

Council

A meeting of Council was held on Wednesday, 25th April, 2018.

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Cllr Eileen Johnson) Cllr Helen Atkinson, Cllr Sonia Bailey, Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Louise Baldock, Cllr Chris Barlow, Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Derrick Brown, Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Robert Cook, Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Lynn Hall, Cllr Elsi Hampton, Cllr Tony Hampton, Cllr David Harrington, Cllr Di Hewitt, Cllr Stefan Houghton, Cllr Barbara Inman, Cllr Mohammed Javed, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Mick Moore, Cllr Mrs Kathryn Nelson, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Ross Patterson, Cllr Maurice Perry, Cllr Lauriane Povey, Cllr Stephen Richardson, Cllr Paul Rowling, Cllr Michael Smith, Cllr Andrew Stephenson, Cllr Norma Stephenson O.B.E, Cllr Mick Stoker, Cllr Marilyn Surtees, Cllr Laura Tunney, Cllr Matthew Vickers, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Sally Ann Watson, Cllr Paul Weston, Cllr Julia Whitehill, Cllr David Wilburn, Cllr Norma Wilburn, Cllr Bill Woodhead MBE and Cllr Barry Woodhouse.

Officers: Neil Schneider (CE), Julie Danks, Peter Bell (DCE), Julie Butcher (HR, L&C), Garry Cummings (F&BS), Richard McGuckin (E,G&D), Jamie McCann (CS), Ann Workman (AH); Reuben Kench (CL&E).

Also in attendance: Members of the Public.

Apologies: Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Chris Clough, Cllr Gillian Corr, Cllr Ian Dalgarno, Cllr Phil Dennis, Cllr Lisa Grainge and Tracey Stott.

1 Welcome, Evacuation and Recording of the Meeting

The Worshipful the Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and the evacuation procedure was noted. It was also noted that the Governance Officer would be making an audio recording of the meeting to assist in the drafting of minutes of the meeting.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 8 March, 14 March and 4 April 2018 were signed by the Worshipful the Mayor as a correct record.

4 Former Councillor Lawrence Wild OBE JP

Members stood in a minute's silence as a mark of respect for former Councillor Lawrence Wild OBE JP.

5 Presentation National Highways & Transport Network Survey Award

A Presentation was made for the National Highways & Transport Network Survey Award.

The Worshipful the Mayor and the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport – Councillor Mike Smith presented Andy Corcoran and Simon Milner from Economic Growth & Development Services and Andie Mackey and Rob Burrell from Community Services who were all instrumental in winning the award.

6 Public Question Time

The Chief Solicitor informed Members that no Public Questions had been received.

7 Stockton-On-Tees Borough Local Plan

Consideration was given to a report on the work undertaken in respect of submission of the publication draft version of the Local Plan - supporting documents and evidence base and sought approval for delegation for amendments to the draft plan both prior to, during and after Examination in Public to enable the next stage of progress towards adoption.

In June 2016, Cabinet agreed to the production of a new Stockton on Tees Local Plan (STLP) and supporting documents to replace the existing policy documents and supersede the previous approach of the production of the Regeneration and Environment Local Plan.

Members were reminded that consideration was given to the Regulation 18 Consultation version of the draft STLP and supporting documents in November 2016. Followed by a report to Cabinet seeking approval for consult on the Publication Draft Local Plan in September 2017.

Following approval to consult on the Publication Draft Local Plan, a six week consultation was undertaken. Drop in sessions for the public, stakeholders and Members were held across the Borough with a total of 411 representations made from 116 individuals. All of the representations and summary of responses were set out within the Consultation Statement which was available on the Council's website.

Following consideration of representations and completion of accompanying evidence base and supporting documentation, the Publication Draft Local Plan and all supporting documents was submitted for examination to the Secretary of State on 21st December 2017.

