

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2018  
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

*PRESENT –*

*Councillor P. White (Chairman – in the chair)*

**Councillors**

Nadeem Ahmed  
Musawar Arshad  
W. Blackburn  
M. S. Foxley  
P. J. Foxley  
M. Iqbal

Y. Iqbal  
B. Newman  
J. Nixon (Substitute)  
C. Wakeford (Substitute)  
S. Wicks (Substitute)  
D.M. Whipp

**Officers in attendance:**

Dean Langton	Chief Executive
Philip Mousdale	Corporate Director
Susan Guinness	Chief Financial Officer
Neil Watson	Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Committee
Jane Watson	Head of Democratic Services

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Cooney, M. Goulthorp and A. Mahmood).

◆◆◆◆

*The following people attended the meeting and spoke of the items indicated:*

Robin Willoughby	Development Brief for the Extension of Lomeshaye	Minutes No. 106
Robert Oliver	Industrial Estate	

Glen Stock	Land at Thomas Street, Colne	Minute No. 115
Lee Turbitt		

◆◆◆◆

**103. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the declaration of interests.

Councillor P. White declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 115 land at Thomas Street, Colne

**104. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Lee Turbitt, a resident from Colne asked about declarations of interest and whether or not the same rule applies at both public and private meetings of the Council. It was explained that the

same rules applied. However, a Councillor may choose to leave the meeting during discussion of an item they have an interest in but does not constitute as being a disclosable pecuniary interest.

**105.**

**MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**106.**

**DEVELOPMENT BRIEF FOR THE EXTENSION OF  
LOMESHAYE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE**

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report on the outcome of the consultation on the draft Development Brief. The comments received were attached to the report at Appendix B.

Following discussion the Committee were reminded that the role of the Development Brief was to provide a Design Framework for the development of the site. It was not to act as a full planning application with full supporting documents. This would come at the next stage of the development of the site including a full transport statement which would look in more detail at the precise requirements for the access arrangements to the site as well as the capacity of the transport network. There was no requirement for a Traffic Impact Assessment to be undertaken as part of the Development Brief.

It was noted that the Brief had been amended in line with the comments received as set out in Appendix A attached to the report.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the comments received on the draft Development Brief be noted.
- (2) That the revised Development Brief, as set out in Appendix A attached to the report, be adopted.

**REASON**

- (1) *In order that the Committee note the comments made and take them on board in considering the form of the Development Brief.*
- (2) *To adopt the Development Brief to comply with the requirements of Policy WRK3 of the adopted Part 1 Local Plan.*

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CALL-IN PROCEDURE THE ABOVE DECISION STANDS REFERRED BACK TO THE THREE GROUP LEADERS FOR DISCUSSION AND RECONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE.**

Councillor Nadeem Ahmed (Vice-Chairman – in the chair)

**107. BROWNFIELD SITES FUND REVIEW**

The Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager submitted a report on the current position with the Brownfield Sites Fund. It was reported that of the three site owners who had expressed an interest in the fund two had submitted funding applications. These applications had been considered by the Grants Panel in October but no decision had been made pending further information. The third site owner was not in a position to submit a bid but had indicated that he was keen to do so in the future.

Details of the current position regarding commitment and spend were listed in the report.

There had not been a great interest in the fund as expected and the Committee were asked to consider other ways to facilitate the delivery of new housing and employment space on brownfield sites in Pendle. Suggestions put forward by officers included:

- (a) Supporting the development of a masterplan for Nelson Town Centre.
- (b) Targeting funding at prominent vacant buildings across the borough to bring them back into use.
- (c) Council acquisition of brownfield sites/vacant buildings.
- (d) Supporting the provision of self/custom build opportunities.

If this approach was taken all the remaining funding would become part of the Brownfield Sites Main Fund and details of specific projects would be brought back to this Committee for agreement.

It was reported that officers continued to proactively work with the owners of a number of larger brownfield sites with a view to them being developed at some stage.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the current position regarding funding commitment and spend be noted.
- (2) That £20,000 of the fund be allocated to support the development of a masterplan for Nelson town centre, providing match funding for a bid to the One Public Estate Programme.
- (3) That the remaining funding be targeted on specific proposals based on the suggestions referred to above and these proposals be brought back to this Committee for agreement.

