

GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne, on Wednesday 21st September 2016 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members: - Councillors T. Alexander, A. Anderson, J. Clifton, S. Statter, B. Watson and J. Wilson.

Officers:- A. Westray-Chapman (Assistant Director Economic Growth) (to Minute No. 299), S. Ghosh (Senior Economic Development Officer) (to Minute No. 299), S. Coleman (Economic Development & Investment Manager) (to Minute No. 299), C. Millington (Scrutiny Officer) and A. Bluff (Governance Officer).

Councillor S.W. Fritchley in the Chair

0292. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors G. Buxton and M. Dixey.

0293. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

0294. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

0295. MINUTES – 27th JULY 2016

Moved by Councillor A. Anderson and seconded by Councillor B. Watson

RESOLVED that the Minutes of a Growth Scrutiny Committee held on 27th July 2016 be approved as a correct record.

0296. SPECIAL MINUTES – 23RD AUGUST 2016

Moved by Councillor S. Statter and seconded by Councillor J. Wilson

RESOLVED that subject to the inclusion of Councillor A. Anderson's apologies, the Minutes of a special Growth Scrutiny Committee held on 23rd August 2016 be approved as a correct record.

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0297. PROGRESS AGAINST THE TARGETS/ACTIONS SET OUT WITHIN THE GROWTH STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTING ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

The Assistant Director Economic Growth advised the meeting that the D2N2, Local Enterprise Partnership, had an under spend of £8m on their capital programme for pipeline projects and with the Council's support, Bolsover Land Ltd had submitted a bid for £6m, which had been approved subject to completion of a business case and the necessary paperwork. Subject to formalities, this would mean that Bolsover Land Ltd could be on the former Coalite site to start the appropriate 'clean up' before the Christmas 2016 period.

This was very positive news for the site and also for the Council to have been involved in providing the support for the application which had resulted in a well defined and credible project.

The Assistant Director Economic Growth praised the Council's Economic Development staff that had put a lot of effort into providing support for the application and also the Council's Environmental Health Team, especially the Pollution Control Officer, whose technical knowledge had been impressive.

The Liaison Group would be reconstituted to work on the advice provided to local residents around the timings for the 'clean up' and what to expect once work commenced.

The next step was to get final approval at the next D2N2 Infrastructure Board which would take place on 27th October 2016.

A Member asked how health impacts would be considered and monitored once works were underway. The Assistant Director – Economic Growth replied that a Health Impact Assessment had been produced for the Coalite site with Public Health partners.

Members stated that this was very good news for the District as well as for local Members and expressed their thanks to staff for their work in providing support for the successful bid.

0298. REGENERATION PLANS – PROGRESS, NEXT STEPS, TIMESCALES

The Assistant Director Economic Growth provided an update to the meeting in relation to progress on Regeneration Plans for the District. The update also provided a slide presentation prepared by the Senior Economic Development Officer.

At its meeting on 2nd March 2015, Executive approved the Joint Economic Development and Housing Strategy, which included commissioning Four Regeneration Frameworks (RF).

The Regeneration Frameworks would form an important part of the evidence base for the emerging Local Plan, informing its place specific policies and proposals.

Due to the linear extent of the District, a North/South split had been suggested;

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- Bolsover North (comprising Clowne and Bolsover)
- Bolsover South (comprising Shirebrook and South Normanton)

Bauman Lyons Architects had been appointed to deliver both contracts for Bolsover North and Bolsover South respectively.

The Regeneration Framework would;

- provide evidence to support funding applications for town centre regeneration,
- be crucial for prioritising future regeneration work by creating a basis for targeted and coordinated public sector intervention to address market failure,
- address key priorities identified in the Joint Economic Development and Housing Strategy and would be the basis for Economic Development work and for aligning the District's priorities to maximise inward investment,
- form an important part of the evidence base for the emerging Local Plan informing its place specific policies and proposals,
- highlight the importance of "place making" in matching the pace and nature of growth within the District, aligned with the receptiveness of citizens and physical characteristics of each discrete part of the District,
- contribute to public / stakeholder awareness raising as a result of active place making proposals and place marketing; the process would eventually lead to improved quality and perception of place,

Several consultation events had taken place, incorporating District wide agencies and individuals, community groups, thematic interest groups, business community etc, in addition to regular meetings with BDC Cabinet and Members. Regular meetings had been held with the Steering Group comprising representation from Planning, Estates, Leisure, Partnerships and Communications teams to ensure added robustness to the emerging proposals. Feedback from the consultation on the Frameworks would provide the evidence for funding bids to D2N2.

The emerging document, 'Sharing Bolsover', looked forward to 2033 and was guided by the principles of place making and the ideas and priorities put forward by the local communities. The shared vision was for a flexible mix of transformational and fine grain projects that would enhance the offer of the four town centres to strengthen their role as service centres. Proposed improvements to the physical connectivity would enable outlying villages to access and benefit from these investments and to contribute to the rise of a vibrant local economy and a shared sense of civic pride.

The timetable was as follows;

- Mid October 2016 - receipt of final draft,
- 25th October 2016 - presentation to Joint SAMT/ Cabinet,
- 26th October 2016 to 9th November 2016 - presentation to Clowne, Bolsover, Shirebrook and South Normanton local Members
- 16th November 2016 - presentation to Growth Scrutiny Committee
- 30th November 2016 - presentation to Council by Irena Bauman, Director,

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Bauman Lyons Architects

When adopted, an Action Plan on projects would identify who would lead on the projects.

Members thanked the Assistant Director Economic Growth and the Senior Economic Development Officer for the update and welcomed the progress being made on the regeneration of the four town centres within the District.

The Assistant Director Economic Growth, the Senior Economic Development Officer and the Economic Development & Investment Manager left the meeting.

0299. GROWTH SCRUTINY WORK PLAN 2016/2017

Members considered the Committee's Work Plan.

It was suggested that Committee receive an update on the breakfast meetings which were held with local businesses and an update on broadband; also that Committee consider the travel plans of the lorries, which would be working at the former Coalite site in relation to the clean up operation.

A Member raised a query as to whether the Committee should be considering the HS2 proposals. The Scrutiny Officer replied that she would forward Members an article from the East Midlands Policy Briefing which related to HS2 through the East Midlands. She also reminded Members that they were due to receive a briefing from representatives of HS2 at the next Council meeting.

Moved by Councillor S. Statter and seconded by Councillor S.W. Fritchley
RESOLVED that (1) the Work Plan be noted,

(2) an update on the breakfast meetings held with local businesses and an update on broadband be provided to a future meeting.

(Scrutiny Officer)

As this was Councillor Fritchley's last meeting as a Growth Scrutiny Member, Committee Members took the opportunity to wish him well in his new position on the Executive.

The meeting concluded at 1050 hours.