

Subject to approval at the next Subcommittee meeting

LOCAL PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

26 June 2014 at 6.00 p.m.

Present : Councillors Haymes (Chairman), Bower (Vice-Chairman), Bicknell, Brooks, Chapman, Charles, Mrs Goad, Mrs Hall, Mrs Maconachie, and Nash.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs Brown, Cooper, McIntyre and Oppler.

2. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Chapman to the meeting as a new member of the Subcommittee.

3. 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.

There were no declarations of interest made.

Subject to approval at the next Subcommittee meeting

4. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2014 were approved as a correct record by the Subcommittee and signed by the Chairman.

5. Planning Award

The Chairman agreed that this item could be dealt with as a matter of urgency as it was felt Members should be aware of this good news story.

The Vice-Chairman advised the meeting that, at an awards ceremony held on Monday 23 June 2014 which Members and officers had attended, an award from the RTPI for Planning Excellence for innovative planning practice in plan making had been awarded to the Coastal West Sussex & Greater Brighton Strategic Partnership. He paid particular tribute to Arun's Planning Policy team in recognition of their work in delivering new strategic planning.

6. Start Times

The Subcommittee

RESOLVED

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

7. Conservation Areas Management Plan Adoption

The Conservation Officer introduced this report to the Subcommittee which sought approval of a revised Conservation Management Plan following amendment of the original draft in response to comments made as a result of a public consultation exercise that had been undertaken between 16 January and 27 February 2014.

The Subcommittee was advised that the Council had 29 Conservation Areas within the Local Planning Authority area. However, the Council's involvement did not end with designation as Section 71 of the Planning [Listed Building and Conservation Areas] Act 1990 placed a duty on the Council to draw up and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of its Conservation Areas. As part of this, the Council would be following a three part Conservation Area management framework which consisted of:-

- Conservation Area Character Appraisals
- Conservation Area specific management plan covering individual Conservation Areas
- Conservation Areas Management Plan

Focus had been centred on the production of the Conservation Areas Management Plan as it would enable the Council to better manage its

Subject to approval at the next Subcommittee meeting

Conservation Areas, whilst also better meeting its requirements under S71 of the Act. If adopted, the Plan would have a five year lifespan which it was hoped would lead to the better management of the Conservation Areas whilst also influencing the workload and direction of the Conservation Officer.

In the course of general discussion on a number of aspects of the Management Plan, it was pointed out that under the Monitoring Section, two figures had been omitted from Table 5.1 relating to the number of nationally Listed Buildings within the Conservation Areas and the number of locally Listed Buildings within the conservation Areas. The Conservation Officer apologised for that omission and undertook to advise the Subcommittee of the figures following the meeting.

The Chairman thanked the Conservation Officer for a full and in depth report and the Subcommittee

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL

That the Conservation Areas Management Plan be adopted.

8. Local Plan Update

The Head of Planning Policy and Conservation presented this report which provided an update on a number of issues to do with the Local Plan, namely:-

- Use of Local Plan policies in development management decisions since February 2014
- Summary and key points of National Planning Practice Guidance
- Evidence base for the Local Plan: Transport and Economic Prosperity Updates
- The Council's responses to other local planning authorities documents since March 2014
- Update on Neighbourhood Development Plans.

With respect to the Evidence Base studies relating to Transport and Economic Prosperity Updates, a query was raised around the work done on Route D for the A29 and from where had that authority emanated? The Head of Planning Policy and Conservation confirmed that Full Council in June 2012 had approved consultation on the Local Plan, which included Route D. The process for considering the route options had been iterative and supported by the Local Plan evidence base. A request was made that those Minutes should be made available to Councillor Charles.

The Subcommittee participated in general discussion around a number of aspects of the report and particularly highlighted the work that was being undertaken in respect of Neighbourhood Plan preparation. The referendum for Arundel had already been successfully completed and the Plan made, with a number of others in the pipeline and imminently due to go to referendum.

Subject to approval at the next Subcommittee meeting

In noting the contents, Members agreed that the National Planning Practice Guidance should refer to March 2014 and not March 2012 and that the update on the Neighbourhood Plans should also be noted. The Subcommittee therefore

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted, namely

- (i) The impact of the policies in the Arun Local Plan – Publication Version (February 2014) upon development management decisions since February 2014
- (ii) The impact of the National Planning Practice Guidance (March 2014) upon the Local Plan preparation
- (iii) Progress on evidence base studies for the Local Plan
- (iv) The update on documents produced by other local planning authorities
- (v) The update on Neighbourhood Development Plans.

9. Local Development Scheme

(During the course of discussion on this item, Councillor Bicknell declared a personal interest as he worked for a Water Company.)

The Head of Planning Policy and Conservation presented this report which, essentially, set out the business plan for the documents to be used for future planning in the Arun District. The Local Plan process had changed since the last Local Development Scheme (LDS) had been prepared and there was a requirement to now revise the timetable and documents accordingly and set out an indicative time frame for managing that process.

Members participated in general discussion which centred on the need for Development Plan Documents for Ford, Fontwell, Littlehampton Harbour/West Bank and Gypsy and Travellers sites.

The Subcommittee

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL – That

- (1) the Local Development Scheme 2014-2017, as appended to the report, be approved; and
- (2) the Local Development Scheme shall come into effect on 17 July 2014 and shall be made available on the Council's website.

(The meeting concluded at 7.20 pm)