

EXECUTIVE

MINUTES

**TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2019
GIPPING ROOM, GRAFTON HOUSE
6.00 PM**

Present: D Ellesmere (Leader), B Rudkin (Deputy Leader), S Barber, M Cook, C Jones, S Meudec, A Ross, P Smart and I Fisher

50. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Neil MacDonald.

51. Unconfirmed Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2019 be signed as a true record.

52. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business

It was RESOLVED:

that the Order of Business be confirmed as printed on the Agenda.

53. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Meudec, declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6 (E/19/28 – Ipswich Northern Bypass) and left the room during the consideration of this item.

54. E/19/27 Ipswich Borough Council Housing Strategy Update/Refresh

54.1 Councillor Ellesmere introduced the report, noting that it had been considered previously by Executive and Council.

54.2 Councillor Ellesmere noted that the Conservative Group had suggested that a five year residency requirement be introduced and explained that similar policies had been found to be unlawful in cases affecting two London Boroughs because of the impacts on Domestic Violence Victims and Armed Forces Veterans. Councillor Ellesmere also explained that a five year residency requirement would impact on the Sub-Regional allocations scheme from which Ipswich had benefited in 2018/19 as more people had moved out of Ipswich using it than had moved in from other districts. Councillor Ellesmere commented that the best way to alleviate pressure on housing waiting lists was to build more Council homes, something which had been restricted severely for many years.

It was RESOLVED:

that the draft Housing Strategy at Appendix 1 to the report, which had been subject to public consultation and consideration by full Council, be adopted.

Reason: To enable a robust structure for housing services work plan over the next 5 years.

55. E/19/28 Ipswich Northern Bypass

55.1 Councillor Ellesmere introduced the report, explaining that the Council had consistently supported the building of a Northern Bypass and had developed a number of policies which would support the project. Councillor Ellesmere noted that the inner route would bring the most benefit to Ipswich and so was supported, whilst the Council opposed the selection of the outer route.

55.2 Councillor Fisher noted that the proposed response was similar to the motion he had proposed for the next Council meeting and explained that if the Council responded in accordance with paragraph 4.5 of the report he would withdraw the motion.

It was RESOLVED:

that the Chief Executive be authorised to respond to the consultation in keeping with the position set out within paragraph 4.5 of the report.

Reason: To ensure the County Council (and others) are aware of the Borough Council's position on this important topic.

56. E/19/29 Financial Management & Control: Corporate Budget Monitoring 2019/20 Quarter 1

56.1 Councillor M Cook introduced the report, explaining that a modest underspend was currently anticipated and that savings of £302,000 had already been banked against the Big Ticket Savings allocation. There was a requirement to transfer £2.426m from the Budget Carry Forward Reserve to cover expenditure deferred from the 2018/19 financial year.

- 56.2 Councillor M Cook noted that there was a small overspend in the Housing Revenue Account as a result of a number of relatively low value items. The Shared Revenues Partnership was predicted to break even. A number of Capital projects had been added to the programme, whilst others needed to be re-profiled to match expected delivery timescales.
- 56.3 Councillor Fisher commented that the slippages in the capital programme were masking overspends in other areas. Councillor M Cook commented that the management of the capital programme was an area for improvement which he had explained at Executive before.
- 56.4 Councillor Fisher asked for more information on the loan to Ipswich Buses. Councillor Ellesmere explained that this had been approved by Executive in 2018/19 and was to be spent on replacing vehicles.

It was RESOLVED:

- a) **that the service budget performance and the future year effects be noted and that the resulting budget changes made for the General Fund be approved;**

Reason: to facilitate effective budgetary control and forecasting.

- b) **that the transfers from reserves detailed in paragraph 7.9 be approved;**

Reason: to facilitate effective budgetary control and forecasting.

- c) **that service budget performance and the future year effects be noted and that the resulting budget changes made for the Housing Revenue Account be approved;**

Reason: to facilitate effective budgetary control and forecasting.

- d) **that the service budget performance and the future year effects be noted and that the resulting budget changes made for the Shared Revenues Partnership (SRP) be approved;**

Reason: to facilitate effective budgetary control.

- e) **that the position on the 2019/20 and future years Capital Programme be noted and that the changes to the capital programme identified in paragraphs 10.6, 10.7 and 10.8 of the report be noted.**

Reason: to facilitate effective budgetary control.

57. E/19/30 Kevin Beattie Statue

- 57.1 Councillor Ellesmere explained that the Council had been asked by the 'Beat Goes On' campaign to assist with the installation of the proposed statue of former Ipswich Town footballer Kevin Beattie. Councillor Ellesmere noted that

since the report had been written further money had been raised towards the statue. Councillor Ellesmere explained that a policy had been drafted to assist with the consideration of similar requests in the future.

57.2 The Chief Executive explained that the fundraising committee still needed to raise a relatively small amount of contingency money to satisfy the proposed conditions of the Council's involvement in the project.

It was RESOLVED:

- a) **that the Chief Executive be asked to response positively to the request from the Editor of the Ipswich Star (i.e. that requests the Council's involvement in the delivery of the Kevin Beattie statue);**
- b) **that the Chief Executive be authorised to complete and enter into relevant contracts, after consulting the Head of Governance, that would deliver the sculpture having first:**
 - (i) **Received appropriate financial guarantees from third parties to cover any gap in the event that the fundraising target is not reached; and**
 - (ii) **Completed the undertaking of due diligence, including legal, tax, property, delivery timing and construction etc costs.**
- c) **that, in delivering b), it is noted that Contract Standing Orders will need to be waived to commission Sean Hedges-Quinn to make/construct and install the sculpture (with a value that doesn't exceed £80,000 (excluding VAT)).**
- d) **that the Chief Executive be authorised to consult with key stakeholders on the draft policy set out in Appendix 2 to the report and that the outcome to be reported back before the end of March 2020.**

Reason: To respond appropriately to the request received and set in place a consultation process that should lead to a policy position for any future such request.

58. Exclusion of Public

It was RESOLVED:

that the public (including the Press) be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining items under Regulation 21 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 as it was likely that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information falling within paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

59. Unconfirmed Exempt Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was RESOLVED:

that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2019 be signed as a true record.

The meeting closed at 6.20 pm

Chair