South Northamptonshire Council

Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester, Northants NN12 6AD on Wednesday 21 October 2015 at 6.00 pm.

Present
Councillor Roger W.A.S. Clarke (Chairman)
Councillor Caryl Billingham (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Ann Addison
Councillor Robert G. Atkinson
Councillor Anthony S. Bagot-Webb
Councillor Fiona Baker
Councillor Dermot Bambridge
Councillor Phil Bignell
Councillor John Budden J.P.
Councillor Carole Clarke
Councillor Stephen Clarke
Councillor Simon Clifford
Councillor Karen Cooper
Councillor Richard Dallyn
Councillor Hywel Davies
Councillor Valerie Furniss
Councillor David Harries
Councillor Steven Hollowell
Councillor Martin Johns
Councillor Chris Lofts
Councillor Dennis Loveland
Councillor Charles Manners
Councillor Simon Marinker
Councillor Ian McCord
Councillor Stephen Mold
Councillor Ian Morris
Councillor Alice Kim Ord
Councillor Peter Rawlinson
Councillor Adil Sadygov
Councillor Mary-Anne Sergison-Brooke
Councillor Sandi Smallman
Councillor Catharine Tarbun
Councillor John Townsend
Councillor Allen Walker
Councillor Elaine Wiltshire

Apologies for Absence:
Councillor Sandra Barnes MBE
Councillor Judith Baxter
Councillor Lissy Bowen
Councillor Rebecca Breese
Councillor Peter Davies
Councillor Rosie Herring
Councillor Lisa Samiotis

Officers:  
Sue Smith, Chief Executive  
Calvin Bell, Director of Development  
Ian Davies, Director of Community and Environment  
Martin Henry, Director of Resources / Section 151 Officer  
Kevin Lane, Head of Law and Governance / Monitoring Officer  
Adrian Colwell, Head of Strategic Planning and the Economy (for agenda item 10)  
Michael Warren, Principal Planning Officer (for agenda item 10)  
Natasha Clark, Team Leader, Democratic and Elections

40 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

41 Minutes of Council

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22 July 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

42 Chairman’s Announcements

The Chairman made the following announcements:

**Former Councillor Paul Titchener**

The Chairman referred to the recent sad passing of former Councillor Paul Titchener on Thursday 10 September, who had represented Brackley South ward from 2011 to 2015.

Council extended their condolences to former Councillor Titchener’s family.

**Former Councillor John Kilmister**

The Chairman advised Council that he had written a get well letter on behalf of the council to former Councillor John Kilmister.

**Recording of meetings**

The Chairman advised that members of the public were permitted to film, broadcast and report on the meeting, subject to the efficient running of the meeting not being affected.

**Chairman’s Engagements**

The Chairman advised Council that a list of engagements that he, or the Vice-Chairman, had attended since the last meeting of Council was published as a supplement to the agenda.
Chairman’s Carol Service
The Chairman advised Members that the Chairman’s Carol Service would take place at 4.30pm on Sunday 6 December in the Council Chamber at The Forum.

Personal Announcement
The Chairman advised Members that he had recently been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and whilst he was using a stick, he was generally in good health.

Member Post
The Chairman reminded Members to collect any post from their pigeon holes after the meeting.

Public Participation
There was no public participation.

Written Questions
There were no written questions.

Motions
There were no motions.

Announcements by the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive
There were no announcements by the Leader of the Council or the Chief Executive.

Questions to the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive
There having been no announcements by the Leader of the Council or the Chief Executive, there were no questions to the Leader or the Chief Executive.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - Consideration Of The Adoption Of A CIL Charging Schedule For South Northamptonshire

The Head of Strategic Planning and the Economy submitted a report to update the Council in respect of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), following receipt of the Examiner’s Report on the Examination in Public (EiP) of the Council’s proposed CIL Charging Schedule.

South Northamptonshire Council had not yet determined whether or not it would be adopting the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy, and this was a decision that the Council now needed to make, following receipt of the Examiner’s Report.
In the absence of the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Environment, the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Regeneration and Housing presented the report.

In response to Members’ comments regarding the potential impact of delaying the implementation date to 1 April 2016, the Leader of the Council explained Cabinet had debated this and taken into consideration officer advice, 1 April 2016 was a realistic and achievable implementation date. One of the reasons for this proposed implementation date was to allow for adequate publicity and forms and guidance to be updated. It would be clear on planning application forms that applicants needed to complete a CIL form as it would be part of the planning application.

