SWT Community Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 28th October, 2021, 6.15 pm

The John Meikle Room - The Deane House



Members: Libby Lisgo (Chair), Dave Mansell (Vice-Chair), Simon Coles,

Steve Griffiths, John Hunt, Dawn Johnson, Richard Lees, Mark Lithgow, Janet Lloyd, Andy Milne, Andy Pritchard, Vivienne Stock-Williams, Ray Tully and Sarah Wakefield

Agenda

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Community Scrutiny Committee

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Community Scrutiny Committee held on 30th September 2021.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive and note any declarations of disclosable pecuniary or prejudicial or personal interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The personal interests of Councillors and Clerks of Somerset County Council, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes.)

4. Public Participation

The Chair to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public who have submitted any questions or statements, please note, a three minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak

(Pages 7 - 12)

before Councillors debate the issue.

Temporary measures during the Coronavirus pandemic

Due to the temporary legislation (within the Coronavirus Act 2020, which allowed for use of virtual meetings) coming to an end on 6 May 2021, the council's committee meetings will now take place in the office buildings at the John Meikle Room, Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton. Unfortunately due to capacity requirements the Chamber at West Somerset House is not able to be used at this current moment.

Following the Government guidance on measures to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), the council meeting rooms will have very limited capacity. With this in mind, we will be encouraging those members of the public who have registered to speak to attend the meetings in person at the office buildings, if they wish. (We will still be offering to those members of the public that are not comfortable in attending, for their statements to be read out by a member of the Governance team). Please can we urge all members of the public who are only interested in listening to the debate to view our live webcasts from the safety of their own home to help prevent the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

5. Community Scrutiny Request/Recommendation Trackers

(Pages 13 - 14)

To update the Community Scrutiny Committee on the progress of resolutions and recommendations from previous meetings of the Committee.

6. Community Scrutiny Forward Plan

(Pages 15 - 16)

To receive items and review the Forward Plan.

7. Executive and Full Council Forward Plans

(Pages 17 - 20)

To review the Forward Plans of the Executive and Full Council.

8. Review of Voluntary and Community Sector Grants

(Pages 21 - 40)

This matter is the responsibility of the Chair of the Working Group and Executive Councillor for Community, Cllr Chris Booth.

This report is pertaining to the results of the Member's Working Group regarding the Annual Review for Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Grants and makes a future spending proposal.

9. Access to Information - Exclusion of the Press and Public

During discussion of the following items (Item 10, Appendix 3 and 6 and 7) it may be necessary to pass the following resolution to exclude the press and public having reflected on Article 13 13.02(e) (a presumption in favour of openness) of the Constitution. This decision may be required because consideration of this matter in public may disclose information falling within one of the descriptions of exempt information in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The Community Scrutiny Committee will need to decide whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Community Scrutiny Committee to resolve:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the next items of business (Item 10, Appendix 3 and 6 and 7 only) on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 respectively of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

North Taunton Woolaway Project - Authorisation to make a Compulsory Purchase Order in relation to the North Taunton Woolaway Project

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Member Francesca Smith.

The Report has two purposes:

- To reinforce the Council's willingness to progress a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to achieve vacant possession of the North Taunton Woolaway Project (the Project) development area to achieve the successful regeneration of North Taunton. The Council throughout the CPO process enthusiastically attempt to purchase by mutual consent wherever possible.
- To request permission from the Executive to purchase two privately owned dwellings in the North Taunton Woolaway Project (the Project), if purchased this will avoid CPO activity in relation to these properties.

(Pages 41 - 116)

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JAMES HASSETT CHIEF EXECUTIVE Please note that this meeting will be recorded. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded and webcast. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during the recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's policy. Therefore unless you are advised otherwise, by entering the Council Chamber and speaking during Public Participation you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of the sound recording for access via the website or for training purposes. If you have any queries regarding this please contact the officer as detailed above.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussions. There is time set aside at the beginning of most meetings to allow the public to ask questions. Speaking under "Public Question Time" is limited to 3 minutes per person in an overall period of 15 minutes. The Committee Administrator will keep a close watch on the time and the Chair will be responsible for ensuring the time permitted does not overrun. The speaker will be allowed to address the Committee once only and will not be allowed to participate further in any debate. Except at meetings of Full Council, where public participation will be restricted to Public Question Time only, if a member of the public wishes to address the Committee on any matter appearing on the agenda, the Chair will normally permit this to occur when that item is reached and before the Councillors begin to debate the item.

If an item on the agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group. These arrangements do not apply to exempt (confidential) items on the agenda where any members of the press or public present will be asked to leave the Committee Room. Full Council, Executive, and Committee agendas, reports and minutes are available on our website: www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

The meeting room, including the Council Chamber at The Deane House are on the first floor and are fully accessible. Lift access to The John Meikle Room, is available from the main ground floor entrance at The Deane House. The Council Chamber at West Somerset House is on the ground floor and is fully accessible via a public entrance door. Toilet facilities, with wheelchair access, are available across both locations. An induction loop operates at both The Deane House and West Somerset House to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. For further information about the meeting, please contact the Governance and Democracy Team via email: governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

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