

Minutes of the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee held at the Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford on Thursday 24 August 2023

Chairman - Councillor F Beatty

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:	
J A Barron	J S Powell
B M Cross	J P Read
P W Jones	D P Rouxel
L Nixon	J Thorley
M Phillips	

Also present:-

Councillor A F Reid, Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Councilor A T A Godfrey, Leader Councillor J Hood, Community Portfolio Councillor R Kenney, Deputy Leader Councillor J M Pert

Officers in attendance:-

D Piper	-	Head of Economic Development and Planning
J Holmes	-	Development Manager
M Smith	-	Economic Growth and Strategic Projects Manager
J Peat	-	Democratic and Corporate Services Manager

EDP7 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2023, as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record.

EDP8 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A R McNaughton (substituted by J Thorley) Councillor D M McNaughton (substituted by Councillor L Nixon) and Councillor P C Edgeller (substituted by Councillor P W Jones)

EDP9 Presentation on the Development Management Update

The committee received a joint presentation by the Head of Economic Development and Planning and the Development Manager, providing an update on performance and actions being taken to improve the service. The Head of Economic Development and Planning thanked members, applicants and agents for their patience and apologised for the delays that have been faced over the last couple of years but assured the committee that progress was now being made.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the content of the presentation and recovery plan be noted.

EDP10 Economic Growth Development and Regeneration Project Updates

Considered a report updating Members on progress across a number of key developments and regeneration projects within the Borough.

The Economic Growth and Strategic Projects Manager led Members through the report detailing the following items and addressing any specific questions raised, as appropriate:-

- Future High Streets Fund
- Stafford Market Square renovation
- Station approach
- Meecebrook garden community
- Westbridge Park, Stone
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund
- Rural England Prosperity Fund

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the report be noted.

EDP11 Quarter 1 Performance Report for 2023-24

Considered a report advising Members on the progress in delivering the Council's Corporate Business Objective 1 at the end of quarter 1 for 2023-24.

The Head of Economic Development and Planning led Members through the report providing an explanation to any questions raised.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the progress made during quarter 1 2023-24 in the delivery of Corporate Business Objective 1 and the performance of related operational services as set out in the report be noted.

EDP12 Work Programme - Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Governance, which presented (V1 10/07/2023), the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the forthcoming meetings up to March 2024.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the Work Programme be approved, subject to the conditions made at the meeting.

CHAIR