

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Executive

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 7 December 2021

Venue: Council Chamber - Civic Offices

Present:

S D T Woodward, Policy and Resources (Executive Leader)
T M Cartwright, MBE, Health and Public Protection (Deputy
Executive Leader)
I Bastable, Streetscene
F Birkett, Housing
S D Martin, Planning and Development
Mrs S M Walker, Leisure and Community

Also in attendance:

N J Walker, Chairman of Planning Committee, for item 11(1)



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence given for this meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 01 November 2021 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Executive Leader announcements.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. PETITIONS

There were no petitions submitted at this meeting.

6. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations submitted at this meeting.

7. REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**Streetscene Scrutiny Panel – 18 November 2021****Minute 7 – Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil Fuel Pilot**

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor I J Bastable, Executive Member for Streetscene and Councillor J S Forrest addressed the Panel on this item.

The Panel considered a report by the Head of Streetscene which outlined the results of a feasibility study into potential fuels for use in the Council's Refuse Collection Vehicles and proposed a 12-month trial of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) as an alternative fuel source for the diesel-powered vehicle fleet.

Members enquired whether the use of HVO fuel would cause any long-term impact on the engines of the Refuse Collection Vehicles and were advised that the trials that have been carried out by other users have not shown any evidence of this. Furthermore, discussions with the vehicle manufacturers have confirmed that provided the engine is a minimum standard of Euro 4, there will be no effect on the engines in switching to HVO fuel.

Members commented that given the potential benefits that the scheme will bring, it was surprising that it was not being trialled on the entire Fleet. The Head of Streetscene explained that the transition from garden waste sack collections to wheeled bin collections will provide an ideal opportunity to implement the changes to the garden waste collection vehicles as an initial trial.

Members enquired whether the size of the tank being provided to store the HVO fuel would still be large enough if the trial was extended to the rest of the Fleet. Concern was also raised that if the trial were to be extended to the entire Fleet, the underground tanks that are currently used to store diesel at the Depot would need to be cleaned out and used to store the HVO fuel. As the HVO fuel tank would then be surplus to requirement, it could be considered to have been a waste of money. The Head of Streetscene advised that the size of the tank will be sufficient to store the HVO fuel needed and that the tank is being secured on a rental basis with the cost included in the price per litre for the fuel. In the event that the tank is no longer needed, it can be returned. The Panel commented that it will be important to factor into the scheme any future long-term plans for the depot in order to avoid a large, unnecessary capital expenditure.

The Panel enquired about the source and composition of HVO fuel and the carbon footprint of supplying and transporting it. Members were advised that supply of the fuel comes with certification to confirm that it is derived from sustainable sources. Ongoing reviews will be carried out into the content and sustainability of the oil and the location of the refineries so that global sustainability can be assessed. It was noted that transportation of the HVO fuel would inevitably have an impact on the level of reduction in carbon emissions achieved by the scheme, but that this would be off set against current emissions resulting from the transportation of diesel fuel.

Members commented that at the present time, the proposed HVO trial scheme is a better way forward for larger vehicles in the Fleet to achieve reductions in carbon emissions rather than using electricity which is better suited to smaller vehicles.

RESOLVED that the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel:

- (a) notes the content of the Executive report attached as Appendix 1; and
- (b) agrees that its comments be passed to the Executive for consideration at its meeting on 07 December 2021.

This item was considered at item 10(1) of the agenda.

Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel – 25 November 2021

Minute 6 – Implications of Natural England advice on New Forest Recreational Disturbance

The Panel received a report by the Director of Planning and Regeneration on the Implications of Natural England advice on the New Forest Recreational Disturbance. The report outlined the issues surrounding the impact of increased recreational pressure on the New Forest National Park designated sites following advice from Natural England.

Members discussed the report at length and expressed their concerns over Natural England's interpretation of the research commissioned by a group of local planning authorities to assess the impact of new development on protected sites in the New Forest. The data has subsequently led to the new

advice from Natural England and Members asked if this data had been challenged. The Head of Planning Strategy and Economic Development explained that the Council must have regard to the Natural England advice as a statutory consultee. The pragmatic solution that has been developed by officers to mitigate the impact on the protected sites is an interim solution agreed by Natural England. Officers intend to carry out their own research during the interim period to ensure that the Council's approach continues to offer proportionate mitigation effectively.

Members commented that, although paragraph 17 of the report states that letters have already been sent to both the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), more must be done to lobby Central Government to address the implications the advice from Natural England has on local Planning Authorities such as Fareham. The Panel agreed that this be put forward as a recommendation to the Executive.

RESOLVED that the Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel: -

- (a) notes the contents of the Executive report at Appendix 1 to the reports; and
- (b) requests that the Executive considers an additional recommendation (d) in their report at the meeting on the 07 December 2021, being that this Council continues to lobby Government for responses to the letter sent to them by the Leader, relating to the advice provided by Natural England on this issue.

This item was considered at item 11(1) of the agenda.

Minute 7 – Fareham Borough Solent Waders and Brent Geese Mitigation Solution

The Panel received a report by the Director of Planning and Regeneration on the Fareham Borough Solent Waders and Brent Geese Mitigation Solution. Mitigation measures are required to avoid adverse effects on the Solent Waders and Brent Geese populations at sites which have been allocated for housing and employment in the Fareham Local Plan 2037. The report, which will be considered by the Executive on the 07 December 2021, seeks to brief the Executive on the mitigation solutions for these sites.

