

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

13 December 2022 AT 6.30 pm

PRESENT: CLLR DT GLENVILLE - MAYOR
CLLR SM GIBBENS – DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr RG Allen, Cllr DC Bill MBE, Cllr CW Boothby, Cllr SL Bray, Cllr MB Cartwright, Cllr MA Cook, Cllr DS Cope, Cllr MJ Crooks, Cllr WJ Crooks, Cllr REH Flemming, Cllr A Furlong, Cllr L Hodgkins, Cllr E Hollick, Cllr C Ladkin, Cllr MR Lay, Cllr KWP Lynch, Cllr K Morrell, Cllr LJ Mullaney, Cllr MT Mullaney, Cllr K Nichols, Cllr LJP O'Shea, Cllr A Pendlebury, Cllr RB Roberts, Cllr MC Sheppard-Bools, Cllr BR Walker, Cllr R Webber-Jones, Cllr HG Williams and Cllr P Williams

Officers in attendance: Bill Cullen, Malcolm Evans, Julie Kenny, Rebecca Owen, Kirstie Rea, Sharon Stacey and Ashley Wilson

224. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors C Allen, Collett and Findlay.

225. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

It was moved by Councillor Bray, seconded by Councillor W Crooks and

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November be confirmed as a correct record.

226. **Declarations of interest**

No interests were declared.

227. **Mayor's Communications**

The Mayor informed Council of recent events attended.

228. **Questions**

(a) Question from Councillor R Allen to the Leader

“Will the Leader please provide an update on works to remedy the flooding issues at the Ashby Road Cemetery?”

Response from the Executive member for Streetscene Services:

“The new drainage was installed in the cemetery extension by the contractor in October 2021.

An additional gully was installed in autumn 2022 adjacent to the hardstanding to capture surface water from the road way during heavy rain.

Additional sand slitting is currently underway between the existing graves and this should be complete by the end of December 2022.

Officers will continue to monitor the cemetery extension for surface water issues and if necessary consider further works. At present all the drainage is currently working well and dealt with the very increased rainfall of the last month as expected.”

(b) Question from Councillor R Allen to the Executive member for Planning

“Can the Executive member for Planning please provide an update on the status of plans to redevelop the former leisure centre site please?”

Response from the Executive member for Planning:

“I thank Councillor Allen for his question.

I am pleased to confirm that progress on the former leisure centre site at Trinity Vicarage Road has been made.

To implement the planning consent the developers, Green 4 Developments Ltd, started commencement of works on the site back in October this year. These construction works took place on the Marchant Road side of the site and consisted of highway works. Due to the method of construction they are intending to use for the properties they are currently testing the materials on another site which should be complete in April 2023. The permission granted is for the erection of 66 apartments within two apartment blocks together with the erection of seven houses together with access, open space and associated infrastructure.”

229. **Leader of the Council's Position Statement**

In his position statement, the Leader referred to cost of living support, the UKSPF, Christmas events, external audit, electric vehicle charging, the closure of HSBC bank branches and the free tree scheme, thanking staff and sponsors.

230. **Minutes of the Scrutiny Commission**

The chair of the Scrutiny Commission presented the minutes of the last meeting.

231. **Local Development Scheme 2020 to 2025**

Members gave consideration to extension of the local plan period from 2039 to 2041 and to a revised Local Development Scheme for production of the local plan.

Councillor Ladkin left the meeting at 7.15pm.

Concern was expressed in relation to smaller villages that had already exceeded their housing delivery quota, the outdated way in which local government boundaries were configured and the number of neighbourhood development plans made in the borough.

The Executive member agreed to respond to questions raised at the next Planning Policy Working Group.

Councillor Sheppard-Bools entered the meeting at 7.23pm.

It was moved by Councillor Bill, seconded by Councillor Bray and

RESOLVED –

- (i) The requirements for a review of the existing Local Development Scheme be noted;
- (ii) The extension of the local plan period from 2039 to 2041 be approved;
- (iii) The revised Local Development Scheme 2020 to 2025 be approved;
- (iv) Authority be delegated to the Director (Community & Development Services) in consultation with the Executive member for Planning to make any further necessary amendments to the Local Development Scheme.

232. **Acquisition and Development Strategy**

Council received the proposed new strategy for acquiring assets and developing land as part of the council's delivery of its services to stimulate and support regeneration and economic growth and to increase the supply of new affordable homes. During discussion, reference was made to the surplus of offices with the increase in home working and the caution required in relation to investing in retail assets at the current time.

It was moved by Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Bray and unanimously

RESOLVED –

- (i) The Acquisition and Development Strategy be approved;
- (ii) Provision be made in the capital programme for the sum of £15m to facilitate borrowing through the public works loan board on a case by case basis as business cases are approved;

- (iii) Authority be delegated to the Director (Corporate & Streetscene Services) to make conditional offers for the purchase of land and/or property which meets the criteria in the Acquisition and Development Strategy. Such offers would be conditional subject to formal member approval in accordance with the council's constitution.

233. **Scheme of Members' Allowances 2022/23 and 2023/24**

The recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel on Members' Allowances was presented to Council. It was noted that the panel had reviewed the scheme of allowances for 2023/24 and the application of the 2022/23 pay award as required by the scheme. Attention was drawn to an amendment in the supplementary agenda.

Whilst grateful to the panel for its review, Councillor Bray, seconded by Councillor Bill, proposed that the recommended 3.3% increase linked to the national pay award be rejected, stating that it was not an appropriate time for members to accept an increase given the cost of living crisis which was having an impact on residents. He supported the recommendation of no change to the scheme for 2023/24 and the amendment to paragraphs 5.2 and 6.6 of the scheme to take account of future pay awards, should a fixed sum be agreed.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was CARRIED and it was unanimously

RESOLVED –

- (i) An increase equivalent to the officer pay award for 2022/23 be rejected;
- (ii) No amendment to the scheme be made for 2023/24;
- (iii) Paragraph 5.2 of the scheme of allowances be amended to read:

“The basic allowances shall be increased annually in line with officer pay awards unless a resolution of Council determines otherwise. Where the pay award is a fixed sum, it will be calculated on the percentage equivalent of the value of the pay award on the average salary of all heads of service and senior management”.
- (iv) Paragraph 6.6 of the scheme of allowances be amended to read:

“The special responsibility allowances shall be increased annually in line with officer pay awards unless a resolution of Council determines otherwise. Where the pay award is a fixed sum, it will be calculated on the percentage equivalent of the value of the pay award on the average salary of all heads of service and senior management”.

234. **Motions received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17**

It was noted that the motion of Councillor R Allen had been withdrawn.

(The Meeting closed at 7.50 pm)

MAYOR