



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

3

04 March 2021

7.00 pm - 8.26 pm

Remote Meeting

Minutes

Membership

Councillor Doina Cornell (Chair)	P	Councillor Keith Pearson	P
Councillor Martin Whiteside (Vice-Chair)	P	Councillor Simon Pickering	P
Councillor Chris Brine	P	Councillor Mattie Ross	P
Councillor Nigel Cooper	P	Councillor Tom Skinner	A
Councillor Rachel Curley	P	Councillor Ken Tucker	P
Councillor Stephen Davies	P	Councillor Debbie Young	A
Councillor Nick Hurst	P		

P = Present A = Absent

Officers in Attendance

Chief Executive	Monitoring Officer
Strategic Director of Communities	New Homes and Regeneration Manager
Strategic Director of Place	Head of Property Services
Strategic Director of Resources	Senior Democratic Services & Elections Officer
Strategic Director of Change and Transformation	Democratic Services & Elections Officer

Other Member(s) in Attendance

Councillor Haydn Jones

SRC.067

APOLOGIES

There were none.

SRC.068

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

SRC.069

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2021 are approved as a correct record.

SRC.070

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were none.

SRC.071**REDEVELOPMENT OF BRIMSCOMBE PORT**

The New Homes and Regeneration Manager introduced the report and advised that the redevelopment of Brimscombe Port was one of the council's key corporate priorities. It was confirmed that delegated authority to grant planning permission for the key infrastructure to take the site out of the flood plain had been agreed at the development control committee in February 2021. They were now therefore requesting that the committee consider granting permission to procure a developer partner. It was confirmed that the site would not be developed for 2 years due to the time taken to procure a developer partner and for a detailed planning application to be submitted for the redevelopment. Values and costs may change in this time; however, it would be down to the developer to assess the market. The council would need to progress the scheme in line with the milestones and the long stop dates for the Homes England and LRF funding or risk having the funding withdrawn.

In response to a question from Councillor Pearson it was confirmed that the current proposal was to proceed with a developer partner and for them to carry out all of the works, however other options were available such as early demolition and the council putting the infrastructure in place instead of a developer partner.

Councillor Davies asked whether the criteria that would be used to judge the proposals had already been agreed. It was advised that the output specification which sets out the vision for the site and the tender evaluation matrix which the bids would be assessed against had both been approved at Committee previously.

The New Homes and Regeneration Manager advised that sustainability was one of the criteria that bidders would be assessed against.

The Head of Property Services provided an update on the current tenants Rush Skatepark, it was confirmed that the Council had been working with them for some time to try and help find a different location. Support was also being provided to other tenants looking to relocate.

In a response to Councillor Cooper's question it was confirmed that the design of the infrastructure was now fixed following the agreement of planning permission, however in terms of the redevelopment proposals they would be looking for innovation and a specific layout had not been decided upon. Councillor Whiteside advised that although the infrastructure had been agreed further proposals could be considered.

Proposed by Councillor Whiteside and Seconded by Councillor Pickering

Councillor Pearson offered his support and stated that it could become a genuine tourist attraction for the district in conjunction with the canal project.

The Chair expressed her hope that there would be some interest to develop the site and that she was looking forward to seeing the progress made over the next few months.

Councillor Pickering congratulated the Members and Officers for all of their work on this project and highlighted the difficulties of building on brownfield sites.

Councillor Whiteside thanked Members and Officers who had been involved in the development, and commended the output specification which outlines the aspirations and expectations of the site and hoped that creative developers would be able to take on the project. He also highlighted the importance of the creation of the green biodiversity corridor and urged all Members to support it.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried unanimously.

- RESOLVED**
- 1) To delegate authority to the Head of Property Services:**
 - i. To commence the procurement of a developer partner for Brimscombe Port using the competitive dialogue procedure with the final selection of the partner to be presented to Committee for approval at the completion of the process;**
 - ii. In consultation with the Strategic Director of Resources and Chair and Vice Chair of this Committee to:**
 - a. proceed when necessary with the demolition of buildings on the site prior to a partner being selected, subject to planning conditions being met, for any of the reasons set out in section 3.23 of this report, and**
 - b. enter into grant terms and conditions and other documentation as necessary in respect of the Land Release Fund if awarded to the Council.**
 - 2) Note the agreed amendments to the funding conditions with Homes England Consultation and Feedback.**

SRC.072

ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGENERATION AND INVESTMENT BOARD

The Strategic Director of Place introduced the report which sought the committees' approval for the establishment of a Regeneration and Investment Board. There were numerous council projects at a key stage of their development including Brimscombe Port and the canal project which the board could help support in an advisory nature, furthermore the board could help to shape the Council's regeneration priorities and programme.

Councillor Hurst asked a question regarding the membership of the board. The Strategic Director of Place advised that a suggestion of Membership was included in section 3 however further suggestions would be welcomed. Councillor Brine requested further flexibility regarding the Membership to allow for other knowledgeable Councillors who were not political group leader or chair of Committee to be included. Councillor Cornell stated that she would like the membership to be linked to the Strategy and Resources Committee but with some flexibility. Councillor Whiteside stated that the suggested membership in section 3.2 of the report would give enough flexibility.

Proposed by Councillor Pickering and seconded by Councillor Brine.

Councillor Whiteside asked for the word 'mainly' to be added to paragraph 3.2 of the report so that it would read 'members of the Board will be drawn *mainly* from the membership of the 'parent' Committee'. The monitoring officer advised that the report could not be changed however it was agreed by Members that the membership of the board could be made more flexible to ensure that Members with particular experience or knowledge could be included on the Board whilst still maintaining a link to Strategy and Resources. It was also confirmed that the Constitution working group would be looking further at working groups and maintaining the link to 'parent' committees.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried with carried with 10 votes for and 1 abstention.

- RESOLVED**
- a) **To establish a Regeneration and Investment Board, following the approach and principles set out in this report, and**
 - b) **To agree the terms of reference of the Board as set out in Appendix A.**

SRC.073**MEMBER/OFFICER REPORTS (To Note)**

- a) Support of the Leisure Contract Provider in Stroud (Sport and Leisure Management)

Councillor Brine shared that they had received good news as they had been awarded the grant however he did not yet have details about the payments to SLM.

- b) Strategic Recovery Board

A report had been circulated. The Chair advised that there was a drop in session regarding the Community Hubs in March and encouraged Members to attend.

- c) Leadership Gloucestershire

The Chief Executive advised that they were given updates on Covid-19, Western Gateway, Gloucester City Region Board, Fusion Project and One Gloucestershire Integrated Care System. Further information was provided on Covid-19 testing with regards to schools and surge testing. It was also confirmed that the District Councils now had direct representation on the Western Gateway Board and that there would be a meeting for all of the District Leaders with Katherine Bennett (Chair of the Western Gateway project).

SRC.075**WORK PROGRAMME**

There were no questions.

SRC.076**MEMBER QUESTIONS**

A question was submitted by Councillor Davies. It was answered by the Leader, Councillor Cornell. (Refer to the [Council's recording and Item 9](#)).

The meeting closed at 8.26pm.

Chair