



Chairman - Councillor F Beatty

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

J A Barron	D M McNaughton
F Beatty	B McKeown
B M Cross	M Phillips
P C Edgeller	J P Read
A R McNaughton	D P Rouxel

Also present:-

Councillor A T A Godfrey, Leader
Councillor A F Reid, Cabinet Member
Councillor J M Pert
Councillor L Nixon

Officers in attendance:-

D Piper	-	Head of Economic Development and Planning
M Smith	-	Economic Growth and Strategic Projects Manager
A Yendole	-	Strategic Planning and Placemaking Manager
J Allen	-	Democratic Services Officer

EDP19 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2023, as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record, subject to the amendment - spelling of Councillor Rouxel's name in minute number EDP18.

EDP20 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J S Powell (substituted by Councillor B McKeown).

EDP21 Project Update

The Economic Growth and Strategic Projects Manager gave a verbal update of current projects, including:

- The acquisition of the Guildhall;
- Following the award of nearly £20m from the Levelling Up Fund, a meeting was held in December regarding the delivery programme for the Stafford Station Gateway project;

- Task and Finish Review - Town Centre Events - met for the first time yesterday and an interim update report will come to the Scrutiny Committee in March.
- The newly refurbished Market Square has a twelve-month snagging period. Remedial works will take place after the Christmas Tree has been removed.

Further updates will come to the next meeting.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the verbal update be noted.

EDP22 New Local Plan 2020-2040 Update

Considered the report of the Head of Economic Development and Planning which gave an update regarding the current position of the new Local Plan 2020-2040 and associated documentation.

The Strategic Planning and Placemaking Manager delivered a presentation regarding the Local Plan, including changes to timetable, changes to national policies and legislation, and awaiting further guidance from Government.

Another update will be given to the Scrutiny Committee as soon as further details are known.

A strong evidence base is required and there was a significant number of responses from the Preferred Options consultation which need to be taken into consideration. It was noted that it is an evolving process until the point of examination.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Planning confirmed that the growth of the Borough remains a priority.

It was confirmed that the Brownfield Land Register has been published.

Officers were thanked for the work done on the Local Plan.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the report be noted.

EDP23 Meecebrook Garden Community

Considered the report of the Head of Economic Development and Planning providing an update on progress made in relation to the development of the Meecebrook Garden Community.

The Economic Growth and Strategic Projects Manager led Members through the report providing an explanation to any questions raised.

A further update will be given to the Scrutiny Committee as soon as possible.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the report be noted.

EDP24 Work Programme

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Governance detailing the forthcoming meeting (up to March 2024).

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the Work Programme be approved, subject to the amendments made at the meeting.

CHAIR