



Shepway District & Parish Councils' Joint Committee

Held at:	Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Folkestone
Date	Thursday, 11 January 2018
Present	Councillors Graham Allison, Peter Coe, Sally Edwards, John Heasman, Frank Hobbs, Michael Lyons, Christopher Mason, Neil Matthews, Martin Sweeney and Roger Wilkins
Apologies for Absence	Councillor Mrs Jennifer Hollingsbee
Officers Present:	Kate Clark (Committee Services Officer), Amandeep Khroud (Head of Democratic Services and Law), Chris Lewis (Planning Advisor), Charlotte Spendley (Head of Finance) and Julia Wallace (Project Manager, Masterplanning and Design)
Others Present:	

22. **Appointment of chairman**

Councillor Michael Lyons was appointed Chairman of the meeting

23. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

24. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2017 were submitted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

25. **Waste and Recycling General Update**

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

26. Budget Strategy and Draft General Fund Budget 2018/19

Report SD/17/01 set out the Council's Draft General Fund budget for 2018/19 as well as summarising the overall Budget Strategy for the same period. The report outlined the proposals being consulted upon

Mrs Charlotte Spendley, Head of Finance, presented the report and drew members' attention to the MTFs budget shortfall, Service Budget Changes and the General Fund Summary. She also advised a proposed 2% increase in Council Tax 2018/19 had been built into the Budget Strategy, but that the Local Government Finance Settlement had increased the referendum limit to a 3% increase, a decision on which would be taken by Full Council in February 2018.

This report was presented to Overview and Scrutiny prior to Cabinet agreement in November 2017.

Councillor Neil Matthews was keen to know how much the Lorry Park initiative had cost so far. Mrs Spendley will return to Councillor Matthews with an answer.

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27. Otterpool Update

Mr Chris Lewis, Planning Advisor, informed members that the Core Strategy Review Report had been prepared setting out revised policies and revisions. This will be presented to Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet in January 2018. It is recommended that Cabinet agree to a public consultation on the revised Core Strategy Local Plan.

Following consideration of representations, the draft plan will be amended and Parish Councils consulted prior to submission to the Planning Inspectorate. It is envisaged the revised Core Strategy will be presented to Full Council in 2019 for adoption.

During this time it is hoped that an outline planning application for the Otterpool Project will be submitted to run parallel with progress on reviewing the Core Strategy review. .

Members picked up points with regard to:

- medical facilities
- roads and junctions in the District and beyond
- flooding issues
- development inside/outside the settlement boundary
- waste and recycling innovation
- water and drainage

Mrs Julia Wallace, Project Manager for Masterplanning and Design, Otterpool Park Project, advised members that the draft Framework Masterplan will be presented to Cabinet in March 2018.

As part of this Arcadis and Farrells have been looking at technical issues; transport modelling, ecology, landscape and archaeology. The results of these issues will be incorporated into the Masterplan.

Mrs Wallace reminded members of the Housing Infrastructure Fund totalling £2.3bn. The application for funds is being made through Kent County Council and funding, if awarded, could be used for primary schools and health care centres. Timescales are based on delivering this infrastructure by March 2021.

Financially the Otterpool Park Project aim is to provide long term, sustainable source of funding for the District and must be financially viable.

28. **Lorry Park Update**

Mr Chris Lewis, Planning Advisor, advised Councillors of the latest position with regard to this initiative.

At present plans for the Lorry Park have been withdrawn by Highways England who did not contest the judicial review in December. Highways England announced that they will now develop new plans for a permanent solution including a lorry park. The Government announcement said that a consultation would take place in 2018 and that an interim plan for managing the build-up of lorries on the M20 is being developed by Highways England. Other key points were-

- Ensuring motorists can use M20 when Operation Stack is in place.
- Availability of Manston usage extended
- Dover Port has increased capacity for lorry queuing
- Advancements to Dover TAP have reduced the need for Stack.

Mr Lewis advised that the original site at Stanford had not been ruled out in the announcement; however it is expected a number of sites will be looked at and any proposed site is likely to be near to Eurotunnel and the Port of Dover.

Mr Lewis informed members that with regard to overnight sites, Kent County Council are looking at other areas as existing lorry parks are invariably full. Enforcement of prohibited overnight parking is now in place in some locations including clamping and fining. Initial evidence shows success with no repeat offenders or displacement.