

GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, the Arc on Wednesday 30th May, 2018 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor J. Wilson in the Chair

Councillors:- T. Alexander, A. Anderson, K. Reid and D.S. Watson.

Officers:- J. Wilson (Scrutiny and Elections Officer) and A. Bluff (Governance Officer).

The Chair welcomed Councillor Karl Reid to the meeting who was a new Member on the Committee and also the Vice Chair and Councillor Deborah Watson who was also a new Member.

0032. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors G. Buxton, T. Connerton, M. Dixey and S. Statter.

0033. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

0034. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

0035. MINUTES – 2ND MAY 2018

Moved by Councillor A. Anderson and seconded by Councillor T. Alexander

RESOLVED that the Minutes of a Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 2nd May 2018 be approved as a correct record.

0036. LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Moved by Councillor J. Wilson and seconded by Councillor K. Reid

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

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0037. GROWTH STRATEGY UPDATE QUARTER 3 AND QUARTER 4

Committee was advised that the Information Engagement & Performance Manager was unable to attend the meeting.

Moved by Councillor K. Reid and seconded by Councillor A. Anderson

RESOLVED that the report on the Growth Strategy Update for Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

(Scrutiny and Elections Officer)

0038. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2018/19

Committee considered a report which informed Members of the Committee's meeting programme for 2018/19 and planned agenda items.

The Scrutiny and Elections Officer noted that the Committee had not received reports from the High Street Working Group for a while and Members requested that this be followed up with relevant officers. Further, the Committee had not monitored the Economic Development and Housing Strategy which was linked to the Growth Committee, however, there was an element of cross over with the Growth Strategy updates which the Committee was receiving. Members agreed that the Scrutiny and Elections Officer also follow this up with relevant officers to ensure that the Committee was not missing monitoring reports in relation to the Economic Development and Housing Strategy.

A list of topics discussed at the annual Scrutiny Conference held in April 2018 was also attached to the report for further consideration by Members.

Out of the long list of topics presented in Appendix 2 to the report, Members discussed the topics they felt were a higher priority.

Review of Bolsover Castle and Review of Activity to promote Tourism

The Scrutiny and Elections Officer noted that an update report on these two areas may be sufficient at this point in time rather than a full review being undertaken by the Committee as there was currently a lot of activity being undertaken by officers in relation to marketing and promoting tourism in the District.

A Member raised that she was aware that a large hotel was going to be built in Chesterfield Town Centre and it had been previously hoped that one would be built in Bolsover. The Scrutiny and Elections Officer reminded Members that the Communications Manager had advised Committee at the last informal meeting that currently the District was seen as a day destination, however, this was an area where officers were looking to increase the overnight stay and footfall.

Members agreed that an update report be presented to a future meeting of the Committee by relevant officers on the activities being undertaken in relation to marketing and promoting tourism in the District to see if any gaps in delivery could be identified for review.

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In relation to the Council's Growth Strategy, a Member queried if the Strategy was being achieved. Further, apart from Dragonfly, B@Home and GoActive!@theArc, what other activities was the Authority undertaking to enable growth in the District. He requested that the Chief Executive Officer, the Leader, relevant Portfolio Holder and the Strategic Director – Place, also be invited to the next meeting to answer Members' queries in relation to the progress on the Growth Strategy.

Moved by Councillor J. Wilson and seconded by Councillor K. Reid

RESOLVED that (1) the report and the work programme 2018/19 be noted,

(2) relevant officers be invited to a future meeting to provide Members with an update on the High Street Working Group,

(3) relevant officers be invited to a future meeting to provide Members with an update on the Economic Development and Housing Strategy to enable Committee to determine how it interlinked with the Growth Strategy,

(4) the Chief Executive Officer, the Leader, relevant Portfolio Holders and the Strategic Director – Place, be invited to the next meeting to provide Committee with an update on what other activities apart from Dragonfly, B@Home and GoActive!@theArc were being undertaking to enable growth in the District,

(5) a report be presented to a future meeting regarding the activities being undertaken in relation to marketing and promoting tourism in the District to see if there was scope for the Committee to carry out a review,

(Scrutiny and Elections Officer)

The formal meeting concluded at 1030 hours and Members then met as a working party to continue their review work. The working party concluded at 1100 hours.