



Agenda

Meeting: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Date: **28 June 2016**
Time: **7.00 pm**
Place: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre, Folkestone**

To: **All members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The committee will consider the matters, listed below, at the date, time and place shown above. The meeting will be open to the press and public.

Members of the committee, who wish to have information on any matter arising on the agenda, which is not fully covered in these papers, are requested to give notice, prior to the meeting, to the Chairman or appropriate officer.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Members of the Council should declare any interests which fall under the following categories*:

- a) disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI)
- b) other significant interests (OSI)
- c) voluntary announcements of other interests

3. **Minutes**

To consider and approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2016.

4. **Otterpool Park: A Garden Town of the Future - Proposal**

Report C/16/08 went to Cabinet on 8 June 2016. It set out the case for a potential new garden settlement in the district and sought Cabinet approval to submit an expression of interest for Otterpool Park, in response to the Government's prospectus for "Locally Led Garden Villages, Towns and

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Cities”.

The draft expression of interest, which was included as a confidential appendix to the report, set out the unique and well-connected location for a potential garden settlement of up to 12,000 new homes near Junction 11 of the M20. It included a potential vision and key guiding principles that provide a foundation for working with land owners and the wider community to plan and deliver a new garden community.

The expression of interest is without prejudice to any future decisions the Council might take in its capacity as local planning authority.

It was resolved:

That the Cabinet agrees that a proposed new garden town at Otterpool Park has the potential to be a unique opportunity to deliver the strategic objectives of the Corporate Plan relating to boosting the local economy, increasing job opportunities and providing more homes.

That the detailed expression of interest, attached to this report, be agreed as the Council’s formal submission to the Department of Communities and Local Government’s prospectus for “Locally Led Garden Villages, Towns and Cities”, subject to any changes considered necessary by the Director of Strategic Development in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

That a further report be considered by Cabinet to consider the outcome of the expression of interest to Government.

5. **Exclusion of the Public**

To exclude the public from the following item of business, on the grounds that it is likely to disclose exempt information, as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

‘Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).’

‘Financial or business affairs’ includes contemplated as well as current activities.

6. **Otterpool Park**

Report C/16/09, which also related to the Otterpool Park proposal, went to Cabinet on 8 June 2016. The discussion was of a commercial nature.

It was resolved:

To receive and note report C/16/09.

To authorise the Corporate Director – Strategic Operations, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to finalise the terms of and enter into a planning collaboration agreement with the owners of Folkestone

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Racecourse to regulate the working arrangements between the parties as land owners and promoters with an objective of securing a suitable outline planning permission for a new garden town.

To authorise the Corporate Director – Strategic Operations, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to finalise the terms of and enter into any option agreements with other land owners within the area of search that are considered necessary to deliver the Councils ambition for a new garden town.

To note that a further, more detailed, development agreement is proposed between the Council and the owners of Folkestone Racecourse and to authorise the Corporate Director – Strategic Operations to negotiate that agreement in the best interests of the Council with further report being presented to Cabinet prior to the agreement being entered into.

To agree an initial landowner promoter budget in order to fund relevant activities of up to £1m in the first instance to be funded from the appropriate reserves with delegated authority to the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance to approve the funding source.

Julia Wallace, Otterpool Park Project Manager for Masterplanning and Design, will give a summary presentation on this report.

*Explanations as to different levels of interest

(a) A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) must declare the nature as well as the existence of any such interest and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated. A member who declares a DPI in relation to any item must leave the meeting for that item (unless a relevant dispensation has been granted).

(b) A member with an other significant interest (OSI) under the local code of conduct relating to items on this agenda must declare the nature as well as the existence of any such interest and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated. A member who declares an OSI in relation to any item will need to remove him/herself to the public gallery before the debate and not vote on that item (unless a relevant dispensation has been granted). However, prior to leaving, the member may address the meeting in the same way that a member of the public may do so.

(c) Members may make voluntary announcements of other interests which are not required to be disclosed under (a) and (b). These are announcements made for transparency reasons alone, such as:

- membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items, or
- where a member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person, or
- where an item would affect the well-being of a member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position.

Voluntary announcements do not prevent the member from participating or voting on the relevant item