

# **REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

15 January 2018

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

**Present:**

Councillor: Kevin Cranney (In the Chair)

Councillors: Rob Cook, Jim Lindridge, Brenda Loynes, Shane Moore and Leisa Smith

Also Present: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 5.2 Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher

Officers: Jim Ferguson, Planning and Development Manager  
Nomusa Malinga, Planning Information Officer  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **55. Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher.

### **56. Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **57. Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2017**

Received.

### **58. Local Development Framework Authorities Monitoring Report (AMR) 2016/17** *(Assistant Director, Economic Growth and Regeneration)*

**Type of decision**

Non key.

## **Purpose of report**

To seek endorsement of the 2016/17 Authorities Monitoring Report (AMR) attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

## **Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee**

The report provided background information to the production and purpose of the AMR which included progress made on the implementation of the policies in the 2006 Local Plan, the Local Development Scheme as well as details of how the Local Plan policies had, on the whole, been effective.

The Committee was provided with monitoring information in relation to housing and housing policies, economic activity, town centre, tourism and related policies, natural environment, waste, rural, conservation and related policies, transport, leisure routes and related policies including neighbourhood plans, community infrastructure levy and details of co-operation by the Local Planning Authority.

Members were advised that since this report had been written an update report had been presented to the December meeting of this Committee which reflected the current position on the Local Development Scheme.

In the lengthy discussion that followed presentation of the report, officers responded to queries raised by Members in relation to aspects of the report. Clarification was provided regarding crime figures by type and the impact of historical issues on the statistics provided as well as the potential reasons for the level of take-up at Queen's Meadows in the last year.

A number of concerns were expressed regarding the lack of bungalow provision in the town and the need to ensure such needs were being met by housing developers was emphasised. The Planning and Development Manager advised that whilst developers were continually encouraged to meet such demand, there were limited powers available to the Council to refuse applications if other house type needs were being satisfied, details of which were provided. The Committee was advised that a planning application had recently been approved for 30 bungalows at Dalton Heights.

Officers were requested to explore the following queries raised and provide clarification following the meeting:-

- Whether the level of housing stock last year was 578 or 528?
- The location of empty properties in the Borough?
- How many empty properties in the town were bungalows?

- Given the Housing Hartlepool development on the Keep Moat site, why was the number of affordable dwellings delivered this year only 10, which was well below the 144 affordable dwellings target and the lowest it had been in years?
- With regard to notifiable offences recorded by the police, whether the 30.6% increase in statistics regarding violence without injury was accurate as this and other categories were not highlighted as per the key in the table?

### **Decision**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the 2016/17 Authorities Monitoring Report (AMR), attached at Appendix 1, be endorsed.
- (iii) That clarification, in response to the queries raised by Members, as set out above, be provided following the meeting.

## **59. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

It was reported that the next meeting would be held on Monday 5 February 2018 at 2.00 pm and a Joint Meeting of the Regeneration Services and Finance and Policy Committees would be held on Monday 22 January 2018 at 10.00 am.

## **60. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

The Chairman ruled that the following items of business should be considered by the Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B) (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 in order that the matter could be dealt with without delay.

## **61. Any Other Business – Longscar Building , Seaton Carew**

In response to a Member's request for an update on the Longscar building at Seaton Carew, the Chair commented on the options available to address this issue which included the potential to pursue funding through future coastal funding opportunities and the Council would continue to do what it could.

**Decision**

The update was noted.

**62. Any Other Business – Middleton Fisherman's Huts**

In response to clarification sought, the Chair advised that ongoing discussions were being held with the cabin owners of Middleton Huts who had been made aware of the financial position in terms of the subsidy arrangements.

**Decision**

The update was noted.

The meeting concluded at 2.50 pm.

**P J DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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