

Place Select Committee

A meeting of Place Select Committee was held on Monday, 9th May, 2016.

Present: Cllr Sonia Bailey(In the Chair), Cllr Chris Barlow, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr Maurice Perry, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Bill Woodhead, Cllr Stephen Parry(Vice Cllr Derrick Brown).

Officers: Simon Milner, Jane Salisbury(EGDS) Graham Birtle and Kirsty Wannop(DCE)

Also in attendance: None

Apologies: Cllr Derrick Brown, Cllr Rachael Proud,

1 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Evaline Cunningham declared a personal non prejudicial interest in agenda item 5 - Scrutiny Review of Flooding Resilience as her husband was the shadow minister for flooding.

2 Minutes for Signature - 8th February 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2016 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3 Draft Minutes - 7th March 2016

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2016.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

4 Scrutiny Review of Flooding Resilience

The Committee considered the draft scope and project plan for the Scrutiny Review of Flood Resilience.

Members received the following information:-

- Following the summer flooding of 2007 and the Pitt Review in 2008, the Flood and Water Management Act was introduced in 2010. The Act provided new statutory duties and powers to risk management authorities; local authorities, the Environment Agency and water and sewerage undertakers. Local Authorities became Lead Local Flood Authority's and as such Stockton Council had a statutory duty for managing local flood risk.
- In April 2015, The Flood risk team became a statutory consultee for planning applications which had required 2 members of staff full time
- Details of schemes that had taken place or were in the process of being completed were provided.

The Committee was provided with copies of the Flood Risk Management Strategy and Tees Valley Authorities Local Standards for Sustainable Drainage documents.

Members were given opportunity to make comment and/or ask questions which could be summarised as follows:-

- What impact had being a statutory consultee on planning applications had? It

had allowed officers to have input at early stages to request the right information..

- Grass cutting not only by public but the Council, where the cuttings were not collected caused issues when rain was forecast in the Borough; it could sometimes causing surface water flooding due to the cuttings blocking gullies.
- How do we ensure private land owner maintain their water ways correctly? The Council had very limited powers but can only intervene where there is flood risks to properties.

The Committee were informed that the Environment Agency would attend a future meeting to give a presentation on their role. Northumbrian Water had also been asked but a response had yet to be received.

AGREED that:

1. The draft Scope and Project Plan be approved.
2. The information be noted.

5 Work Programme

Members were informed that at its next meeting it would consider an update on the North Shore Hotel.

6 Chair's Update

The Chair had nothing to update.