Public Estate Initiative

The Growth Scrutiny Committee considered a presentation on the One Public Estate Initiative. Dan Swaine, Chief Executive Officer, Grant Galloway, Assistant Director – Property and Estates and Matt Scarborough from Derbyshire County Council were in attendance to update members and answer any questions. The One Public Estate Initiative (OPE) for Derbyshire was a pioneering initiative funded by the Cabinet Office and the Government Property Unit (GPU) and was delivered in partnership with the Local Government Association (LGA). Dan Swaine was the Chair of the Derbyshire OPE Board.

One Public Estate supported the public sector to use its combined assets to deliver integrated services, resulting in people focussed services and innovative working practices for staff. The Committee were advised that the One Public Estate Initiative for this part of the country was the North Midlands Area (Coalition of the Willing) across Derbyshire and Derby City and Nottinghamshire and Nottingham

City). A £500,000 funding pot was available in tranches to the North Midlands Area and would help to rationalise buildings in that area.

The four main objectives of the One Public Estate were:-

- Create economic growth – to enable release of land and property to be used to stimulate economic growth and regeneration eg housing and jobs;
- Deliver more integrated and customer focussed services – co-location, service efficiencies and work towards a more customer focussed service delivery;
- Generate capital receipts – to release land and property to generate capital receipts;
- Reduce running costs to reduce the running costs of central and local government assets;

The Committee were advised that Derbyshire County Council was the lead authority for the North Midlands One Public Estate Programme in partnership with other public sectors which were:-

- Strategic Land and Assets Board;
- Derbyshire Steering Group;
- The Nottinghamshire/Nottingham City Group;
- The Derbyshire OPE Programme Manager.

The Committee considered examples of where the One Public Estate had been successful. For example the Bullwell Joint Service Centre in Nottingham had been a five year project and the centre had now been open for three years. It had approximately 10,000 people through the door each year. In this building, which was jointly owned by the Nottinghamshire County Council and the NHS, there was:-

- Nottingham City Council – Safeguarding, Childrens' services, Youth Services, Multi Agency Teams, Library;
- NHS – Health Provision;
- Clinical Commissioning Groups/GPs/Dental Practice;
- Cafe;
- ASK Here – service;
- Administration;
- Police – Safer Neighbourhood Team/Child Protection.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee thanked the Chief Executive, the Assistant Director – Property and Estates and Matt Scarborough from Derbyshire County Council for attending the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Growth Scrutiny Committee notes the presentation on the One Public Estate Initiative.

Councillor A Powell left the meeting at this point.

351 Update on Coalite

The Committee considered an update on the progress of the Coalite Site. Alison Westray-Chapman, Assistant Director Economic Growth was in attendance to update members.

Coalite works operated between 1937 and 2004 manufacturing smokeless coal and other chemical bi-products. The site was acquired by Bolsover Land Limited (BLL) in November 2012. Bolsover Land was a joint venture between reclamation specialists St Francis Group and Private Propco Marcol Industrial. Bolsover District Council granted permission for commercial development in December of 2015 with NEDDC following shortly to grant permission for residential and community uses in October 2016. The Coalite Site work undertaken had been a really collaborative piece of work between North East Derbyshire District Council, Bolsover District Council, the Derbyshire County Council and Chesterfield Borough Council. It was advised that North East Derbyshire owned the least contaminated part of the site with Bolsover owning the most contaminated part of the site. The Committee were advised that a £6m funding grant had been given by D2N2 for the remediation of the site and the shortfall of £2m was paid by Derbyshire County Council.

The Assistant Director-Economic Growth outlined the future for the Coalite site:-

- HS2 in terms of the commercial outputs resulted in loss from the west route and only one small unit in Phase C4 would be lost in the event the east route proceeds;
- BLL would be looking to redesign the scheme in order to mitigate the overall loss of employment space by potentially building upon those areas of the site currently designed for open storage;
- Neither route has any impact on the most heavily contaminated parts of the site and therefore the remediation of these could proceed unhindered which was clearly the main priority of the various stakeholders;
- Accelerate and delivery of the 21 hectare housing site in North East Derbyshire with the potential to deliver up to 660 mixed tenure dwellings together with a school and other public amenities;
- Developer commitment to remain on site to develop out the site post 31 March 2017;
- Commitment to work with the Community, Local Authorities and Environment Agencies during the remediation process;
- Reduce economic and social deprivation in one of the country's most deprived districts and clean up the last remaining coalfield legacy site in the area.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee thanked the Assistant Director Economic Growth for attending the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Growth Scrutiny Committee notes the update on the progress of the Coalite Site.

352 Additional Urgent Items

There were no additional urgent items to be considered at this meeting.

353 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee will take place on Thursday 26 January 2017 at 2.00 pm.