

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee

held on Tuesday, 20th March, 2018 at R1 & R2 - Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor H Davenport (Chairman)
Councillor T Dean (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors C Browne, S Hogben, N Mannion, M Parsons, B Roberts, G M Walton and M J Weatherill

In attendance

Councillor D Stockton

B Flanagan – Head of Rural & Cultural Economy
R Kemp - Commissioning Manager – Waste and Environmental Services
P Reeves – Flood Risk Manager

31 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Hardy

32 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2018.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

33 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no whipping declarations.

34 WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

There were no whipping declarations.

35 PUBLIC SPEAKING/OPEN SESSION

Sue Helliwell attended the meeting to speak in respect of minute 38. She suggested that risk assessment should be undertaken when developments are proposed in a flood plain area.

Ms Unswood attended the meeting to speak in respect of minute 37. She highlighted that any policies would also need align with neighbourhood plans and requested that officers contract her regarding the Congleton Neighbourhood Plan.

36 FOOD WASTE RECYCLING & COMPOSTING PLANT

The Corporate Manager Commissioning for Waste and Environmental Services attended the meeting to give a presentation on the proposed Food Waste Recycling and Composting Plant. The presentation detailed:

- The current provision and problem
- Proposals for change
- Site location
- progress so far

Members commented on the importance of the scheme being coordinated with any future highway infrastructure improvements, it was agreed any comments or observations should be fed back to officers.

It was noted that the frequency of bin collections would be assessed in the future, however there were no current plans to make any changes.

RESOLVED

That any comments or observations be fed back to officers.

37 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

The Committee received a report on how the Council intended to develop and deliver a Green Infrastructure (GI) plan for the Borough as part of its policy development on the environment, which provided a strategic overview, mapping out the opportunities to gain the green infrastructure benefits related to connectivity, life changes, environment and economy.

It was agreed that the plan would guide and support all organisations in Cheshire East and not just the Council, it would also focus on the areas where the most value could be added. Members agreed that green spaces in town centres required attention and the possibility of Town and Parish Councils taking on more responsibility be considered.

RESOLVED

The possibility of Town and Parish Councils taking on more responsibility for the green spaces in town centres be considered.

38 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2018

Consideration was given to a presentation on the Flood Risk Management annual report. The presentation detailed:

- The background
- Sir Michael Pitt Review 2007

- Flood and Water Management Act 2010 – Principal Duties
- Flood Risk Milestones 2017/18
- PFRA update 2017
- Strategy Approval and Adoption by CEC Nov 2017
- Flood Investigation Duties
- Poynton Floods 2016
- Strategic Development Control and Enforcement Actions
- Statutory Planning
- Drainage Improvements 2017/18
- Drainage Improvements 2018/19
- Regulations
- Next Steps 2018/19

It was noted that the team were now doing more community work and engaging with the public. Members commented that planning permission for housing should not be granted in flood plains and flood risk areas were not always in expected locations.

RESOLVED

That the annual update be received.

39 **FORWARD PLAN**

Consideration was given to the areas of the forward plan which fell within the remit of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That the forward plan be received.

40 **WORK PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to the work programme. It was agreed that an update on the bus routes review should be added to the work programme.

RESOLVED

That an update on the bus routes review be added to the work programme.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 4.00 pm

Councillor H Davenport (Chairman)