

# Economic Development Committee

## Minutes

Monday, 17 July 2017 at 18:30

Councillor B Coleman (in the Chair); Councillors Grant, K Grey, Hammond, Hanton, Jeal, Thirtle, Wainwright, Walch and Walker.

Councillor A Grey attended as substitute for Councillor Stenhouse

Councillor Bensly attended as substitute for Councillor Reynolds

Also in attendance :-

Mr D Glason (Director of Development), Mrs M Burdett (Project and Programme Manager) and Mrs S Wintle (Member Services Officer).

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Reynolds, Pratt and Stenhouse.

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest declared at the meeting.

### **3 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 June 2017 were confirmed.

### **4 FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee received and noted the contents within the Forward Plan.

The Chairman reported that the Town Centre Events Update item had been deferred from the Committee meeting due to the need for further investigation work.

The Chairman requested an additional item 'Ice Rink' be added to the Forward Plan to be considered at the September meeting of the Committee.

Resolved :

(1) The addition of an item entitled 'ice rink' be added to the Committee's Forward Plan to be considered at it's meeting in September.

(2) That the Committee note the contents within the Forward Plan.

### **5 GREAT YARMOUTH SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT PRIORITIES**

The Committee received and considered the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services, Norfolk County Council report which set out progress on the development and delivery of Sustainable Transport schemes for Great Yarmouth funded from the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (NALEP) Growth Fund.

The Development Director reported that following a meeting of the Great Yarmouth Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group that afternoon, Members had agreed to endorse the first 2 years of the Sustainable Transport Priorities.

The Chairman commented that there was a need to ensure that there was a significant link between the Sustainable Transport Priorities Scheme and the Town Centre Masterplan. This was confirmed by the Director of Development.

A Member asked whether the £2.89m funding in respect of the Sustainable Transport Schemes had been allocated and secured, and it was advised that this funding had been secured.

A Member stated their disappointment that there had been no inclusion of Roman Place, Great Yarmouth within the Public realm scheme.

A Member asked when the projects would commence, the Development Director advised that he would raise this matter with Norfolk County Council and it was agreed that further details would be brought back to the next Committee meeting.

A Member raised concern in relation to improvements to cycle provisions, as it was felt that the provisions already offered were not used correctly.

RESOLVED :

That the Committee endorse the first 2 years of the Sustainable Transport Priorities set out in the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services report.

## **6 SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES IN GREAT YARMOUTH**

The Committee considered the Economic Development Officer's report which asked Members to note the availability of grants and support for Great Yarmouth businesses and the work of the Economic Development Unit to assist this.

The Development Director reported that the report detailed the local take up of New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (NALEP) administered grants and outlined how the Economic Development Unit (EDU) works to support businesses to access financial assistance.

A Member commented that he had recently attended a meeting of the Economic Reference Group where the matter of small Business Grants had been discussed and concern had been raised in relation to the lack of grant take up in Great Yarmouth when it was pointed out that there were a vast number of small businesses within the town. Members agreed that there needed to be more awareness raised of the grants that are available for businesses in Great Yarmouth. It was suggested that information in respect of grants available be sent at the time businesses receive paperwork in relation to Business Rates from the Borough Council.

The Development Director reported that Glenn Moore of (NALEP) would be giving a presentation to the Great Yarmouth Tourism and Business Improvement Area to promote the scheme. A Member asked if Hemsby Business Owner's could be invited to attend the presentation to raise awareness of what schemes were available, it was suggested that the GYBID Board hold a general meeting for all bid payers to attend.

It was suggested that information in respect of Small Business Grants be sent to all Members to raise awareness of grants available.

Resolved :

That the Committee note the availability of grants and support for Great

Yarmouth businesses and the work of the Economic Development Unit to assist this.

## **7 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2016/17 FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Committee received and considered the Director of Development's report which asked Members to note the Economic Development element of the Annual performance Report for 2016/17 which had been approved by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on the 13 June 2017.

Concern was raised in relation to performance measure ED10 - Number of new homes built in that applications were being granted, however developers were not developing once permission had been granted.

Resolved :

That the Committee note the Economic Development element of the annual performance report for 2016/17.

The meeting ended at: 19:10