

Minutes of the Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT AND SAFE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE held on 19 October 2021

PRESENT -

Councillor Neil Dallen (Chair); Councillor John Beckett (Vice-Chair); Councillors Steve Bridger, Liz Frost, Chris Frost, Rob Geleit, Christine Howells, Steven McCormick and Humphrey Reynolds

Absent: Councillor Lucie McIntyre, Councillor Julie Morris and Councillor Barry Nash

Officers present: Clare Lawrence (Director of Environment, Housing & Regeneration), Rod Brown (Head of Housing and Community), John Cheston (Planning Policy Manager), Sue Emmons (Senior Accountant), Susie Legg (Policy Planner), Oliver Nelson (Public Protection Manager), Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Manager) and Stephanie Gray (Democratic Services Officer)

7 QUESTION TIME

No questions were asked or had been submitted by members of the public.

8 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration was made by a Councillor in relation to an item on the Agenda:

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Steven McCormick, Other Interest: In the interests of openness and transparency, Councillor Steven McCormick declared that he is a member of the Woodcote Epsom Residents Society, Epsom and Ewell Tree Advisory Board and Chairman of the Surrey Tree Warden Network and Sustainable Epsom Group.

9 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Environment and Safe Communities Committee held on 1 June 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the

Chair subject to the addition of the following text to the decision with regard to Minute 4 (Climate Change Action Plan Year 2 Update):

(3) Bring back the Climate Change Action Plan to the next meeting of the Environment and Safe Communities Committee.

10 RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON DRAFT LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 4

A report was received by the Committee, providing a suggested response to Surrey County Council's consultation on the fourth Surrey Transport Plan (LTP4). LTP4 sets out an ambitious roadmap to deliver carbon reduction targets as set out in Surrey's Climate Change Strategy for the transport sector, whilst seeking to support the county's communities and help the economy to thrive. Responses to the consultation must be submitted by the deadline of 24 October 2021. The draft plan appears to be in accordance with the national and local policy direction and the Council's Climate Change ambitions in principle. The draft plan should be supported but will have significant implications for the future of planning for Place and transport across the Borough.

The Committee considered the following matters:

- a) **Clarification of paragraph 4.1 of the report.** Following a question from a member of the Committee, the Vice-Chair informed the meeting that Surrey County Council would undertake the bulk of preparation for any business case relating to its Transport Plan. Requests for the use of Borough Council CIL funds to be used as top-up funding would be considered by the County Council's Local Committee prior to consideration by the relevant Borough Council Committee.
- b) **Clarification of paragraph 6.2 of the report.** Following a question from a member of the Committee, the Director of Environment Housing and Regeneration informed the Committee that the Council would work together with the County Council to make sure that there was a fully funded infrastructure plan to support the Local Plan.
- c) **Amendment to order of responses to question 33 of consultation.** The Committee considered that the order of responses for question 33 of the consultation should be amended, to switch the positions of response 3 ("Local centres provide a wide range of services and can be easily accessed at low cost on foot or by bike") to 2, and the position of response 2 ("The services are available to all") to 3.
- d) **Covering letter.** The Committee considered that a covering letter should accompany the Council's response to the consultation, amplifying the responses set out in the questionnaire. The Committee also considered that the letter should detail its concern that the Plan was 'anti-car' rather than 'anti pollution', and a recommendation that the Committee should be consulted on the Delivery Plan for the Local Transport Plan prior to its approval.

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved:

- (1) To consider and approve the suggested consultation response set out in Appendix 1 for submission by the deadline of 24 October 2021.
- (2) To engage with Surrey County Council on the content of the LTP4 Delivery Plan.
- (3) That a comprehensive covering letter be drafted in consultation with the Chair of the Environment and Safe Communities Committee to accompany the response, amplifying the responses as set out in the questionnaire.

11 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY CROSS-PARTY MEMBER WORKING GROUP

The Committee received a report recommending the establishment of a cross-party Member Working Group to oversee the implementation of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan.

The Committee considered the following matters:

- a) **Correction to paragraph 2.5 of the report.** The Chair informed the Committee of a correction to paragraph 2.5 of the report to read "minority parties" rather than "minority groups".

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:

- (1) Approve the terms of reference for the Working Group as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, subject to the following amendment to the wording of point 4 of the Role of Group contained within the Terms of Reference:

"To monitor and review actions to the Council to deliver the climate change priorities set out in the Annual Plan **2022-23**."
- (2) Agree to the appointment of members to the Working Group and a Chair as set out in paragraph 2.5 of the report.

Councillor Steven McCormick requested that the Minutes for this item record his concern that the Annual Plan had superseded the Climate Change Action Plan.

12 ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTI-IDLING ENFORCEMENT POWERS

A report was received by the Committee adopting the Environment and Safe Communities Committee's recommendation of 26 January 2021, and sought

approval for the implementation of anti-idling legislation aimed at reducing vehicle emissions and improving clean air.

Following consideration, the Committee resolved to:

- (1) approve the implementation and enforcement of provisions relating to anti idling set out in the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002 (“2002 Regulations”);
- (2) delegate authority to the Head of Housing and Community to:
 - i. develop, produce and keep updated policies and procedures for the introduction, service and management of enforcement powers under the 2002 Regulations;
 - ii. authorise and train relevant officers, or any other person, to stop the commission of stationary idling offences and issue fixed penalty notices (“FPNs”) under Pt 6 and Pt 7 of the 2002 Regulations.
 - iii. where appropriate seek relevant permission from Surrey County Council for the erection of signage for enforcement of the 2002 Regulations
 - iv. launch a public education campaign on the 2002 Regulations in January 2022
 - v. report progress to Environment and Safe Communities Committee in March 2022

13 EXTENSION OF PSPO: DRINKING IN A PUBLIC PLACE

A report was brought to the Committee, seeking authority to renew a Public Spaces Protection Order relating to alcohol.

Following consideration the Committee resolved by a majority vote in favour to:

- (1) Approve the Draft Public Spaces Protection Order(s) in Appendix 2 or modify those Order(s) to cover such areas and related restrictions as the Committee considers proportionate to the statutory purpose found in ss59 to 75 Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 (“2014 Act”);
- (2) Delegate authority to The Head of Housing and Community to make those Order(s) in accordance with the statutory process set out in the 2014 Act.

14 CONSULTATION RESPONSE ON THE SURREY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

The Committee received a report outlining the Council’s response to the Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner’s consultation on the Surrey Police and Crime Plan.

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:

- (1) Agree the response to the Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner's consultation on the Surrey Police and Crime Plan as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

15 BUILDING CONTROL CHARGEABLE ACCOUNTS

The Committee received a report summarising the Building Control chargeable account for 2020/21.

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:

- (1) receive the review of the Building Control chargeable account following the end of the 2020/21 financial year as provided within the report.

16 BUDGET TARGETS 2022/23

The Committee received a report informing it of the Council's revenue budget targets and which sought guidance on the preparation of the Committee's service estimates for 2022/23.

Following consideration, the Committee, by majority vote, resolved to:

- (1) Note the implications of the budget targets presented to Strategy & Resources Committee on 21 September 2021.
- (2) Note the changes to services and savings identified in section 3 of this report and that these are included within the budget presented to this Committee in January 2022.
- (3) Note that any additional new growth items supported by this Committee will need to be fully funded from existing budgets.

The meeting began at 7.30 pm and ended at 9.02 pm

COUNCILLOR NEIL DALLEN (CHAIR)

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