

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Daedalus Scrutiny Panel (to be confirmed at the next meeting)

**Date:** Wednesday, 20 October 2021

**Venue:** Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

**PRESENT:**

**Councillor** S Dugan (Chairman)

**Councillor** Mrs P Hayre (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:** Mrs S M Bayford, Miss J Bull, M J Ford, JP, J S Forrest and Mrs K Mandry

**Co-Opted  
Members:**

Jonathan Butts

**Also  
Present:** Councillor T M Cartwright, MBE, Executive Member for Health and Public Protection (Item 6)



**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies of absence.

**2. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Daedalus Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Chairman's announcements made at this meeting.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTION**

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

**5. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

**6. FAREHAM INNOVATION CENTRE PRESENTATION**

The Panel received a presentation from Tim Smith, Deputy Managing Director of Oxford Innovation, and Stephen Brownlie, Centre Director of Fareham Innovation Centre. (a copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes)

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor T M Cartwright, addressed the Panel on this item.

Following the presentation, members were given the opportunity to ask questions from Tim and Stephen.

Councillor Forrest acknowledged the close working between the Innovation Centre and CEMAST and enquired as to whether any work with local schools has also been undertaken. Stephen confirmed that the Innovation Centre currently works with 3-4 schools who currently use the Innovation Centre, and informed the Panel that discussions are currently being held with Crofton School.

Councillor Bull enquired as to how the Innovation Centre attracts new businesses. Tim informed the Panel that the Innovation Centre offers licences rather than leases, and these can be up to 12 months. He explained that the licence fee is all inclusive and covers the total occupancy costs.

Jon Butts enquired as to whether the Innovation Centre takes opportunity of the online ability to share positive PR messages. Stephen confirmed that the Innovation Centre uses a PR media company for its publicity as well as their website which they use to share positive news stories.

RESOLVED that Stephen Brownlie and Tim Smith be thanked for their informative presentation.

## **7. DAEDALUS REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Planning and Regeneration on the Daedalus Revenue Budget and Capital Programme, following the request from the Panel for a comprehensive guide to how the Council's investments and services at Daedalus are funded.

The Finance Manager addressed the Panel to give an outline of the report and to confirm that the report does not include future figures or investments. She also confirmed that the Innovation Centre is making a surplus, but this figure has been taken into account prior to any internal costs, or borrowing being applied.

The Chairman enquired as to whether there were any major areas of concern with the site. The Finance Manager explained that the Council now has development areas which are generating income which is positive. She explained that the key to the success of the site is having a good strategy in place to ensure that the site continues to succeed in the future.

Councillor Ford enquired as to tenant debts and how the Council is managing these. The Finance Manager confirmed that the Council is working closely with those tenants who have accrued debts and are having ongoing dialogue with them to ensure that arrangements such as repayment plans are put in place.

Councillor Forrest enquired as to when the Swordfish development will be started and whether the costs of this have been factored into the overall costs of the site. The Director for Planning and Regeneration explained to the Panel that the Daedalus Vision is still in the early stages of delivery, and that the Council needs to focus on bringing the remaining Faraday and Gateway sites on board first. He acknowledged that the Swordfish development will need significant investment, and that a business case on how this is to be funded will be created in the future.

RESOLVED that the Panel note the financial history and current position for the Daedalus Site.

## **8. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS**

The Panel considered the Executive items of business which fall under the remit of the Policy and Resources Portfolio, specifically in relation to Daedalus, including Executive Member decisions and Officer delegated decisions, that have all taken place since the last meeting of the Panel on 7 September 2021.

The Panel considered the decision at item 8(1) of the agenda.

RESOLVED that the Daedalus Scrutiny Panel considered the following items of Business.

**(1) Solent Airport Operator Contract**

No comments received.

**9. SCRUTINY PRIORITIES**

The Director of Planning and Regeneration addressed the Panel on this item and invited members to put forward any suggestions for items that the Panel would like to scrutinise at future meetings.

The Chairman requested an update on plans to continue the operation of the airport in the long term, and also an update on marketing activities across the whole site. The Director of Planning and Regeneration confirmed that these could be added to the priorities for a future meeting of the Panel.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm  
and ended at 7.18 pm).