

Minutes

Scrutiny Committee

Venue:	Committee Room
Date:	Tuesday 24 January 2017
Time:	5.00 pm
Present:	Councillors Mrs W Nichols (Chair), I Chilvers, D Buckle, and Mrs D White.
Apologies:	Councillor Mrs S Duckett.
Officers present:	Dave Caulfield, Director of Economic Regeneration and Place, James Cokeham, Head of Strategic Planning, Policy and Economic Development, Stuart Robinson, Head of Business Development and Improvement, and Janine Jenkinson, Democratic Services Officer.
Public:	3
Press:	1

6. MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 27 September 2016.

RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 27 September 2016 for signature by the Chair.

7. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

8. CHAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There was no address from the Chair.

9. PROGRAMME FOR GROWTH 2 AND 3 UPDATE

James Cokeham, Head of Strategic Planning, Policy and Economic Development presented a report that updated the Committee on the delivery and evaluation of Selby District Council's Programme 4 Growth (P4G) 2 and outlined the proposals for the establishment of P4G 3.

The Committee was informed that the council's P4G had been established in 2011 as a means of focussing and managing investment in key council priorities. In 2015 the Programme was reviewed, and a number of projects were completed, some were carried forward and some evolved into new initiatives, forming P4G 2.

The Head of Strategic Planning, Policy and Economic Development explained that work was currently underway to establish P4G 3. P4G 3 would be a critical delivery mechanism for the council's Corporate Plan and Economic Development Strategy. P4G 3 would be used to fund a number of new internal officer posts, which would provide a robust commissioning / enabling and project management capacity to drive the council's Corporate Plan ambitions to encourage economic growth and the provision of homes in the district. P4G 3 would focus on the following 5 priorities:

- Town Regeneration
- Tourism and Culture
- Housing
- Infrastructure
- Business

Members raised queries in relation to the following:

- The number of empty homes within the Selby district.
- The level of investment and economic benefits of the Tour de Yorkshire.
- How the council could work to promote tourism and celebrate the history of the district through the Programme for Growth strategy.

RESOLVED:

To ask the Head of Strategic Planning, Policy and Economic Development to note the comments raised by the Committee.

10. OLYMPIA PARK – UPDATE ON PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS

The Director of Economic Regeneration and Place presented a report to the Committee on the work that had been undertaken with landowners and other key partners to unlock development of the Olympia Park site.

Members were informed that Three Swans, on behalf of land owners ForFarmers had secured planning permission for a major residential led mixed use scheme in 2014 and had taken the site out to the market in 2015 to seek a developer. There had been limited interest from the market due to the perceived risks and high up-front infrastructure costs to unlock the site. Members were advised that by the end of 2015 it had become apparent that without the public sector taking a more proactive role it was unlikely the site would be developed.

The Director of Economic Regeneration and Place explained that work had been carried out by Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council with the landowner, the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and both Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) to explore alternative options for delivering the site.

Members were informed that work during 2016 had been undertaken to establish if there was a viable and deliverable public sector led option; it was anticipated that the outcome of this work would be reported by June 2017.

The Committee was advised that if, after the appropriate due diligence work had been undertaken, the council considered purchasing the site and investing up-front infrastructure funding, a report would be presented to Full Council for agreement.

Members discussed the following issues:

- Flood mitigation measures required prior to any development of the site.
- The impact on the district if the development of the Olympia Park site was not successful.
- Infrastructure issues, including traffic / access problems and the provision of additional school places.
- The use of public sector funding to enable delivery of the site.

RESOLVED:

To ask the Director of Economic Regeneration and Place to note the comments raised by the Committee.

11. CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT 2016/17 – QUARTER 2

The Head of Business Development and Improvement provided an update report on the delivery of the council's Corporate Plan 2015-20, as measured by a combination of progress against priority projects / high level actions and performance against Key Performance Indicators.

Members highlighted the following:

- The simplified format of reporting the information - which was welcomed.
- The number of missed bin collections exceeding target; pressure on the service being caused by an increase in the number of dwellings.
- Data in relation to childhood obesity, noting that Selby had the highest Year 6 obesity rates in North Yorkshire.
- The economic benefits of the Selby Three Swans Sportive.
- The need to promote tourism in the district to support economic growth.
- Opportunities to promote the historical heritage of the district.

RESOLVED:

To note the report and the comments raised by the Committee.

12. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee agreed to cancel the provisional meeting scheduled on 22 February 2017 and to hold the next meeting on 21 March 2017.

Members also requested that the Democratic Services Officer schedule future meetings be held on Thursday evenings.

RESOLVED:

- I. **To note that the next Scrutiny Committee meeting would be held on 21 March 2017.**
- II. **To ask the Democratic Services Officer to schedule future meetings to be held on Thursday evenings.**

The meeting closed at 6.25 pm.