



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN CLERK Glenna Frost, The Town Hall, Clarence Road,
Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 1LD
Telephone: 01243 867744
E-mail: bognortc@bognorregis.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 2nd JULY 2018

PRESENT:

Cllr. M. Stanley (Vice-Chairman); Cllrs: J. Brooks,
J. Cosgrove, Mrs. S. Daniells, S. Goodheart,
S. Reynolds, Mrs. J. Warr and P. Woodall

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. G. Frost (Town Clerk)
Mrs. S. Norman (Deputy Clerk)
2 Councillor in the public gallery
2 members of the public (part of meeting)

The Meeting opened at 5.32pm

35. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr. Stanley took the Chair for the meeting and furthermore, Members **AGREED** that Cllr. Reynolds would act as Vice-Chairman for this meeting. The Chairman welcomed everyone present and read the Council's opening statement. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Cunard who was on annual leave.

36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and/or Ordinary interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda

- a) The item they have an interest in
- b) Whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary or Ordinary interest
- c) The nature of the interest
- d) If it is an Ordinary interest whether they intend to leave the room for the discussion and vote
- e) If it is a Disclosable Pecuniary interest, and therefore must leave the room for the discussion and vote, whether they will be exercising their right to speak on this matter under Public Question Time

They then need to re-declare their interest and the nature of the interest at the commencement of the item or when the interest becomes apparent. They should request that it be recorded in the Minutes that they will leave the meeting and will neither take part in discussion, nor vote on the item.

In accordance with good practice, individual forms were available to those Councillors present in order that they could personally record their interests - both Disclosable Pecuniary and Ordinary. These forms should be returned to the Committee Clerk at the end of the meeting to enable all declarations of interest to be accurately recorded in the Minutes. Members were reminded that it is their responsibility to notify the Monitoring Officer of all Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, not already recorded on their Register of Interests Form, within 28 days.

The Chairman reminded Members to declare their interests as any arise or again at the relative point in the meeting if they have already.

Cllr. Goodheart declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda item 4 due to his involvement with 4BR

Cllrs. Brooks, Mrs. Daniells, Reynolds and Stanley declared Ordinary Interests as Members of Arun District Council

Cllr. Stanley declared an Ordinary Interest as a Member of ADC's Bognor Regis Regeneration Sub-Committee

37. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

38. TO RECEIVE THE NOTES FROM THE REGENERATION CONSULTATION WORKING GROUP MEETINGS HELD ON THE 8th AND 18th JUNE 2018 AND FURTHERMORE, DISCUSS AND DETERMINE THE WORKING GROUP'S RECOMMENDATION AS FOLLOWS:

"THAT THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROACH ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL TO SEE IF THERE IS ANY INTEREST IN THEM MEETING WITH DEVELOPERS, WHO HAVE A REALISTIC PROSPECT OF CARRYING SCHEMES THROUGH, AND SEEING WHAT COMMON GROUND CAN BE FOUND, WITH THE TOWN COUNCIL PLEASED TO HELP IN ANY WAY IT CAN. FURTHERMORE, IF THE FORMER PROPOSAL RESULTS IN ANY REGENERATION ACTION, THAT SUITABLE PUBLIC CONSULTATION BE UNDERTAKEN."

Firstly, Members received the Notes of the Working Group Meetings held on 8th and 18th June 2018. Cllr. Stanley reported that he had unfortunately not been able to attend these meetings and had therefore sent his apologies. It was noted that only two Members had attended the most recent meeting, from which the published Resolution below had emanated:

"That the Town Council approach Arun District Council to see if there is any interest in them meeting with developers, who have a realistic prospect of carrying schemes through, and seeing what common ground can be found, with the Town Council pleased to help in any way it can.

Furthermore, if the former proposal results in any regeneration action, that suitable public consultation be undertaken."

Members went on to receive a report presented by Cllr. Cosgrove, including a proposed amended Resolution, dated 29th June 2018, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix 1**.

Cllr. Brooks declared an Ordinary Interest in any discussion around the submissions made to ADC in 2015 as he had been a contributor to ADC's exercise at that time

Members debated the amendment to the Resolution fully with the following comments made:

- ADC's consultation had not been thorough enough
- Concern over the definition of "realistic project" and whether, in fact, any scheme is realistic if more support is shown by ADC and WSCC
- No flats on the sites could be an option
- Noted that at the previous Extraordinary Policy and Resources Committee the remit of the exercise had been expanded to include both regeneration sites and not just the Hothampton site
- Concern that some of the suggested questions in Cllr. Cosgrove's report may well stop some of the original submissions coming back into the exercise
- Suggestion was made that ADC have been informed that their Winter Gardens proposal has been rejected by Coast to Capital LEP as it is not considered as regeneration and clarity on this issue is needed
- If ADC reject working with other developers, this will lead to further degeneration of the Town

Cllr. Cosgrove proposed that the following amendment to the original Resolution be moved and this was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Warr.

- i. Line 4 - deletion of ". . with the Town Council pleased to help in any way it can"
- ii. Line 4/5 - deletion of ". . if the former proposal results in any regeneration action "
- iii. Line 5 - addition after ". . by the process described in Councillor Cosgrove's note to all Councillors dated 29th June. That the work for this be undertaken by Councillors agreed at this meeting, together with the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk as soon as possible. That the cost be kept to a maximum of £250" after the phrase "Suitable public consultation be undertaken".

Having been proposed and seconded, a vote was taken, and the amendment was **AGREED** by a majority. Cllr. Mrs. Daniells asked that her objection be noted.

Members then proceeded to debate the revised, amended, Resolution as follows :-

"That the Town Council approach Arun District Council to see if there is any interest in them meeting with developers, who have a realistic prospect of carrying schemes through, and seeing what common ground can be found. Furthermore, that suitable public consultation be undertaken by the process described in Councillor Cosgrove's note to all Councillors dated 29th June. That the work for this be undertaken by Councillors agreed at this meeting, together with the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk as soon as possible. That the cost be kept to a maximum of £250."

During the debate the following points were made:

- That the Town Council are misguided to try and overturn this as ADC will not go back on their proposals; they are a long way down the line and have collated many of the suggestions submitted back in 2015
- As well as objectors, other residents have also commented that they are pleased with the proposals for the Linear Park
- That ADC have not consulted adequately, and other ideas need to be brought forward to them
- Is the land in question ADC's land or the Towns people's land?
- The previous consultation was a sham and ADC's current proposals for the Hothamton site are to stop anything else from happening there
- The inclusion of flats on the Hothamton site is to create income for ADC, necessary to plug the gap created by reduced local government funding from central Government; Bognor Regis is paying the price
- By approving this Resolution, residents will be given an opportunity to give their thoughts
- There is no cross subsidy between the sites
- There is a need to give a last gasp attempt to give local people their say and to not do anything would be letting the Town down

Following the debate, Cllr. Cosgrove proceeded to propose the amended Resolution which was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Warr.

Following the vote, the Resolution was **AGREED** by a majority

The Meeting closed at 6.03pm