

## **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 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 1000 hours.

### **PRESENT:-**

Members:-

Councillor J. Wilson in the Chair

Councillors T. Alexander, A. Anderson, P. Barnes, G. Buxton, K. Reid and D.S. Watson.

Officers:- K. Drury (Information Engagement & Performance Manager), J. Wilson (Scrutiny & Elections Officer) and A. Bluff (Governance Officer).

### **0242. APOLOGIES**

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

### **0243. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

### **0244. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

### **0245. MINUTES – 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2018**

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

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of a Growth Scrutiny Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018 be approved as a true record.

### **0246. LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE**

Committee considered the List of Key Decisions and items to be considered in private document.

Members agreed that it would be helpful to them as Scrutiny Members to be able to consider items which appeared on the List of Key Decisions at least three months in advance of the items being considered by the Executive. This would allow Scrutiny

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Members sufficient time to invite relevant Portfolio Holder(s) and lead officers to Committee to inform and advise Members of any areas of concern Scrutiny may have.

Members agreed that a request be put forward that Scrutiny Committee receive the List of Key Decisions at least three months in advance of the items being considered by the Executive.

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

**RESOLVED** that a request be put forward that Scrutiny Committee receive the List of Key Decisions at least three months in advance of the items being considered by the Executive.

(Scrutiny & Elections Officer)

### **0247. CORPORATE PLAN TARGETS PERFORMANCE UPDATE; QUARTER 1 – APRIL TO JUNE 2018**

Committee considered a report which provided performance outturns for the period April 2018 to June 2018 in relation to Corporate Plan Targets under the Committee's remit of 'unlocking our growth potential'.

14 targets sat under the Committee's remit. 3 targets had been previously achieved. 9 targets were on track, 1 target had been achieved in the quarter and 1 had been extended.

With regard to 3 of the performance targets, queries had been raised at the Scrutiny pre meeting by the Chair and Vice Chair and responses to those queries were circulated at the meeting as follows;

#### **G 05 - Through the Bolsover North East Derbyshire LEADER Approach collectively support the creation of 65 sustainable jobs in the combined programme area by December 2020.**

*Members are aware of the current post advertised of LEADER Programme Officer. Is this an additional post or do we have another vacancy within the team? Should there be a delay in recruitment what impact could this have given that the Programme has already faced resource issues?*

Officer response;

The current LEADER Programme Officer has decided to enrol on a full time education course and will leave her post on 28.09.18. The internal vacancy deadline is 03.09.18 and we would interview as soon as practicable should suitable candidates apply, ideally to enable a handover between the current and new Programme Officer.

If unable to recruit internally from BDC/NEDDC/Rykneld Homes then the post would be externally advertised. Should this be the case, the NEDDC Partnership Support Officer will provide increased interim support to the existing LEADER Monitoring & Support Officer on the day to day operations of the LAG/programme to avoid major disruption and ensure separation of duties in line with Rural Payment Agency (RPA) regulations.

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As it stands (23.08.18) the Programme is now significantly oversubscribed and following discussions with the RPA no new applications will be accepted. This will allow greater focus on the projects in the 'pipeline' and reduce the demands on officer time to work with new bids to develop their applications.

The target is to approve and contract the full programme allocation of £1,237,704 by 31.03.19, although the RPA have advised (on 14.08.18) that there may now be some flexibility in extending this deadline, although the aim is to not require this extension.

Measure	Number of projects funded to date	Approved LEADER Grant (£)	Contracted Match Funding (£)	Contracted Jobs created	Businesses supported / created
Increasing Farming Productivity	6	152,874.67	229,452.01	2	6
Micro and small enterprises and farm diversification	5	300,370.72	702,450.75	39.5	5
Rural Tourism	2	30,586.86	21,143.82	1	1
Rural Services	3	116,455.56	17,296.50	1	0
Culture and Heritage Activity	0	0	0	0	0
Increasing Forestry Productivity	2	57,622.30	86,433.46	4	2
	18	657,910.11	1,056,776.54	47.5 (Job Unit cost £13,850.74)	14

In addition to the above, a further 26 applications were currently in various stages of development, pre-appraisal checks and appraisal, which provisionally totalled £1,186,366.62 and collectively would generate 24.65 jobs. Clearly not all bids would progress or be successful with their applications.

