

CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS REVIEW COMMITTEE

HELD ON FRIDAY 4 APRIL 2014 AT 10.00AM

PRESENT : Councillors Campling, T Dignum, Plowman (Chairman) Siggs and Woolley

ALSO PRESENT : Councillors Evans and Scicluna

IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk, Property Manager and Finance Manager

18 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Meeting held on 30 August 2013, having been printed and circulated, were submitted and the Chairman was authorised to sign the same as a correct record.

19 SECTION 106 MONEY (CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL FUNDING APPLICATIONS)

The Committee considered a number of applications that had been submitted by Councillors. With regard to any of those submissions of a “highways” nature it was considered advisable to set up a small Working Group to look in greater detail at the submissions and their overall relationship into the street scene bearing in mind the previous policy documents produced. The Working Group would consist of Councillors Plowman, Campling, Woolley, T Dignum and Evans. Councillor Dignum suggested, and it was supported, that with any highway related scheme the question of cycle ways needed to be considered.

The Committee supported the submission by Councillor Scicluna regarding the swing for wheelchair-bound people.

Councillor Plowman’s submission about miniature train transport for Centurion Way was not supported.

With regard to the St John’s Chapel forecourt, it was considered more appropriate that this should be pursued via community initiatives or the quick fix budget.

It was also considered that a matter raised at a recent meeting held at the City Centre Partnership offices concerning the improvements to the Crooked S should also be considered by the Working Group.

20 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL SMALL LOCAL COMMUNITY SCHEMES

The Committee noted, and supported, the initiative of the Property Manger in his dealings with West Sussex County Council concerning small schemes in Chichester which could be administered by the City Council.

21 NEW HOMES BONUS APPLICATIONS 2014/15

Councillor Dignum reported the District Council’s Cabinet approval of the new scheme for 2014/15.

The Committee agreed that the previous policy of the Council about dealing with these applications, namely the Special Council meetings where the applicant would come along and present their case should be repeated again for the 2014/15 applications. The date for this meeting would need to be arranged. So far, it appeared that applications were likely to be received from the Rugby Club, the Bowls Club, the Boys Club, Model Engineers Society and possibly WECA and the Chichester Festival Theatre.

The Town Clerk gave the Committee an update on the 2013/14 schemes where, in the main, progress was being made with most applicants.

22 LOCALISM - MOVING FORWARD

The positions of both the County and District Councils was noted in respect of current discussions with the City Council.

23 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING.

The Concept Statement about White House Farm developed by the Planning and Conservation Committee for onward consideration by the City Council was noted. It was agreed that a set of Planning Committee minutes plus the latest iteration of the Concept Paper would be sent to Lone le Vay of Chichester District Council in order to demonstrate action being taken by the City Council.

24 STANDING ORDER REVIEW

The review was necessary not only to take into account the revised NALC Standing Orders but also to draft Financial Standing Orders concerning the recently approved legislation on the abolition of the “two signature” rule.

It was agreed that Councillor Siggs comments together with the Town Clerk and Administration Manager would take this matter further.

25 BUSINESS PLAN

It was noted that the Business Plan needed updating taking into account the various decisions of the Committee made at this meeting.

26 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

It was agreed that the press and public be excluded from the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, namely financial and personnel matters which arose from information submitted by Chichester District Council.

The Committee considered financial information supplied by the District Council about the Novium budget (in which was based the Tourist Information Centre). Councillors readily accepted that these general figures would require greater refinement and discussion and also felt that it was very important to have comparisons with the former operating costs of the Tourist Information Centre when it was based in South Street. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would discuss these points further with the District Council’s Executive Director of Support Services and the Economy.

27 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 12 June 2014 at 10.00am.

The meeting ended at 11.30am.