

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL ON
TUESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2018**

MEMBERS

Councillor Mark Pritchard, Chair
Councillor Hugh Jones, Vice-Chair

Councillor	Andrew Atkinson	Councillor	D J Griffiths
"	William Baldwin	"	David Kelly
"	David A Bithell	"	Joan Lowe
"	Terry Evans	"	Phil Wynn

*Absent

Also Present – Councillors Beverley Parry-Jones, Brian Cameron, Dana Davies, Mike Davies, Michael Dixon, T Alan Edwards, Carrie Harper, Frank Hemmings, R Alun Jenkins, Gwenfair Jones, Marc Jones, Tina Mannering, M G Morris, Bryan Apsley, Ronnie Prince, John Pritchard, Paul Roberts, Graham Rogers, Paul Rogers, Robert Walsh, Nigel Williams and Derek Wright

68 QUESTIONS

In accordance with Standing Order 10 of the Council's Constitution, five members of the public submitted a question relating to the Local Development Plan.

The Head of Environment and Planning responded to the question accordingly.

69 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS, IF ANY

Members were reminded of their responsibility, under Paragraph 11 of the Members' Code of Conduct, to declare any interests in relation to any of the business to be transacted at this Meeting. The following declarations were made:

Agenda Item 5 – Wrexham Local Development Plan (2013 2028)

Councillor Michael Dixon – Personal - Land adjacent to the A525 and east of Heol Offa cited in response. The Councillor remained in the Meeting taking part in the discussion thereon.

Councillor David Kelly – Personal and Prejudicial – Member of Wrexham Church Parochial Foundation – The Councillor remained in the Meeting and claimed an exemption under Paragraph 12(2) of the Members' Code of Conduct taking part in the discussion and voting thereon.

Councillor Joan Lowe – Personal and Prejudicial – land owner. The Councillor left the room taking no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Councillor Rob Walsh - Personal – Member of Alyn Waters Country Park Group. The Councillor remained in the Meeting taking part in the discussion thereon.

70 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

a **9 October 2018**

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 October 2018 be signed as a correct record.

b **23 October 2018**

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 October 2018 be signed as a correct record.

71 **WREXHAM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (2013 - 2028)**

(Members declarations of interest in relation to this item are set out in Minute 69 above)

The Lead Member for Organisation – Planning and Corporate Services submitted a report (HEP/62/18) to present the findings of the Deposit Local Development Plan consultation, to agree Focussed Changes (including Minor Editing Changes) to the Plan and to seek approval to recommend to the Council that the Wrexham Local Development Plan be submitted to the Welsh Government and Planning Inspectorate Wales for independent Examination in Public.

The Lead Member presented the report and a detailed discussion took place. The following points were raised during the debate:

- Reference was made to the addendum to Appendix 6 which concerned two criteria for assessing Planning applications for houses in multiple occupation. The wording contained within the Appendix had been changed to reflect the recommendation of the Planning Policy Panel. The Lead Member moved the recommendations contained within the report, subject to this minor amendment.
- Importance of adopting a Local Development Plan to prevent predatory development by reducing the number of applications being allowed on appeal.
- Acknowledgement that 40% of representations received related to gypsy and traveller sites although it was noted that the Council have a statutory duty to provide these sites. The total requirement was for approximately 40 plots, but this was mitigated by the current allocation of the existing site, and any additional private applications which could be submitted in the future.
- Confirmation that Welsh Government had not raised any fundamental objections to the Plan.
- Recognition that only limited changes could be made at this stage of the statutory process as it was important not to invalidate the consultation.
- Confirmation that the inspection would take place over a period of several months, and anyone wishing to participate could contribute at the hearings or submit a written consultation.
- Recognition that to allow the Plan to be submitted for independent examination would allow the general public to have the opportunity to contribute and make their views known.

