

Lichfield City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in the Guildhall, Lichfield, on Tuesday 31 July 2018 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Councillors D Leytham (Mayor), R Awty, Mrs D Baker, Mrs G Boyle, J Brooks, B Cocksey, I Eadie, Mrs J Eagland, C Greateorex, Mrs J Greaves, P Hitchman, Mrs S James, Mrs A Lax, Miss J Marks, C Spruce, A Thompson and R Yardley.

APOLOGIES: Councillors B Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, C Ball, D Dundas, T Matthews, B McMullan, P Ray, A Smith, Mrs L Warfield and M Warfield.

30 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on a number of recent civic and other engagements attended including the opening of a new equine centre which HRH Prince Charles also attended, a family day at DMS Whittington, the Town Criers competition, the opening of a new care home with the Lord Lieutenant and the Blooming Lichfield judging. The Mayor also wished Cllr Dundas a speedy recovery.

31 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

32 COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 May 2018 (Nos 15-29) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.*

33 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 28 June 2018 be received.*

34 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 8(2)

A question was submitted in relation to agenda item 14 (Section 106 Agreement: South Lichfield Development, St John's Ward) by Councillor C Ball, to be asked by Councillor J Brooks. It was agreed that, due to agenda item 14 being confidential, the question would be asked during discussion thereof. The question and answer are therefore reproduced at Minute 41.

35 JOHNSON BIRTHPLACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councillor R Awty welcomed the review of the Samuel Johnson Birthplace and commended the report from Susan Dalloe Consultants. Councillor Awty advised that this was part of a long and important process to secure significant improvements at the Museum.

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes and Recommendations of the extraordinary meeting of the Johnson Birthplace Advisory Committee held on 19 July 2018 be adopted.*

36 OFFICERS' REPORT

The Mayor took each item from the Officers' Report in turn. Councillor B Cocksey noted the extent of the City Council's activities and commented as to the high quality of Officers who carried out their daily duties on behalf of the Council without incident. He also asked the Town Clerk to pass on the Council's good wishes to the Guildhall Bookings Secretary whilst she is on sick leave. Councillor Mrs J Greaves commended the Open Spaces Officer for all his hard work regarding Lichfield in Bloom.

RESOLVED: *That the Report as contained in Agenda Appendix 1 be received, and that officers be commended for their informative report.*

37 ALLOCATION OF LCC COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) MONIES

Members considered the Town Clerk's report and recommendations at Agenda Appendix 2.

RESOLVED:

a) That approximately £14,000+VAT of City Council CIL receipts be allocated to the provision of the improved signage as detailed in the report at agenda Appendix 2, with the proviso that the City Council's contribution be acknowledged on the signage as installed.

b) That delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Leader of the City Council and Chairman of the NPIWP to liaise with LDC on matters such as finalised design, timescales for installation and the nature of the acknowledgment to LCC that is to appear on the signage; and to note that such discussions may lead to minor variations in overall cost.

38 BOLEY PARK COMMUNITY HALL – RENEWAL OF LEASE

Members considered the Town Clerk's agenda report and recommendation.

RESOLVED: *That the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be given delegated authority to agree a renewal of the Boley Park Community Hall lease under the same terms as that previously agreed by Council in December 2009.*

39 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED: *That payment of accounts be approved and confirmed as listed in Agenda Appendix 2 for the period 1 May 2018 to 31 May 2018 in the sum of £118,921.20 General Account, and £942.57 Imprest Account.*

40 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: *That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, by reason of the confidential nature of the business next to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the Meeting.*

41 SECTION 106 AGREEMENT: SOUTH LICHFIELD DEVELOPMENT, ST JOHN'S WARD

Members considered the Town Clerks confidential report at Agenda Appendix 4.

QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 8 (2)

The following question was submitted by Councillor C Ball and asked by Councillor J Brooks

"I have a question on item 14 on the Section 106 Agreement for the South Lichfield Development. My question about how much "affordable housing" there is likely to be on this site, as it does seem like a rather large piece of land. I am also keen to know whether this will be genuinely affordable housing for rent (i.e. social rent, not the so called "affordable rent" at 80% of market rent) I feel strongly that we do not have enough new genuinely affordable housing for rent being built in Lichfield - only 50 in the past two years and of those, only 5 were social rent dwellings. I would hope that the City Council would agree to urge the District Council to use their planning powers to maximise the number of social rent dwellings on the site."

The Mayor asked the Town Clerk to respond. The Town Clerk responded as below:

"The City Council has been asked to sign the S106 agreement by virtue of being a landowner rather than in any statutory capacity. The City Council has therefore not been included in negotiations directly relating to the S106 agreement.

However, Schedule 2 of the agreement states that of the proposed 450 dwellings, 31% (approximately 140 dwellings) shall be Affordable Housing – to be detailed in an Affordable Housing Phasing Scheme to be submitted to the District Council. No dwelling on the site is to be occupied prior to the approval of this Affordable Housing Phasing Scheme by LDC.

Of those 140 dwellings, approximately 90 are to be social rented units and approximately 50 to be intermediate housing units (such as shared ownership).

It is anticipated that the properties will be offered at 'Affordable Rent' though this has not been confirmed by District Council officers in time for this meeting.

There will however be considerable further discussion around the housing mix when the detailed applications are considered by the District Council's Planning Committee, the final outcome of such discussions may impact upon some or all of the information quoted."

Councillor C Greateorex then provided Members with further background information stating that the figure of 31% affordable housing was well within the tolerances of LDC's policy and that subsequent discussions would need to be held between LDC and nominated housing associations to discuss actual rent levels.

RESOLVED: That the City Council enters into the S106 agreement for the proposed development indicated by the site location plan.

42 LAND ENCROACHMENT

Members considered the Town Clerks confidential report at Agenda Appendix 5.

RESOLVED:

- a) That delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to progress this matter in accordance with legal advice, including authority for the City Council to enter into a legally recommended agreement as appropriate.***
- b) The matter to be brought before Council again in the event that significant additional fees are likely to be incurred by following the legally recommended course of action, and/or if agreement is possible but under significantly different terms to those outlined in the report.***

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.45 PM

MAYOR