### **G07 - Submit Local Plan (Strategic Policies and Site Allocations) for examination by the Planning Inspectorate by November 2017.**

*The comment in the report states that the Plan was to be submitted by the end of July 2018. Members know that this deadline was not met. Has a date been agreed for submission – if so what is it?*

Officer Response;

The following update was placed on the Council's website to explain the delay. The Plan is scheduled for submission by Friday 31st August 2018

- **Local Plan timetable update**

Following on from the Publication Local Plan consultation, the Council decided to carry out some further work that has led to a slight delay in the submission date for the Local Plan.

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The Council will now be submitting the Local Plan in late August 2018. It is now likely that the Examination of the Plan will proceed early in the New Year.

### **G 11 - Through a programme of targeted refurbishment bring 15 empty private sector properties back into use per annum.**

A query was raised in relation to the limited action in Quarter 1. The Information Engagement & Performance Manager responded noting that the Target would be under review at Quarter 2. The Target had seen mixed success during the delivery of the Corporate Plan. It was not achieved during the first two years but was achieved during year 3 (2017/18). A further review was required during the current year.

### **G 13 - Work with partners to deliver an average of 20 units of affordable homes each year.**

*Could officers provide further clarity on the sites that can be delivered during 2018/19? As there is no progress YTD is it realistic that the target can still be met for the year?*

Officer Response;

The target should be comfortably met. The Miner's Welfare at Creswell will bring forward 11 apartments for affordable housing and there are currently 55 new build units under construction through the B@home Scheme (as listed below). The Contract Administrator / Building Surveyor has advised that the 37 at Hilltop, Shirebrook will be complete by October 2018 plus another 5 at South Normanton, totalling 42 to be completed this financial year. New builds and conversions 53.

Hilltop, Shirebrook	<b>37</b> (Houses, flats and an adapted bungalow)	Under construction Expected July 2018 onwards
Ash Close, Pinxton 17/00571/FUL	<b>6</b> (2 x 1 bed houses, 2 x 2 bed houses, 1 x 3 bed house and 1 x 4 bed house LTH)	Under construction
Lime Close Pinxton 17/00572/FUL	<b>2</b> (1 x 2 bed house det. and 1 x 3 bed house det. LTH)	Under construction
St Michael's Drive, South Normanton 17/00573/FUL	<b>2</b> (2 x 2 BU LTH)	Under construction
Beech Grove, South Normanton 17/00574/FUL	<b>1</b> (3 bed detached bungalow fully adaptable)	Under construction
Elm Close, Pinxton 17/00575/FUL	<b>5</b> (5 x 2 bed houses LTH)	Under construction
Leamington Drive, South Normanton 17/00576/FUL	<b>2</b> (1 x 2 bed detached bungalow and 1 x 3 bed detached fully adaptable bungalow)	Under construction

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A Member commented that although building on the houses at Ash Close, Lime Close and Elm Close, Pinxton had started, there had been no further work carried out for many months. The Information Engagement & Performance Manager agreed to follow this up with the Head of Housing and Community Safety and report back to Committee.

Moved by Councillor A. Anderson and seconded by Councillor P. Bowmer  
**RESOLVED** that the report be received.

The Information Engagement & Performance Manager left the meeting.

### **0248. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19**

Committee considered their Work Programme for 2018/19.

A Member raised concern that for the remainder of the current year and up to May 2019, committee meetings were scheduled to take place during school holidays. She requested that the impact of this be taken into account when the new meeting schedule was set for 2019/20. Another Member added that the Council should consider that meetings take place in the afternoon or evenings.

Moved by Councillor Karl Reid and seconded by Councillor A. Anderson  
**RESOLVED** that the report be received.

(Scrutiny & Elections Officer)

The formal meeting concluded at 1040 hours and Members then met as a working party to continue their review work. The working party concluded at 1115 hours.