
LOCAL PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE**DRAFT MINUTES**

Of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on Thursday 4 July 2019 between 7pm and 7.49pm.

Councillors present:

Sara Bedford (Chairman)

Chris Lloyd

Alex Michaels

Sarah Nelmes (for Cllr Giles-Medhurst)

Reena Ranger

Stephanie Singer (for Cllr Matthew Bedford)

Alison Wall

Phil Williams

Also in attendance: Councillors Marilyn Butler and Joanna Clemens

Officers Present:

Claire May, Head of Planning Policy and Projects

Marko Kalik, Senior Planning Officer

Sherrie Ralton, Committee Manager

LPSC10/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Matthew Bedford, Stephen Giles-Medhurst and Stephen Cox, with the substitute members being Councillors Sarah Nelmes and Stephanie Singer.

LPSC11/19 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Local Plan sub-committee meeting held on 20 June 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

LPSC12/19 NOTICE OF OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman ruled that the following items of business had not been available 5 clear working days before the meeting but were of sufficient urgency for the following reasons:

BROADBAND AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND CARBON EMISSIONS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY.

To enable the Council to progress the work required for the Local Plan.

LPSC13/19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Chris Lloyd declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5 as he is employed by a Telecommunications Company (BT).

LPSC14/19 BROADBAND AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee received a report that set out the key issues that the new Local Plan would need to address in relation to broadband and mobile technology.

The following points were raised:

- Would high rise buildings cause an obstruction to masts? This would not be a problem due to the number of masts that would be required for 5G.
- Paragraph 2.8 refers to 2% of the District that do not have coverage, this was likely to be the more remote areas within the district.

On being put to the Committee the recommendations in the report were declared CARRIED by the Chairman

RECOMMEND:

That the contents of the report be noted and recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee the Draft Broadband and Electronic Communications Policy as set out in Appendix 2

LPSC15/19 LOCAL PLAN: CARBON EMISSIONS AND ON SITE RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Committee received a report setting out the issues which the new Local Plan would need to address in relation to carbon dioxide emissions and renewable energy and proposed policy wording to be contained within the new Local Plan.

Members were advised that the Government withdrew the zero carbon homes scheme in 2015. The maximum that the Council could ask for was 20% less carbon emissions than Building Regulations Part L (2013).

Developers would be expected to adhere to building regulations and improve conditions to reduce energy using whatever method they could to meet the 20% target.

The Head of Planning Policy and Projects advised of revised wording of the Policy as follows:

'a) Applications for all new residential development of one unit and above and for all new commercial development will be required to submit an Energy Statement demonstrating that development proposals will produce 20% less carbon dioxide emissions than Building Regulations Part L requirements (2013) having regard to feasibility and viability.

This may be achieved through a combination of energy efficiency measures, incorporation of on-site low carbon and renewable technologies, connection to a local, decentralized, renewable or low carbon energy supply.'

The following points were raised:

- Would the standard of building regulations change to become more energy efficient? The Head of Planning Policy and Projects advised that there was a possibility. There was a bill dated April 2019, but no details were available at present, however there was a mention of building regulations. Also an EU Directive was requiring low energy

buildings by 2020. If the Building Regulations did change in the future the policy would be looked at again.

- At present the Council cannot rate developments for energy efficiency, only individual developers can provide their own rating.

On being put to the Committee the recommendations in the report to include the revised wording of the Policy were declared CARRIED by the Chairman

RECOMMEND:

Noted the contents of the report and recommended to the Policy and Resources Committee the Draft Carbon Dioxide Emissions and On Site Renewable Energy Policy as set out in Appendix 3 but to include the revised wording as follow:

a) Applications for all new residential development of one unit and above and for all new commercial development will be required to submit an Energy Statement demonstrating that development proposals will produce 20% less carbon dioxide emissions than Building Regulations Part L requirements (2013) having regard to feasibility and viability.

This may be achieved through a combination of energy efficiency measures, incorporation of on-site low carbon and renewable technologies, connection to a local, decentralized, renewable or low carbon energy supply.'

LPSC16/19 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman moved the following motion, duly seconded, and it was agreed:

that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under paragraphs (2 and 3) of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act. It has been decided by the Council that in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

LPSC17/19 PART II CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES – 20 JUNE 2019

The Part II Confidential Minutes of the Local Plan sub-committee meeting held on 20 June 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

LPSC18/19 LOCAL PLAN

The Committee received an update on the Local Plan.

On being put to the Committee the recommendations in the report were declared CARRIED by the Chairman

RESOLVED:

That:

- agreed the recommendations to the Policy and Resources Committee on the Draft Local Plan.

- public access to the report be denied until the publication of the Draft Local Plan, and;
- public access to the decision be denied until Council agenda publication / denied until Committee minutes publication.

CHAIRMAN