

MARYPORT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee held on Monday 25 July 2016 in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Maryport at 7.00pm.

Present

Councillor S Ashworth	Councillor S Barcock
Councillor B Carter	Councillor G Hampson
Councillor Mrs A Kendall (Chairman)	Councillor P Kendall
Councillor Mrs C McCarron Holmes	Councillor W Pegram
Councillor Mrs L Radcliffe	Councillor Ms S Stamper
Councillor T Todd	Councillor L Williamson
Councillor I Tyson	

In Attendance

Mr P Bramley (Clerk)
Mrs L Douglas (Clerk)
Ms V Patterson (Press)
Mr Toni Magean (Allerdale Borough Council)
Mrs Andrea Smith (Allerdale Borough Council)

10/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ms C Tindall, M Wood & Mrs J Wood.

11/16 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received from Councillor L Williamson & Councillor W Pegram, members of Allerdale Borough Council Development Panel.

Resolved that the declarations of interest be noted.

12/16 Requests for Dispensations

None received.

13/16 Minutes of Meeting held on 13 June 2016

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee held on 13 June 2016 be confirmed as a correct record & signed by the Chairman.

14/16 Presentation on Allerdale Borough Council Housing Strategy 2016 to 2021

A presentation was received from Allerdale Borough Council Housing Officer Andrea Smith on Allerdale Borough Council's Housing Strategy 2016 to 2021. The strategy sets out the Council's vision and priorities for the delivery and development of new market and affordable housing, improving housing stock and reducing homelessness across the Borough by 2021. Mrs Smith stated that Allerdale believed that its partners played a key role in enabling it to achieve its vision. It was considered that the strategy would enable Allerdale to identify the best way to engage with all sections of the community and maximise opportunities to deliver housing that meets the needs of all its communities. It was further considered that it would allow Allerdale to identify solutions to the problems of a challenging housing market in all sectors and provide a strategic framework that allows it to meet its action plan. Providing access to good quality housing of a suitable type, size and tenure for all was an aspirational goal of Allerdale Borough Council to give residents of Allerdale a higher quality of life with opportunities for them to grow whilst living in mixed and sustainable communities.

Mrs Smith reported that although progress had been made since the previous housing strategy had been written, much more was still required to increase and improve the housing stock across the borough and to support the Borough's most vulnerable individuals. The strategy was being delivered at a time of change and uncertainty. Changes proposed by the Government would provide the Borough Council with challenges which must be met to maintain delivery of services to residents over the following five years. The shortfall of affordable housing was a concern, especially for low-income households. Welfare reform changes could result in some households being unable to afford to rent or buy in the private sector, which would result in them relying on affordable housing. It was therefore considered crucial that new housing, and in particular affordable housing, was seen as a key priority for Allerdale.

It was reported that the overall condition of the housing stock in the Borough had significantly improved since 2011. It was, however, considered important that Allerdale continued to work to improve standards, especially in the Private Rented Sector, which had grown considerably. The number of households in fuel poverty remained an area of concern. Allerdale has a high proportion of pre-1919 hard to treat dwellings and a high percentage of properties not on mains gas, and was therefore committed to tackling fuel poverty.

Allerdale has a 'super ageing' population, which means that the population is ageing faster than the rest of the UK population. The number of residents aged over 65 was expected to increase by 40% from 2015 to 2037, which posed a major strategic challenge for Allerdale and the new strategy aimed to ensure that there was a range of appropriate housing provision, adaptations and support for Allerdale's ageing population.

Mrs Smith advised that the Council continued to be committed to ensuring that the most vulnerable residents of Allerdale were protected. Tackling homelessness, overcrowding and supporting vulnerable people to live independently were priorities which directly linked with the 2015-2019 Allerdale Borough Council Plan 'Tackling Inequality, Improving Health and Wellbeing and strengthening our economy'.

The current economy provided Allerdale with challenges, however, over the next decade West Cumbria was considered likely to see a number of developments that would provide business opportunities and support economic growth. Therefore, there

was a need for Allerdale to provide the right type of housing to not only support existing residents but also those moving to the area for employment.

The strategy provided a framework for all partners with an interest in housing to work together to influence the provision of housing. Those partners included housing associations, private landlords, residents, community land trusts, government bodies, developers, investors, support providers & local councillors, which together formed the Allerdale Strategic Housing Forum.

It was seen that the Housing Strategy would contribute to Allerdale's vision of improving the lives of Allerdale residents, as set out in its Council Plan 2015-2019.

Resolved that Mrs Smith be thanked for her presentation.

