

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Mid Sussex District Council Cabinet held on  
13 August 2018 from 4.00 p.m. to 4:16 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillors: Jonathan Ash-Edwards, Judy Llewellyn-Burke \*, Andrew MacNaughton, Gary Marsh, Garry Wall (Leader), Mandy Thomas-Atkin and Norman Webster.

**Also present:** Councillor Cherry.

**Officers:** Tom Clark (Head of Regulatory Services), Simon Hughes (Head of Digital and Customer Services), Peter Stuart (Head of Corporate Resources), Thuso Selelo (Business Unit Leader for Corporate Estates and Facilities), Alison Hammond (Democratic Services Officer) and Claire Onslow (Business Unit Leader for Parking Services).

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Llewellyn-Burke.

**3. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

**4. URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**5. DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS COUNCIL LAND AT IMBERHORNE LANE CAR PARK**

Peter Stuart, the Head of Corporate Resources, introduced the report which informed Members of the outcome of investigations into the development potential of a parcel of Council land at Imberhorne Lane, East Grinstead, which is used as a free public car park. He informed Members that paragraphs 8 and 9 of the report advised the site was currently underutilised and had potential for development. He also highlighted paragraph 13 which advised the proposed development would be for 30 housing units, 40% affordable and the remainder market housing. Paragraph 17 demonstrated the local need for housing in the East Grinstead area.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Growth commented that he was pleased that this site had been brought forward. The site had been allocated in the Neighbourhood Plan and had the potential for new homes. He also highlighted paragraph 17 which stated that 265 households on the housing register indicated a preference to live in the East Grinstead area and the recommendation to provide more than policy level of affordable housing could be done.

The Cabinet Member for Service Delivery noted his support of the proposal and the £30,000 required to bring the car park up to a good standard of repair could be spent on other car parks.

The Cabinet Member for Community noted his support of the proposal and stated that the car park is underutilised, was not generating much income and was a drain on Council resources. He further commented that development of the site would help to improve the Imberhorne Lane area and provide essential housing for those who had indicated a preference to live in the East Grinstead area.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning commented that 40% affordable housing on this site was good news for the households on the waiting list and temporary accommodation. He also commented with regard to paragraph 13, as no planning permission had been granted the mix of affordable to market housing could change in the future, but 40% affordable housing should remain.

Tom Clark, Solicitor to the Council informed the Cabinet that legal documents would be put in place to cover the provision of 40% affordable housing once a planning application had been received.

## **6. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS.**

The Leader proposed that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the exempt appendix on the agenda and this was agreed unanimously.

### **RESOLVED**

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act.

## **7. Disposal Of Surplus Council Land At Imberhorne Lane Car Park – Exempt Appendix 2**

The Leader brought the meeting back into open session on completion of consideration of the exempt appendix and moved to the recommendations included in item 5 which were agreed unanimously.

### **RESOLVED**

Cabinet resolved to:

- (a) Declare the parcel of Council land at Imberhorne Lane, East Grinstead, shown edged in red on the plan at Appendix I to this report (“the Site”) surplus to existing operational requirements and needs;
- (b) Approve the disposal of the Site to Bidder A for residential development, subject to the grant of satisfactory planning permission, in accordance with the terms set out in the Exempt Appendix 2; and
- (c) Authorise the Head of Corporate Resources and the Head of Regulatory Services to enter into a contract, conditional upon the grant of satisfactory full planning permission for residential development of forty per cent affordable homes and sixty per cent commercial homes, for the disposal of the Council’s freehold interest in the Site to Bidder A on the main terms and conditions set out in the Exempt

Appendix 2; and on such other terms and conditions as the Head of Regulatory Services recommends to protect the Council's position.

**8. Asset Acquisition – Exempt**

This item was withdrawn.

Chairman.