

LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Local Growth Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Monday, 12th February 2024 at 10:00 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillors Will Fletcher, Duncan Haywood, Jeanne Raspin and Jane Yates.

Officers:- Steve Brunt (Strategic Director of Services), Jim Fieldsend (Monitoring Officer), Ian Barber (Director of Property and Construction, Dragonfly Development Ltd), Joanne Wilson (Housing Strategy and Development Officer), Thomas Dunne-Wragg (Scrutiny Officer), Hannah Douthwaite (Governance and Civic Officer) and Matthew Kerry (Governance and Civic Officer).

Also in attendance at the meeting was Councillor John Ritchie, Portfolio Holder for Growth.

LOC42-23/24 ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR THE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Jeanne Raspin and seconded by Councillor Jane Yates
RESOLVED that Councillor Duncan Haywood be elected as Chair for the meeting.

Councillor Duncan Haywood in the Chair

LOC43-23/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mark Hinman, Tom Kirkham, Deborah Watson and CEO Karen Hanson.

LOC44-23/24 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

LOC45-23/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

LOC46-23/24 MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Will Fletcher and seconded by Councillor Jeanne Raspin
RESOLVED that the Minutes of a Local Growth Scrutiny Committee held on 11th December 2023 be approved as a correct record.

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LOC47-23/24 LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

The Monitoring Officer went through the items on the List of Key Decisions and Items to be Considered in Private document.

LOC48-23/24 DRAGONFLY DEVELOPMENT LIMITED (DDL) DELIVERY UPDATE

The Chair highlighted the Delivery Update on pages 10-16 and opened the floor to questions.

One Member asked why the Roseland Crematorium was currently off track to achieve its completion date, off track to achieve its approved contract sum, and which cost saving measures were being identified by the project team to bring it under budget. The Director of Property and Construction replied that most of the delays were structural, as the architectural team's designs had been found to be unsuitable and that the project team had needed clearer direction in place.

The Director of Property and Construction highlighted that the architectural designs had specified certain materials like Italian Marble and Zinc, materials that could be replaced with more affordable substitutes without a reduction in appearance or longevity. Another example was the use of loose tumbled stone for a wall, the appearance of which could be achieved for less.

A Member asked if these cost saving measures would ultimately increase the time and capital of the delay. The Director of Property and Construction stated they could only advise but insisted that to achieve what the architectural team had sought was not a financially viable option. There was also the issue of securing these more expensive materials in the first place, as their prices and availability were changing frequently.

A Member asked about the completion date, and how far off-track the project was. The Director of Property and Construction answered that the project programme had to be redone, but the period after the original expected date of completion had been allocated for the extended testing of the facilities and for staff training purposes. As a result, there would be no detrimental impact to the completion date.

Moved by Councillor Will Fletcher and seconded by Councillor Jeanne Raspin
RESOLVED that the Dragonfly Development Limited (DDL) Delivery Update be noted.

The Director of Property and Construction and Councillor John Ritchie left the meeting.

LOC49-23/24 LOCAL GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

The Housing Strategy and Development Officer highlighted pages 22-23 of the Local Growth Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023/24, with one more meeting scheduled for the municipal year. They also stressed that this Committee had a fluid programme and that if there were any issues the Members wished to investigate, they could do so.

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One Member noted that the next meeting would be an extended one. The Monitoring Officer agreed, adding that the minutes of the internal Dragonfly Development Limited Report would be included.

Moved by Councillor Will Fletcher and seconded by Councillor Jeanne Raspin
RESOLVED that the Local Growth Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023/24 be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10:16 hours.