

*Subject to approval at the next meeting*

## LITTLEHAMPTON REGENERATION SUB-COMMITTEE

28 July 2014 at 6.05 pm

Present: - Councillors Bicknell (Chairman), Mrs Pendleton (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Emberson, Gammon and Dr Walsh.

[Note: Councillor Mrs Pendleton was absent from the meeting during consideration of the matters referred to in Minutes 1 to 4.]

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Dendle, Mrs Neno and Northeast.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Monitoring Officer has advised Members of interim arrangements to follow when making declarations of interest. They have been advised that for the reasons explained below, they should make their declarations on the same basis as the former Code of Conduct using the descriptions of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

#### Reasons

- The Council has adopted the government's example for a new local code of conduct, but new policies and procedures relating to the new local code are yet to be considered and adopted.
- Members have not yet been trained on the provisions of the new local code of conduct.
- The definition of Pecuniary Interests is narrower than the definition of Prejudicial Interests, so by declaring a matter as a Prejudicial Interest, that will cover the requirement to declare a Pecuniary Interest in the same matter.

Where a Member declares a "Prejudicial Interest" this will, in the interest of clarity for the public, be recorded in the Minutes as a Prejudicial and Pecuniary Interest.

Councillor Dr Walsh declared his standing personal interest in all the items on the agenda as a Member of Littlehampton Town Council, West Sussex County Council and Littlehampton Harbour Board.

Councillors Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Emberson and Gammon declared a personal interest in all the items on the agenda as Members of Littlehampton Town Council.

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3. START TIMES

The Subcommittee

RESOLVED

That the start times of meetings for the remainder of 2014/15 should be 6.00 p.m.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 01 April 2014 were approved as a correct record by the Subcommittee and signed by the Chairman.

5. LITTLEHAMPTON WAY FINDING/SIGNAGE PROJECT UPDATE

In giving the Subcommittee a verbal update on the current status of the project to update the pedestrian signage for Littlehampton to assist visitors to gain a better understanding of what the town had to offer, the Town Centre Regeneration Officer circulated the draft strategy and a copy of the map that would be displayed for visitors detailing various information and attractions.

Members participated in a detailed discussion and made a number of suggestions for inclusion in the map, which were duly noted by the Town Centre Regeneration Officer. It was agreed that Members would further consider the map and the strategy following the meeting and advise the Officer of any additional points they would wish to see incorporated. In addition, the Subcommittee would be emailed with the locations of the signs and there would be further consultation on the information to be included on the plinths. It was anticipated that installation of the signage would commence towards the end of September.

6. COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND – LITTLEHAMPTON RIVERSIDE ENHANCEMENT

The Economic Development Manager was disappointed to advise that the Council had just been informed that a bid that had been prepared by officers to improve the work that was being undertaken for the Littlehampton riverside enhancements had been unsuccessful. However, the Coastal Communities Fund had recommended that the bid be resubmitted for the next round which would be considered in December 2014.

In considering the matter, it was agreed that Members would be emailed with the information relating to what enhancements were included in the bid and the public realm enhancements generally.

7. FEEDBACK FROM ST MARTINS CAR PARK & WINDMILL THEATRE MEMBERS' WORKSHOP

The Economic Development Manager gave a brief summary of the discussion that had taken place at the Members' workshop on 8 July 2014

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between Members of the Subcommittee, Ward Members and officers in order to give officers a steer in the preparation of planning briefs for the Windmill and St Martins Car Park sites.

It was acknowledged that the re-provision of a community facility such as the Windmill Theatre, together with a cinema, was central to any redevelopment plans and there were a number of options that should be considered. Thoughts around the St Martins Car Park site were more complex due to the restrictive size of the site. The Subcommittee was advised that, at its next meeting, a paper would be presented that would provide a more comprehensive overview of the outcomes of the workshop, which could then be interpreted into some form of planning brief for the future and Members were requested to inform officers of any further thoughts and suggestions that they might have on this subject.

Consultants involved in working up ideas for Littlehampton had produced a Concept Investment Plan "9 Big Ideas for Littlehampton," which was circulated at the meeting, some of which could be incorporated into any wider development strategy. It was felt to be a useful document as it presented a number of ideas which utilised the proposed pedestrian 'ring' linking the town to its waterfronts and which would further help in strengthening the experience, identity and offer of Littlehampton.

Members then participated in general discussion on their own preferences and were reminded to communicate with officers their thoughts and views on what options should be progressed.

## 8. TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Town Centre Regeneration Officer gave a verbal update on a number of matters relating to Littlehampton town centre, namely:-

- Street drinking – steps were being taken to curb the problems associated with anti-social behaviour caused by street drinking, e.g. retailers had been requested to not sell high strength alcohol and ongoing partnership working with the Police was continuing. The Police & Crime Commissioner was attending the meeting of the Overview Select Committee on 29 July 2014 and she would be reminded that at a previous forum she had given an undertaking that a greater police presence would be provided to deter such activity but that had not yet happened.
- An Italian Market would be taking place on 23 August and Members requested that high level promotion of the event must be provided to ensure its success.
- Having been advised that the Saturday market had folded, Members expressed their wish to see the setting up of a Farmers Market in Littlehampton.

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9. POSITION STATEMENT

The Subcommittee considered the Position Statement and participated in general discussion on a number of items. Particular comment centred around the following:-

- **West Bank** – The Assistant Director of Planning & Economic Regeneration advised that the remaining chapters of the draft Local Plan would be considered at the Local Plan Subcommittee meeting on 31 July 2014.
- **The East Bank:** Work would be completed in January 2015. Comment was made that the Littlehampton Traders Partnership was working very well.
- **Enterprise Hub:** A planning application was due to be considered by the Development Control Committee on 30 July 2014 regarding the GP Practice in part of the building. Encouraging discussions had been held with Morrisons regarding the remainder of the building for an Enterprise Hub.

The Subcommittee noted the remainder of the Position Statement.

It was agreed at the meeting that it was now time to rationalise the Position Statement as a number of projects had been completed and were no longer pertinent. Members were asked to submit their views to the Economic Development Manager on what other items they wished to see included in a revised document.

10. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Committee

RESOLVED

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

11. NORTH LITTLEHAMPTON MEMBERS STEERING GROUP – 9 MAY 2014 & 7 JULY 2014 (Exempt – Paragraph 3 – Information Relating to Business Affairs)

The Subcommittee received and noted the notes of the meeting of the North Littlehampton Members Steering Group held on 9 May and 7 July 2014.

(The meeting concluded at 7.45 pm)