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ROCHDALE SOUTH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Thursday, 7th November 2019

PRESENT: Councillor Zaman (in the Chair); Councillors Shakil Ahmed, Daalat Ali, Brett, Hornby, Nickson, Angela Smith, Sullivan and Zaheer.

OFFICERS: V. White, M. Aiken, K. Gee (Neighbourhoods Directorate), N. Barton (Economy Directorate), R. Stevens (Children's Directorate) and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate).

14 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Farnell, Howard, Meredith, Rashid and Sheerin.

15 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests.

16 **MINUTES**

In considering the minutes of the meeting of the Committee, held 5th September, 2019 the Chair advised Members that at a previous meeting of the Committee on 5th June 2019, the Committee had omitted to appoint a Township Highways Champion.

Resolved:

1. The minutes of the meeting of the Rochdale South Township Committee held on 5th September 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.
2. Councillor Zaman be appointed as the Rochdale South Township's Highways Champion for the remainder of the 2019/2020 Municipal Year.

17 **BLURRED LINES**

The Township Committee viewed a film regarding the criminal exploitation and sexual exploitation of children that had been produced by young people of Oulder Hill High School in Rochdale.

At the conclusion of the film Committee Members asked questions of the representative of the Children's Social Care Service who was in attendance at the meeting. The Committee noted the often disturbing and graphic content of the film, which sadly reflected the current situation that appertained in the Borough

Resolved that the film be noted and welcomed and the children of Oulder Hill High School be commended for the production of their film.

18 **OPEN FORUM**

There were no items raised in the Open Forum.

19 ADOPTION OF TRUB ROAD UNDER S228 OF HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

The Director of Economy reported that the Whipp and Bourne Development at Trub Road in Rochdale has been built to an Adoptable Standard with works supervised by Rochdale Borough Council Engineers and Clerk of Works. He submitted report therefore proposed that the access road to the site be formally adopted.

Alternatives considered:

That the Committee doesn't approve the adoption of this highway. The highway would not then be subject to routine maintenance and would degrade at a quicker rate, thereby endangering users.

Resolved:

1. The Rochdale South Township Committee approves the adoption of the highways at Trub Road, Rochdale, identified in the plans that are appended to the report.
2. The Rochdale South Township Committee authorises the Assistant Director, (Legal, Governance and Workforce) to take necessary steps to secure the making, confirmation and implementation of the adoption orders including the service of all notices and the presentation of the Councils case at any public inquiry (if necessary).
3. The Rochdale South Township Committee authorises, subject to there being no objections to the statutory notices, the Council as Highway Authority to adopt the highways a Trub Road, Rochdale, as outlined in the submitted report and in the plans that are attached to the submitted report.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council, to facilitate the developments at the Whipp and Bourne Site and at Trub Farm, has made significant improvements to Trub Road at its junction with Manchester Road. At the time no formal adoption agreement was undertaken. The Council should therefore retrospectively adopt such highways under Section 228 of the Highways Act 1980. Section 228 Highways Act 1980, provided that the Council, as Highway Authority, is able to declare a route to be a highway maintainable at public expense provided that works are carried out to a satisfactory standard.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes.

20 ADOPTION OF DEVELOPMENT AT KINGSWAY UNDER S228 OF THE HIGHWAYS ACT

The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods advising that the development at Kingsway Business Park in Rochdale has been built to an Adoptable Standard with works supervised by Rochdale Borough Council Engineers and Clerk of Works, therefore the report was recommending that the site be formally adopted.

Alternatives considered:

That the Committee doesn't approve the adoption of this highway. The highway would not then be subject to routine maintenance and would degrade at a quicker rate, thereby endangering users.

