

GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in Chamber Suites 1 and 2, The Arc, Clowne, on Wednesday 16th December 2015 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:- Councillors T. Alexander, A. Anderson, P. Barnes, J.A. Clifton, M. Dixey, S.W. Fritchley, S. Statter, B. Watson and J. Wilson.

Also in attendance at the meeting was Councillor M.J. Dooley (Portfolio Holder for Corporate Plan, HR and Leisure).

Officers:- C. Millington (Scrutiny Officer) and A. Bluff (Governance Officer).

0637. APOLOGY

An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillor P. Smith.

0638. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

0639. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

0640. MINUTES – 18TH NOVEMBER 2016

Moved by Councillor A. Anderson and seconded by Councillor J. Wilson

RESOLVED that the minutes of a Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 18th November 2015 be approved as a correct record.

0641. LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Members considered the current list of key decisions and items to be considered in private document.

Moved by Councillor M. Dixey and seconded by Councillor S. W. Fritchley

RESOLVED that the List of Key Decisions and Items to be considered in Private document be noted.

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0642. UPDATE ON THE IMPACT OF THE AUTUMN STATEMENT ON THE COUNCIL'S GROWTH STRATEGY

At the last meeting, Members had requested that the Chief Executive Officer, the Assistant Director – Economic Growth and the Executive Director – Operations be invited to attend this meeting to provide an update to Members on the impact of the Government's Autumn Statement in relation to the Council's Growth Strategy. The Scrutiny Officer advised Committee that these officers were unable to attend this meeting; however, Councillor Dooley, Deputy Leader, was in attendance to answer Member's queries.

Councillor Dooley noted that the Government's New Homes Bonus scheme was being reduced from 6 years to 4 years of which the impact to the Council would be approximately £200k per year. She added that the Executive Director - Operations would be providing a full report regarding this to Council in the New Year.

The Chair stated that Committee would still require an update on the impact of the Government's Autumn Statement and that the Assistant Director – Economic Growth and the Executive Director - Operations be requested to attend the next Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting to provide this to Members. The Chief Executive Officer had previously confirmed with the Chair that he would be attending the next Committee meeting in January.

0643. WORK PLAN 2015/2016

The Scrutiny Officer would update the Work Plan to reflect that the Chief Executive Officer would be attending the next Committee meeting in January 2016.

The Chair confirmed that as agreed at the last meeting, he had now written to both the Deputy Leader and the Chief Executive Officer outlining concerns raised by Members regarding non attendance of officers or substitutes at these meetings and also the other points raised by Members.

Councillor Dooley acknowledged Members concerns and would make sure that Committee had the commitment that it needed to carry out their Review work. She added that as a previous chair of a Scrutiny Committee for ten years, a number of reviews had been carried out by Scrutiny, which had saved the Authority thousands of pounds.

A discussion took place regarding joint officer workloads and the impact this had on their presence at both authorities. Members reiterated that officers should send either a substitute or a written report if they were unable to attend meetings.

Councillor Dooley left the meeting at this point.

The Chair wished Members of the Committee a very happy Christmas and New Year.

The formal part of the Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting concluded at 1110 hours and Members then met as a Working Party to continue their review work.

The Working Party concluded at 1125 hours.