Matthew Birkenshaw had been appointed as Planning Inspector for the Examination in Public (EiP) with the date of 5th June 2018 set as the opening day of what was expected to be a three week EiP.

In the lead up to EiP, the Planning Inspector would identify specific matters where he required more clarity or greater explanation and which could require officers to reflect on the proposed policy wording or policy principle resulting in a proposed amendment, variation, modification, revision, withdrawal or revocations to the Local Plan which the Planning Inspector would then consider at the EiP. Furthermore the Inspector could also recommend amendments, variations, modifications, revisions, withdrawals or revocations for inclusion.

It was possible that the outcome of the various matters scrutinised at the EiP would be the need for modifications to the plan in order that the plan meets the tests of soundness within the National Planning Policy Framework. At this stage, any modifications will be at the recommendation of the Planning Inspector and would therefore be crucial to the plan being found to be sound by

the Planning Inspector.

A period of public consultation may be required for modifications that emerge from the EiP before they were incorporated into what would be the Publication Draft Local Plan including main modifications which would then be presented to Cabinet and ultimately Council for formal adoption.

During the consultation period, briefing sessions would be held for members to ensure any queries around modifications to the plan could be fully explained and that Members had opportunity to formally comment on modifications before it was presented to Council for adoption. It was expected that the plan would be in position where it was presented to Council for adoption in Autumn 2018.

At its meeting held on 15 March 2018 Cabinet had RESOLVED that:-

1. Approval of amendments, variations, modifications, revisions, withdrawals or revocations to the Publication Draft Local Plan recommended by the Inspector appointed to examine the local plan in advance of Examination in Public be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.
2. Approval of amendments, variations, modifications, revisions, withdrawals or revocations to the Publication Draft Local Plan recommended by the Inspector appointed to examine the local plan following Examination in Public be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development in consultation with Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.
3. Approval of amendments, variations, modifications, revisions, withdrawals or revocations to the Publication Draft Local Plan that are recommended by the Inspector appointed to examine the local plan during the Examination in Public be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development and such other officers as he may nominate.

RESOLVED that:-

4. The request that in the event that further modifications are required to the Local Plan in accordance with section 20(7B) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 be endorsed to ensure the plan satisfies the requirements in section 20(5)(a) of the 2004 Act and is a sound document, that the Inspector appointed to carry out the examination of the Stockton on Tees Local Plan, be requested to recommend modifications of the document, in accordance with section 20(7C) of the 2004 Act and that the determination of the modifications to be requested to be made be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development and such other officers as he may authorise.
5. Approval to consult, where necessary, on the main modifications recommended by the Inspector appointed to examine the Local Plan or additional modifications to the Publication Draft Local Plan following Examination in Public and before adoption of the Local Plan be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development in consultation with Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.

8 Members' Question Time

The Chief Solicitor informed Members that no Member Questions had been received.

9 Forward Plan and Leader's Statement

The Leader of the Council gave his Forward Plan and Leader's Statement.

Since the last meeting of Ordinary Council, Cabinet had met twice on the 15th March and 19 April and considered reports on:

- Scrutiny Review of Security at Preston Park
- Tackling Inequality
- Care Quality Commission – Inspection of Registered Services
- Victoria Site: Update on the Revised Scheme Redevelopment Proposal
- Local Plan Update
- Scrutiny Review of Disabled Parking (Task and Finish)
- Community Assets Update
- Economic Climate Report

And,

- Littering Fixed Penalty Notice Tariff

Cabinet would next meet on 24th May and potentially receive reports on:

- Better Care Fund
- Corporate Parenting
- JTAI (Joint Targeted Area Inspection) Action Plan
- Planning for the Future - Managing Transition Phase 2
- Tees Valley Combined Authority Update
- Housing Strategy and Homelessness Prevention Strategy
- Licensing Act 2003 - Consultation Requirements

and

- Community Participation Budget

After that the Leader of the Council looked forward to seeing Members at the next meeting of Council on the 6th June.