Resolved:

1. The Rochdale South Township Committee approves the adoption of the highways at Kingsway Business Park, Rochdale, identified in the plans that are appended to the report.
2. The Rochdale South Township Committee authorises the Assistant Director, (Legal, Governance and Workforce) to take the necessary steps to secure the making, confirmation and implementation of the adoption orders including the service of all notices and the presentation of the Councils case at any public inquiry (if necessary).
3. The Rochdale South Township Committee authorises, subject to there being no objections to the statutory notices, the Council as Highway Authority to adopt the highways at Kingsway Business Park, Rochdale, as outlined in the submitted report and in the plans that are attached to the submitted report.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council and Rochdale Development Agency had entered into a Collaboration Agreement with Wilson Bowden Developments. The purpose of the Collaboration Agreement was to ensure the comprehensive development of a high quality business park in accordance with the Rochdale Unitary Development Plan and the Planning Permissions. Whilst the intention had always been for the Council, as the Highway Authority, to adopt these areas as highways the Collaboration Agreement made no reference to a process for the formal adoption of the highways. The Council was required to act retrospectively to adopt such highways under Section 228 of the Highways Act 1980. Section 228 Highways Act 1980, provided that the Council, as Highway Authority, is able to declare a route to be a highway maintainable at public expense provided that works are carried out to a satisfactory standard.
Eligible for Call-in: Yes

21 SECTION 106 - ROCHDALE SOUTH PROJECTS

The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Economy that sought approval to allocate funds currently held from Section 106 open space contributions in the Bamford, Kingsway and Milkstone and Deepdish Wards to contribute to projects which would provide local open space improvements within those wards.

Alternatives considered:

The Council is required to spend Section 106 contributions in accordance with legal agreements and local and national planning policy. Not bringing forward projects to spend Section 106 contributions in accordance with these agreements and policies risks the loss of investment in local facilities, and the refunding of monies held from Section 106 contributions where there is a time limited period for spend.

Proposals put forward in the submitted report has been the subject of consultation with appropriate Ward Members and reflected their priorities. The use of resources had therefore been considered to maximise the funding available.

Resolved:

1. The Township Committee approves an allocation of £26,271.90 of Section 106 local open space contributions from the McCarthy and Stone, Butterworth Grange development on Norden Road to fund improvements at Bamford Green, in the Bamford Ward.
2. The Township Committee approves an allocation of £54,925.07 of Section 106 local open space contributions from the David Wilson Homes, Kingsway development to fund the provision of a community garden at Robinson's Common, in the Kingsway Ward.
3. The Township Committee approves an allocation of £2,000.98 of Section 106 local open space contributions from development at Boundary Street to support improvements at Stoneyfield Park, in the Milkstone and Deeplish Ward.

Reasons for the decision:

The Rochdale South Township Committee Members had previously requested that all Section 106 open space funded schemes be approved by Members by way of a report to an appropriate Committee meeting. A similar process of reporting exists in the Council's other four Townships. A variety of costed schemes had been prepared by the Council's Environmental Management and Property Services, Petrus and the Friends of Bamford Green and were supported by the relevant Ward Councillors. These schemes were within the parameters of the Section 106 agreement and the Council's 'Provision of Recreational Open Space in New Housing' Supplementary Planning Document.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes.

22 SECTION 106 FORMAL SPORT AND LOCAL OPEN SPACE

The Township considered a report of the Director of Economy that updated Members on the progress made in updating procedures to allocate Section 106 Formal Sport and Local Open Space contributions following an audit report that had been produced in October 2018.

The submitted report provided information on the current balance of unallocated Section 106 Formal Sport and Local Open Space contributions, on a Ward, Township and borough wide basis.

The meeting was informed that Section 106 Planning Obligations, regarding Formal Sport and Local Open Space, attracted significant resources to improve local sports and general recreation facilities for the benefit of the residents of the Borough. The Council is obliged to ensure that these resources are spent efficiently and in accordance with local policy and Government guidance.

Following an audit of the Section 106 process in October 2018, additional procedures have been developed to ensure the efficient allocation and spend of historic and new Section 106 contributions in accordance with local policy and Government guidance.

It was intended that regular reports updating Members on this matter would be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

23 TOWNSHIPS PLAN 2020 - 2022

Resolved:

That consideration of the Townships Plan 2020 – 2022 item be deferred for consideration at the Committee's next scheduled meeting on 27th February 2020.