

ROCHDALE SOUTH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Thursday, 16th September 2021

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

OFFICERS: M. Robinson (Assistant Director – Economy), V. White (Townships and Communities Manager – Neighbourhoods Directorate), K. Nicholls (Economy Directorate), I. Trickett (Neighbourhoods Directorate) and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Inspector Partington and Sergeant Walsh (Greater Manchester Police) and one member of the public.

66 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hornby, Rashid and Wraighte.

67 MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of its most recent meeting held 3rd August 2021.

Further to minute 62 (Objection to Proposed Traffic Order; Waiting Restrictions, Back Drake Street, Rochdale), the Committee was advised that consideration of the Objection to Proposed Traffic Order Waiting Restrictions, Back Drake Street, Rochdale, would actually be considered at the next meeting of the Township's Delegated Sub-Committee, which was next due to meet on 18th November 2021.

Further to Minute 63 (Rochdale South Township Delegation and Appointments 2021/2022) it was clarified that both Councillor Zaman and Sheerin had been appointed as the Township's Older People's Champions.

Further to Minute 65 (Rochdale South Township Fund 2021/2022), the Townships and Communities Manager reported that that in respect of funding application RP/05/21 – Community Engagement Cultural Night – the amount actually awarded was £3,717.28 (which represented the cost of the scheme minus the food element) and not £4,555.18 as recorded in the Minutes.

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the meeting of Rochdale South Township Committee, held 3rd August 2021, be approved as a correct record, subject to the above mentioned clarifications and amendments.

68 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests.

69 OPEN FORUM

There were no items for the Committee's Open Forum session.

70 GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE - TOWNSHIP UPDATE

Inspector Partington and Sergeant Walsh (Greater Manchester Police (GMP)) both updated the Township Committee on activities and initiatives that were being undertaken by GMP in the Rochdale South Township.

There had been a series of operations aimed at countering violent crime, 'cannabis farms' and prostitution in and around Lincoln Street, Rochdale. There had also been targeted initiatives to counter drug usage and anti-social behaviour in and around Balderstone Park, Rochdale.

GMP reported that there had been a reported spike of burglaries, vehicle theft and theft from vehicles in the Township's Bamford Ward.

Work was ongoing to counter 'knife crime', which linked to work that was taking place across the whole of GMP's footprint. Work was also ongoing to counter the illegal use of 'off-road' vehicles including the use of drones. There was also various initiatives across both Rochdale South and North Townships to clamp down on illegal and dangerous driving practices.

Members of the Township Committee requested that future presentations to the Committee include details of GMP's performance monitoring against key performance indicators, to be circulated to the Committee, in advance of the meeting.

Members of the Committee also expressed their thanks to GMP officers and support staff for their work in and across the Township during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Resolved;

1. That the Greater Manchester Police update be noted and welcomed.
2. That future presentations to the Committee, from GMP include a performance monitoring report outlining GMP's performance against recognised key performance indicators.
3. That the thanks of the Committee be extended to GMP Officers and support staff for their sterling work in the Township during the Covid-19 pandemic.

71 ROCHDALE STATION SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Economy, which outlined a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) that had been produced for the Rochdale Station area to guide and support the continued regeneration and renewal of this area by providing detailed planning and design advice. The draft document, which had been published earlier in 2021 and which had been revised following comments made during the public consultation period.

The report ultimately sought the approval of the Cabinet to adopt the amended SPD document following public consultation in accordance with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations. The Committee were advised that the SPD was due to be considered by the Cabinet at its meeting scheduled to be held 21st September 2021.

Alternatives considered:

Not adopting the SPD could result in less clarity in terms of guidance to applicants and developers within this important regeneration area. This may result in proposals which do not properly deal with planning requirements and result in poorer quality schemes being submitted. Furthermore, there could be a consequence should the Council consider to invoke its powers through the Compulsory Purchase Order process.

Resolved:

1. The Committee notes the proposed amendments to the SPD, following the consultation exercise with the public
2. That Cabinet, at its meeting on 21st September 2021, be recommended to adopt the updated SPD, as set out in appendix A of the submitted report, in accordance with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

Reasons for the resolution:

The Committee was advised that as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, Supplementary Planning Documents build upon and provide more detailed advice or guidance on the policies in the Local Plan. Regulations 11 to 16 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 set out the requirements for producing SPDs. Regulation 12 requires that consultation is undertaken prior to the adoption of an SPD.

Eligible for Call-in: No.