

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, ECONOMY AND TRANSPORT** held on 3 December 2013 at County Hall, Matlock.

PRESENT

Cabinet Member – Councillor J E Dixon

Also in attendance – Councillors A Botham, D Collins and S A Spencer.

103/13 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Jobs, Economy and Transport held on 12 November 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

104/13 **PROCEDURE TO RANK AND PRIORITISE REQUESTS FOR SPEED LIMITS** It was reported that the use of a points based scoring system would allow speed limit requests to be prioritised. This would allow resources to be targeted better at those areas which highlighted an issue with collisions. The proposed ranking scheme was attached to the report and it was recommended that a joint site visit be undertaken with the Police prior to a speed limit becoming operational.

There might be occasions when a speed limit was required to address an issue and needed to be introduced as soon as possible. It was therefore recommended that the Strategic Director – Environmental Services should be given discretion to overrule the priority list.

RESOLVED that (1) the Speed Limit ranking scheme, as shown in Appendix A to the report, be adopted in order to prioritise future speed limit requests, subject to road traffic volume being included as a subject heading;

(2) a joint site visit by officers and the Police be undertaken prior to enforcement beginning on any new speed limit; and

(3) the Strategic Director – Environmental Services be given discretion to depart from the ranking list due to local circumstances.

105/13 **CONSULTATION ON SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DRAFT LOCAL PLAN – PART 1** South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) has produced the South Derbyshire Draft Local Plan - Part 1 (SDDLDP) for consultation.

SDDC would consult on its Publication Version in early 2014, before submitting it to the Secretary of State, with an Examination in Public expected in summer 2104.

The planned scale and distribution of economic and housing growth proposed in the SDDLDP was broadly supported, including the principle to protect existing employment land and sites and the long established principle to contribute towards meeting Derby City's housing needs in the north of the District. Detailed comments on housing issues, economic growth and regeneration, green belt, landscape, highways and infrastructure planning and service delivery were included in the appendix to the report. Local member comments were contained in the report.

RESOLVED to authorise officers to respond formally to South Derbyshire District Council on its South Derbyshire Draft Local Plan – Part 1, as described in the report and Appendix to the report with additional Technical Officer comments as appropriate.

**106/13 REVISED ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROGRESSING
RESTORATION OF THE CHESTERFIELD CANAL**

Following the resignation of the Chesterfield Canal Partnership (CCP) Development Manager on 31 August 2013, the Partnership agreed on 8 October 2013 to continue on an unstaffed basis. The constituent Partners would now be required to drive forward project priorities.

The Countryside Project Officer (Waterways) appointed in June 2012 was working in waterways priorities across the County and a County Waterways Strategy would be presented to the Cabinet Member shortly prior to consultation.

The scope of the future project development to restore and reconnect the Canal to the national network was clearly defined through design work carried out by the Council's Highways Management – Design team and the publication of 'Next Navigation' documents by the Partnership. These documents clearly defined policy and plans for any future bids for external funding.

To facilitate delivery, it was important that Partners continue to work together towards the same objectives and it was also apparent that the project would benefit from increased cross functional working within the County Council, drawing together the expertise of Reclamation engineers, Regeneration specialists and Countryside project officers. A 'Project Delivery Group' for the Chesterfield Canal in Derbyshire has therefore been established led by the Assistant Director – Planning and Environment. Four initial priorities have been identified and would be subject to further reports.

To maintain co-ordination with other Partners and stakeholders existing communication forums would continue and involvement would also be sought in the Project Delivery Group as necessary. Chesterfield Borough and North East Derbyshire District Councils have agreed to support this.

The Project Delivery Group would feedback progress to each meeting of the CCP Executive Steering Group and it was expected that Rotherham and Nottinghamshire would also report progress in order that learning could be shared across Authority boundaries and to maintain the wider 'Vision' of the CCP.

RESOLVED to (1) note and welcome the changes to the context of the Chesterfield Canal Partnership;

(2) welcome the strengthened role for Derbyshire in leading the restoration of the Chesterfield Canal from Chesterfield to Killamarsh, through a geographically-focused project delivery working group, seeking support from partners, including Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council, as appropriate;

(3) support the priorities identified to support the above which will form part of the emerging Derbyshire Waterways Strategy; and

(4) support the on-going input of the County Council to the Chesterfield Canal Partnership Executive Steering Group to steer priorities and identify further opportunities working with partners.

107/13 GLOBAL DERBYSHIRE SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME – RESOURCES

The Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DEP) Global Derbyshire Small Business Support Programme was submitted for consideration in March 2013 through Regional Growth Fund (RGF) round 4, and was successful in securing conditional approval for £3m. Following compliance with RGF requirements the County Council has now received a Final Offer letter securing the funding award and the programme was launched on 29 November 2013.

The original RGF submission identified the requirement to employ a dedicated post to support County Council and DEP officers with day to day programme management and oversee compliance with the offer letter at both scheme and individual project level. It was proposed that the post would be recruited on a fixed term contract basis until 31 March 2015.

As part of the due diligence process the operational review identified the need to engage specialist external support on a contract basis to provide independent business and financial analysis; undertake full project appraisal of applications; provide support and advice to the Investment Panel when required; undertake any remedial work with an applicant as directed by the Investment Panel; and provide additional capacity to support the programme team during periods of high demand. Consequently an open tender has been advertised via Source Derbyshire and, subject to appropriate tender appraisal and interview, it was proposed to contract the approved supplier as soon as possible.

RESOLVED to approve (1) the recruitment of a Grade 7 Business Support Assistant for the Global Derbyshire Small Business Support programme on a fixed term basis until 31 March 2015; and

(2) the contracting of a specialist external support to the programme subject to procurement up to a value of £70,000.

108/13 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED that the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of the kind of exempt information detailed in the following summary of proceedings:-

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING THE PRESS, WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

1. To consider the Exempt Report of the Acting Strategic Director – Environmental Services on Award of Passenger Transport Contracts (ES7424/PTU148). (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information)).