Suggestion that the Planning Policy Panel had not always been provided with all relevant information in order to make recommendations. Adding to the comments, a Member suggested that there was a covenant on one of the named sites which stated that farm land should not be used for development. The Monitoring Officer commented that covenants were essentially private contractual arrangements relating to land and were not material considerations when considering land use.

- Suggestion and disappointment that a number of representations had been ignored and some methodology was inconsistent. Responding to the comments, Officers reassured Members that the statutory process had been followed and comments had not been ignored but only focussed changes could be made to the document at this stage.
- Clarification sought regarding the Officer Scheme of Delegation. The Lead Member advised that the intention of the powers given to Officers was to allow them to make minor, insignificant changes. However, arrangements would be made for the Planning Policy Panel to agree to any significant changes if required.
- Clarification sought in relation to road traffic accident statistics and whether these had been considered during the process of allocating sites within the Plan.
- Suggestion that there were possible contamination issues relating to one site, and clarification sought therefore on how any remediation works would be funded if the site were to proceed. In response, Officers advised that the LDP established the principal for development, and the planning application phase would establish the detail.
- Concern that future development would have a negative impact on Doctors, hospitals, schools and the highway network.
- Recognition of the importance of the report and acknowledgement of the hard work undertaken by Members and Officers involved throughout the process. It was crucial during the next phase that everyone had an opportunity to express their views.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the representations received during the Deposit Local Development Plan consultation (as detailed in Appendix 1 to report HEP/62/18) be noted and that they be forwarded to the Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate for consideration as part of the Examination in Public.**
- (ii) To recommend to Council that the Wrexham Local Development Plan (2013 - 2028), as amended by the schedule of Focussed Changes attached as an Addendum to Appendix 6 to report HEP/62/18, be submitted to the Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate for Examination in Public.**
- (iii) To recommend to Council that the schedule of Focussed Changes, attached as an Addendum to Appendix 6 to report HEP/62/18, be consulted on in tandem with the Submission.**

- (iv) To recommend to Council that the proposed scheme of delegation set out in Table 4 in Section 4f of report HEP/62/18 be approved as a means of dealing with changes to the Local Development Plan proposed by the Inspector during the Examination in Public.

Reasons for decisions

- (i) To ensure that the Council submits the LDP to the Welsh Government and Planning Inspectorate in accordance with the timescales set out in the Delivery Agreement.
- (ii) To enable any changes proposed by the Inspector as part of the Examination in Public to be dealt with in a timely manner, to ensure that there are no further delays to the adoption of the plan, but also to ensure appropriate Member oversight of any proposed changes.

72 WREXHAM HERITAGE STRATEGY 2018-2028: 'MAKING CONNECTIONS'

The Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety submitted a report (HHE/42/18) seeking approval of the draft Wrexham Heritage Strategy 2018-2018: 'Making Connections'.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the Wrexham Heritage Strategy: Making Connections 2018-2028 be adopted.
- (ii) That the seven recommendations as detailed in paragraph 4.7 of report HHE/42/18 be agreed.

Reason for decisions

The Wrexham Heritage Strategy 'Making Connections' replaces a previous strategy published in 2005 and aims to provide a strategic direction for heritage over the next 10 years. The previous strategy achieved its aim of facilitating joint working amongst community heritage organisations in the guise of the Wrexham Heritage Forum. The new strategy aims to build on this by facilitating strategic contact amongst both heritage practitioners and those that seek to directly benefit from the heritage sector within Wrexham County Borough. By doing so it aims to create a sector that is more suited to the economic times that we currently live in.

73 SEMI-ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2018-19

The Lead Member for Organisation - Finance, Performance, Health and Safety and Governance submitted a report (HF/115/18) asking Members to review the Semi-Annual Treasury Management activity for 2018-2019.

RESOLVED – That Members note the Treasury Management Semi-Annual

review 2018-2019 report.

Reason for decision

To comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code and Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

Councillor Mark Pritchard
Chair