In response to Members’ questions, the Head of Strategic Planning and the Economy advised Council that primary schools and GP surgeries would continue to be funded with S106 monies.

Regarding whether the provision of public car parking should be included in the CIL Regulation 123 List, the Head of Strategic Planning and the Economy explained that the Reg 123 List was a list of projects the Council intended would be wholly or fully funded by CIL. Once a CIL was in place, items on the Reg 123 List could no longer be sought via planning obligations (S.106). The Reg 123 List would be reviewed at least annually, as part of monitoring of CIL collection and spend. However, the Council could review the Reg 123 List at any time, although any changes must be justified and subject to local consultation for 4 weeks.

Council thanked the Planning Policy Team and the Principal Planning Officer for their hard work and regular briefings to Members on CIL.

Resolved

(1) That having considered the report, and the recommendations made by Cabinet, at their Meeting on 12 October 2015, the Council adopts the CIL Charging Schedule (as amended by the Examiner), in accordance with Regulation 25 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended). (the CIL Regulations).

(2) That the South Northamptonshire CIL Charging Schedule (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved to take effect from 1 April 2016.

(3) That the proposed amendments to the draft Regulation 123 List be accepted, and that the CIL Regulation 123 list (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.

(4) That the Instalment Policy (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.

(5) That the Interpretative Note to the CIL Charging Schedule (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book) be approved.
(6) That it be agreed that exceptional circumstances relief not be applied in South Northamptonshire. However, if Council were to decide that the Council should offer exceptional circumstances relief, this should be in accordance with the Guidance Note (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute Book).

(7) That CIL be reported on and reviewed annually.

(8) That sufficient additional resource be made available for the implementation of CIL so as not to impact on the development management team.

49 Transformation Governance

The Chief Executive submitted a report which requested Council to discontinue the Joint Arrangements Steering Group and amend the membership of the Joint Commissioning Committee on the recommendation of the Joint Commissioning Committee. The report made recommendations to ensure governance arrangements remained effective and transparent

Resolved

(1) That the Joint Arrangements Steering Group (JASG) be discontinued and that the Head of Transformation be delegated to update HR policies and procedures as necessary.

(2) That the membership of the Joint Commissioning Committee be increased from 4 to 6 members from each council and that the frequency of meetings be increased to bi-monthly diarised meetings to ensure effective Member oversight of the transformation programme.

(3) That, in accordance with the revised proportionality calculation, it be noted that the Conservative Group Leader has advised that Councillor Alice Ord is removed from the Licensing Committee.

(4) That, in accordance with the revised proportionality calculation, Councillors Phil Bignell and Roger Clarke be appointed to the Joint Commissioning Committee.

(5) That, in accordance with the revised proportionality calculation, the Liberal Democrat Group is required to give two seats to the Independent Group.

(6) That authority be delegated to the Head of Law and Governance to confirm the amendments to the membership of Committees in accordance with the revised proportionality requirements detailed in resolution (5) above on the direction of the Liberal Democrat Group Leader and Independent Group Spokesman.
Review of Community Grants - Proposed Changes to the Officer Scheme of Delegation

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report which sought the agreement of Council, on the recommendation of Cabinet, to proposed revisions to the current scheme of delegation to the Head of Finance and Procurement as set out in the council’s Constitution.

Resolved

(1) That an amendment to the officer scheme of delegation to enable the Head of Finance and Procurement to determine applications for the council’s Community Development and New Homes Bonus Grants (excluding those in respect of which other Heads of Service have specific delegated authority) in accordance with the objectives of the relevant grant policy up to a value of £20,000 subject (in the case of grants exceeding £1,000) to consultation with the Community Funding Panel be agreed.

(2) That authority be delegated to the Head of Law and Governance to amend the Constitution to reflect resolution (1).

Urgent Business (previously agreed with the Chairman)

There were no items of urgent business.

Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved

That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that, if the public and press were present, it would be likely that exempt information falling under the provisions of Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 3 and 5 would be disclosed to them, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Notification of Urgent Action - Disposal of Victoria House

The Director of Development submitted an exempt report which notified Council Members of urgent action he had taken in relation to the disposal of Victoria House.

Resolved

(1) That the urgent action taken by the Director of Development be noted.
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The meeting closed at 6.30 pm

Chairman:

Date: