

JOBS AND ECONOMY COMMITTEE

15 MARCH 2018

Present: Councillor A Harper, Chair

Councillors: M J Crow (Vice Chair)
E Cubley
T A Cullen
D A Elliott (substitute)
L Fletcher
R I Jackson
P Lally
W J Longdon (substitute)
M E Plackett (substitute)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B C Carr, J W Handley, M Handley, J K Marsters and R S Robinson.

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

41. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2018 were confirmed and signed.

42. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT – REVIEW OF BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS – BUSINESS GROWTH

Members noted the report which focussed on progress against targets identified in the Business Growth Business Plan.

The Part 2 Local Plan was discussed with regards to 31 December 2018 being a realistic target for the adoption of the plan. It was considered that this allowed time for the inspection period.

The debate then centred on the beginnings of construction at Moults Yard, progress on the development at Beeston Square and the viability work for the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

There was concern that occupancy rates for Stapleford Town Centre continued to be low. Action that the Council had taken to improve the situation was noted, including the introduction of free Wi-Fi and the re-definition of town centre boundaries to concentrate business activity included in the Part 2 Local Plan. It was also noted progress on the redevelopment of

the former police station site was good, with permission granted for 12 affordable homes. It was requested that a report be brought to Committee specifically focused on Stapleford Town Centre.

The Committee noted that there had been no progress on developing the Apprenticeship Campaign. It was stated that this was being included in the Council's work on job fairs and employer engagement.

The Committee was then given a brief update on the position of each of the Neighbourhood Plan areas in respect of their readiness to submit their plans.

43. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Members noted the report which provided an update on the progress of recent work within the Economic Regeneration Team. It was requested that the number of businesses that attended the business health checks and business advice sessions be provided to the Committee.

Councillor R MacRae made representation to the Committee regarding job fairs in Stapleford.

Discussion progressed on to brown field development and whether there was a point at which it became impossible or uneconomic to redevelop sites.

It was noted that a grant had been given to the Council dedicated to looking at the level of contamination at Beamlight. It was confirmed that there would be no houses built on brownfield sites until it was entirely safe to do so.

The former site of the Myfords factory in Beeston was discussed with regard to pollution. It was noted that planning permission for 47 dwellings had been granted and that there had been no evidence of pollutants that would prevent development and no out of the ordinary pollutants.

44. HS2 UPDATE

It was noted that this was an important work stream for the Toton and Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum.

There was a discussion concerning the proposed delivery vehicle, for which a range of options were being discussed including a collaboration of interested stakeholders, a new town development company and a joint venture company. The discussion centred on whether planning powers would remain with Broxtowe or be vested in the new structure. It was stated that there was a need for a constructive partnership with landowners and other local authorities to ensure that the greatest benefit is derived from HS2. It was confirmed that the Council would not be willing to delegate its planning powers to any delivery vehicle without very substantial assurances.

45. STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT REVIEW

The Committee noted the supply of urban sites identified in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) which had been published on the Council's website.

The importance of providing evidence in the SHLAA that was as up to date as possible was discussed along with the Council's position in terms of housing completions and allocations to sites that had been consulted upon. It was stated that that Council would have a five year land supply with the completion of the Part 2 Local Plan.

46. WORK PROGRAMME

It was requested that a report on Stapleford Town Centre occupancy rates be added to the Work Programme.

RESOLVED that the Work Programme, as amended, be approved.

Chair _____