**REASON**

***To agree how the remaining Brownfield Sites Funding should be targeted and spent.***

**108. EXTENSION OF PEARL2 JOINT VENTURE COMPANY**

The Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager submitted a report which sought approval to the extension of the PEARL2 Joint Venture.

The Committee were advised that as the Company was established in November 2009 the contractual arrangement would expire in November 2019. It was anticipated that by this time a

number of schemes would not be complete. It was suggested, therefore, that an extension for a further 5 years, or 50% of contract value be agreed.

**RESOLVED**

That Pendle Enterprise and Regeneration (2) Limited be extended for a further 5 years or 50% of contract value, whichever was the earliest.

**REASON**

***To continue to deliver regeneration and development projects in the Borough.***

**109. ENFORCEMENT OF CEMETERIES REGULATIONS**

At the request of the Administration the Corporate Director submitted a report on how the Council could deal with the growing problem of unauthorised structures and items in cemeteries. In accordance with the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977 Regulations were in place for the general management and control of the Council's lawned cemeteries in Barnoldswick, Barrowford, Colne, Earby, Nelson and Salterforth.

There were currently around 450 graves in breach of the Regulations with the majority in Nelson and Colne. It was accepted that this situation was not unique to Pendle.

It was proposed that an up to date inventory of unauthorised and unsightly items be prepared. Where possible existing owners/family members would be contacted by letter and politely asked to deal with them. If there was no response within three months a further letter would be sent advising that if it was not dealt with in a further three months the Council would remove the item and put it in storage, if practical. Where it was not possible to contact anyone a small sign would be placed on the grave similar to the letter.

**RESOLVED**

That this item be deferred for a site visit to both Colne and Nelson cemeteries.

**REASON**

***To provide an opportunity for Members to see what the problems are.***

**110. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND**

The Chief Financial Officer submitted a report on the governance arrangements and policy document for the Community Investment Fund. A total of £100,000 had been set aside from the 2017/18 revenue budget underspend to provide Councillors with the opportunity to access finance to fund asset improvement projects within their ward.

It was suggested that the politically balanced sub-committee of the Policy and Resources Committee be set up to determine the governance arrangements and the final policy document.

An alternative suggestion of allocating this funding to the five Area Committees to support initiatives within their areas was also put forward but not supported.

**RESOLVED**

That a sub-committee of the Policy and Resources Committee be convened to determine the governance arrangements and policy document of the Community Investment Fund based on a membership of 3 Councillors.

**REASON**

*To progress finalising the arrangements for the Community Investment Fund.*

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CALL-IN PROCEDURE THE ABOVE DECISION STANDS REFERRED BACK TO THE THREE GROUP LEADERS FOR DISCUSSION AND RECONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE.**

**111. PENDLE'S SPORT AND LEISURE STRATEGY**

The Chief Executive submitted a report on the findings of the Sport and Leisure consultation and the development of the draft Pendle Sport and Leisure Strategy.

It was reported that more than 700 responses had been received to the survey both online and paper, over an 8 week period. The findings of the consultation were set out in Appendix 2 attached to the report.

It was noted that, overall, the findings suggested that people were accessing a range of facilities and services for leisure within the conventional sport venues such as swimming pools, gyms and sports halls still popular, albeit they were just one component within a broader spectrum of sport and leisure choices.

The following were suggested as priorities in the Strategy:

- Achieving Health and Well Being Outcomes
- Engagement to Increase Activity Levels
- Review of our Pendle Leisure Trust Facilities
- Working with Local Clubs, Groups and the Third Sector

It was proposed that following feedback from Members the consultation would be extended to key partner organisations via the Pendle Health and Wellbeing Partnership and then to Council early in 2019.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the findings from the Sport and Leisure consultation undertaken in July/August 2018 be noted.
- (2) That a consultation exercise with partners be agreed and the final version of the Sport and Leisure Strategy be presented to Council in early 2019.

