

Minutes of the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee held at the Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford on Tuesday 4 July 2023

Chairman - Councillor F Beatty

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

Councillors:	
J A Barron	A M Loughran
B M Cross	M Phillips
P C Edgeller	J P Read
A D Hobbs	S N Spencer

Also present:- Councillor A F Reid, Economic Development and Planning Portfolio

Officers in attendance:-

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

EDP1 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2023, as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record.

EDP2 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A R McNaughton (substituted by Councillor A D Hobbs), D M McNaughton (substituted by Councillor A M Loughran), J S Powell and D P Rouxel (substituted by Councillor S N Spencer).

EDP3 Work Programme - Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee

Considered a report presenting the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee's work programme, and received an associated presentation by the Head of Economic Development and Planning detailing the remit of the Committee and promoting Member involvement in setting a programme of work for Committee to consider during the municipal year. Councillor Beatty encouraged Members to play an active role in suggesting topics for consideration, some of which could be examined in detail through the Task and Finish Review process.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the content of the presentation and the work programme be noted, subject to inclusion of the items as agreed for consideration during the 2023/24 municipal year.

EDP4 Economic Growth and Development and Regeneration Project Updates

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

EDP5 Quarter 4 and End of Year Performance Report for 2022-23

Considered a report advising Members on the progress in delivering the Council's Corporate Business Objective 1 at the end of quarter 4 and the year-end position for 2022-23.

The Head of Economic Development and Planning led Members through the associated appendices of the report providing an explanation to the 3 deliverables showing as work behind schedule.

Members then voted on the recommendation as set out, which was declared to be carried.

The Cabinet Member, Economic Development and Planning Portfolio undertook to discuss the delivery of affordable housing with the relevant Officers. RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the progress made during 2022-23 in the delivery of Corporate Business Objective 1 and the performance of related operational services as set out in appendices 1 and 2 of the report be noted.

EDP6 Business Planning Report

Considered a report reviewing the programme of business considered by the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee in 2022/23 with a view to the report being submitted to the Council.

Members then voted on the recommendation as set out, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the report be approved as its Annual Report to the Council.

CHAIR