RESOLVED that the Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel: -

- (a) notes the contents of the Executive report at Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (b) supports the recommendation as set out in the Executive report at Appendix 1.

This item was considered at item 11(2) of the agenda.

Daedalus Scrutiny Panel – 30 November 2021

Minute 9 - Delivery of Daedalus Vision and Outline Strategy - Environmental Mitigation Proposals

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Planning and Regeneration on the Delivery of Daedalus Vision and Outline Strategy – Environmental Mitigation Proposals, which will be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 7 December 2021.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor T M Cartwright, Executive Member for Health and Public Protection addressed the Panel on this item.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor S D T Woodward, Executive Member for Policy and Resources addressed the Panel on this item.

RESOLVED that the Panel recommends the Executive endorses the recommendations, as set out in page 12 of the agenda, when it considers this item at its meeting on 7 December 2021.

This item was considered at item 14(1) of the agenda.

8. HOUSING

- (1) Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 (LAD2) Funding Scheme for energy efficiency measures to Council homes - Update

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees:

- (a) that the extension for the contract for the works which facilitate the use of LAD2 be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer; and
 - (b) the funding mechanisms to meet the Council's contribution toward the costs of the works.
- (2) Fareham Housing Disposals at 12 Hartlands Road and development of land adjacent to 51 Bellfield

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves the disposal of 12 Hartlands Road;
- (b) delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer for the approach to establish the best route to sale be it via auction or the open market;
- (c) delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, following consultation with the executive Member for Policy and Resources, to accept the best (if open market sale);
- (d) approves the use of the net proceeds to improve existing, or fund further delivery of, greener affordable housing in the Borough;
- (e) approves the funding mechanisms, as outlined in the confidential Appendix A attached to the report, for the delivery of the Bellfield scheme; and

- (f) agrees that the award of contract and the appointment of building contractor for the Bellfield site be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, following consultation with the Executive Member for Housing.

9. LEISURE AND COMMUNITY

- (1) The Falklands 40th Anniversary Proposals

The Executive Leader brought this item forward on the agenda.

RESOLVED that in order to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands Conflict, the Executive approves:

- (a) a public event be organised in Fareham Town Centre, including community activities and a Freedom March by HMS Collingwood;
- (b) an adaptation to the Falklands Arch; and
- (c) officers be authorised to make formal approaches to, and hold discussions on behalf of the Council with, HMS Collingwood, other agencies and VIPs to plan the event.

10. STREETSCENE

- (1) Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) Fuel Pilot

The Executive Leader brought this item forward on the agenda.

Councillor F W Birkett joined the meeting at the beginning of this item.

The comments of the Streetscene Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive approves:

- (a) a 12-month pilot using Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil to fuel the three Refuse Collection vehicles collecting garden waste; and
- (b) that the Head of Streetscene, following consultation with the Executive Member for Streetscene, be authorised to broaden the use of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil to the wider refuse collection vehicle fleet during the trial considering a reasonable balance of emissions savings against potential additional costs.

11. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

- (1) Implications of Natural England advice on New Forest Recreational Disturbance

The comments of the Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item.

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor N J Walker addressed the Executive on this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves the approach to interim mitigation solution as set out in paragraphs 18-30 of the report;
- (b) agrees to the carrying out of works identified in the proposed solution on receipt of appropriate funds received through planning obligations;
- (c) notes that, where appropriate, the Planning Committee will be advised that the Executive has agreed to the carrying out of the works identified in the proposed solution upon receipt of financial contributions; and
- (d) agrees with the recommendation suggested by the Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel to continue to lobby Government for responses to the letter sent to them by the Executive Leader, relating to the advice provided by Natural England on this issue.

(2) Fareham Borough Solent Waders and Brent Geese Mitigation Solution

The comments of the Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive notes the availability of mitigation schemes in support of allocations in the submitted Fareham Local Plan 2037, which is now at examination.

12. POLICY AND RESOURCES

(1) Finance Monitoring Report 2021/22

RESOLVED that the Executive notes the Finance Monitoring Report.

(2) Treasury Management and Capital Monitoring Report 2021/22

RESOLVED that the Executive notes the Treasury Management and Capital Monitoring Report for 2021/22.

(3) Virtual Briefing Meetings

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees that:

- (a) all future Officer/Member briefings and non-formal meetings should be delivered via Microsoft Teams where possible and practical to do so; and
- (b) the Virtual Meetings Protocol, as appended to this report be adopted.

13. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that the public and representatives of the Press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the matters to be dealt with

involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

14. POLICY AND RESOURCES

- (1) Delivery of Daedalus Vision and Outline Strategy - Environmental Mitigation Proposals

The comments of the Daedalus Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item.

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees to the recommendations contained within the exempt report and that a decision was made in relation to this item.

- (2) Option Agreement - Plot DE05/06, Faraday Business Park

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees to delegate authority to the Director of Planning and Regeneration, following consultation with the Executive Member for Policy and Resources, to carry out the decision in this matter.

- (3) Irrecoverable Debts

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees that the debts listed in confidential Appendix A to the report be written off as irrecoverable.

(The meeting started at 5.00 pm
and ended at 5.58 pm).