**REASON**

***To help shape the Pendle Sport and Leisure Strategy, which would support delivery of the Council's Strategic Objective to create and sustain resilient communities.***

**112. ROLL OUT OF MICROSOFT OFFICE 365 TO COUNCILLORS**

The Corporate Director submitted a report on the proposed roll out of Microsoft Office 365 to all Councillors. A pilot group of 10 Members from all parties had been using this package with very positive feedback from participants who said it was easy and convenient to use.

By migrating Members to Microsoft Office 365 this would allow them to access their Council emails from any device from any location providing there was internet connectivity.

**RESOLVED**

That preparatory training sessions be arranged together with and support for individual Members on the use of Microsoft Office 365 by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 that all would be on the system by the time of the next Annual Council meeting.

**REASON**

***To enable a more efficient and secure way of working.***

**113. ROLL OUT OF BROADBAND – REQUEST BY INTERNEXUS (IT WIRELESS)**

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report informing the Committee of the approach made to Pendle about acquiring leasing sites by Internexus (a telecommunications provider).

The Company provided broadband connections but used fixed wireless processes. Therefore, they required above ground apparatus to transmit the radio waves that their network was based on. As a result a series of masts were required.

The Committee were advised that the Council had been asked to enter into a lease arrangement with the developer on 50 sites.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the implications be noted and it be acknowledged that the process was something the Council had to engage in.
- (2) That a further report be brought back to this Committee on the options being put forward when the developer had better refined their proposals.

**REASON**

***To inform Committee of the request and to agree a way forward.***

114.

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (PI) UPDATE**  
**1<sup>st</sup> APRIL, 2018 – 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2018**

The Chief Executive submitted a report which provided the Committee with performance monitoring information on the key performance indicators delivered by and on behalf of the Council.

There was a discussion around the PI relating to the number of cases where homelessness has been prevented or relieved and the new waste collection system in particular the issue around the quality of the lids for the blue bins.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That reports on homelessness and the current position regarding the blue bin lids be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee.

**REASON**

***To inform the Committee of performance monitoring information relating to the Council's key performance indicators.***

115.

**LAND AT THOMAS STREET, COLNE**

It was reported that as requested at the last meeting the Leader, Councillor Greaves, the Chief Executive and the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager had met with the perspective purchaser of land at Thomas Street, Colne on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2018 to discuss the proposals for the site.

The outcome of these discussions was not conclusive.

The Committee were therefore, asked again to consider accepting the increased offer of £15,000 for the site.

**RESOLVED**

That the offer of £15,000 for the disposal of land at Thomas Street, Colne be agreed.

**REASON**

***To bring an asset that has been declared surplus back in to a beneficial use, achieve a capital receipt and remove liabilities for the Council.***

116.

**TENDERS**

The Corporate Director submitted, for information, a report on tenders which had been received and accepted.

**117. MATTERS REFERRED FROM AREA COMMITTEES**

**(a) Land at Lee Road, Nelson**

At a meeting of the Nelson Committee on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 it was resolved “that the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to declare the land between numbers 10 and 14 Lee Road, Nelson surplus to requirements in order for a sale to be negotiated to the adjoining owners.”

A copy of the report considered by the Committee was submitted for information.

**RESOLVED**

That land between numbers 10 and 14 Lee Road, Nelson be declared surplus to requirements in order for a sale to be negotiated to the adjoining owners.

**REASON**

*To achieve a capital receipt and end all liabilities.*

**(b) Land at Every Street, Brierfield**

At a meeting of the Brierfield and Reedley Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 it was resolved “that land at Every Street, Brierfield be declared surplus to requirements in order for a sale to be negotiated to the adjoining owner.”

A copy of the report considered by the Committee was submitted for information.

**RESOLVED**

That land at Every Street, Brierfield, as shown ended black on the plan attached to the report, be declared surplus to requirements in order for a sale to be negotiated with the adjoining owner.

**REASON**

*To achieve a capital receipt and to end all liabilities.*

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_