15/16 Presentation on Maryport Town Centre Improvements

Allerdale Borough Council Town Centre Manager for Maryport Toni Magean provided an update on improvements made to Maryport Town Centre:

1) Maryport Town Centre Shop & Residential Improvement Scheme

Mr Magean reported that Allerdale had established a £50,000 budget in 2016/17 to fund improvements to town centre shops & residential properties. A maximum grant of £900 was available for each property, & occupiers were required to obtain three quotes for work to be carried out by contractors. Ten grants had been issued to date & members were requested to encourage qualifying businesses & residents to apply for the scheme, which would be open for applications until 31 December 2016.

2) Town Centre Clean-up

A Clean-up of Maryport town centre had been cancelled due to poor weather but had been rearranged for Wednesday 27 July, commencing at 10.00am at The Wave. Work planned included painting, weeding & litter picking.

3) Allerdale Borough Community Grant

Mr Magean thanked the Council for ideas submitted proposing use of the grant in 2016/17 & advised that a Panel Meeting would be held on 27 July to consider proposed application of the grant.

4) Local Enterprise Partnership Funding

Mr Magean reported that grants of £5,000 in support of flood affected area business from the Local Enterprise Partnership had been awarded to Flimby & Maryport; the former had been applied in support of Flimby Carnival & the latter in support of Maryport Gala.

5) Welcome to Maryport Banners

Mr Magean reported that eight banners had been designed by pupils at Netherton Infant School & would shortly be displayed on the designated sites, which he thanked the Council for supporting.

Mr Magean responded to a number of questions from members:

- No progress had been made in developing ideas for schemes following a recent Travel Plan meeting.

- Allerdale Borough Council Chief Executive Mr Ian Frost was leading on the Maryport Heritage Lottery Fund bid.
- The closing date for bids for the Coastal Community Fund had passed.
- Whilst ideas had been submitted for making improvements to Maryport Promenade, none had been sufficiently substantial to meet the criteria required by funding bodies.
- Window covers for empty town centre properties were due to be put in place prior to the Maryport Blues Festival weekend.
- Mr Magean agreed to consider establishing a quarterly meeting with Allerdale Borough Council members for Maryport wards to discuss proposals for Maryport.

Resolved that Mr Magean be thanked for his presentation & for the positive developments which had recently been introduced to help improve the outlook of the town.

16/16 Planning Applications

Resolved that the following observations against each planning application be forwarded to the appropriate Planning authority:

- 1) 2/2016/0326 Erection of new storage building
Forth Engineering Risehow
Flimby
Maryport
Emailed to members out of time for comment
No Objections

- 2) 2/2016/0357 Replacement of garage
Mr Ronnie Spencer
Park Hill
Camp Road
Maryport
Emailed to members out of time for comment
No Objections

- 3) 2/2016/0386 Proposed two storey extension
Mr Hindmoor
1-4 The Steele
Maryport
Emailed to members out of time for comment
As per previous Observations at property concerned

- 4) 2/2016/0399 To erect Gates
Lisa Douglas, Maryport Town Council
Well Lane
Maryport
Emailed to members out of time for comment
No Objections

- 5) 2/2016/0414 Valet Bay & storage with collection point
R Fisher
Unit E Risehow Industrial Estate
Maryport
Emailed to members out of time for comment
No Objections
- 6) 2/2016/0426 Advert consent 1x illuminated sign
Lidl UK
Curzon Street
Maryport
Emailed to members out of time for comment
No Objections
- 7) 2/2016/0435 Bedroom extension above garage
Mr J Harris
6 Whitecroft
Maryport
No Objections
- 8) 2/2016/0441 Replacement windows
Mr Quirk
23 Kirkby Street
Maryport
No Objections Subject to Design

17/16 Decision Notices

Resolved that the following Planning Decision Notices be noted:

- 1) 2/2016/0227 Extension as part of disabled adaption
Miss Edge
85 Ewanrigg Road
Maryport
APPROVED
- 2) 2/2016/0240 Single storey extension and alterations to existing
Garage
Mr Melville
13 Skiddaw Avenue
Maryport
APPROVED
- 3) 2/2016/0253 Alterations to form 5 flats on 1st floor
Mr Hunter
Living for life Cumbria
Lowswater Road
Maryport
APPROVED

- 4) 2/2016/0303 Replacement windows
Mr Dolan
2 Mill Street
Maryport
APPROVED
- 5) 2/2016/0314 Demolish existing and re build new dwelling
Mr Hamilton
Fidra
Ellenborough Road
Maryport
APPROVED

18/16 Correspondence

Resolved that correspondence be noted & that the Council write to Mr Ian Hinde, Allerdale Borough Council, in support of a proposal that the Flimby Methodist Church should be registered as a Community Asset, due to its inestimable value to the community.

19/16 Changes to Planning Regulations

Resolved that the Council invite Allerdale Borough Council Head of Planning Services Mr Kevin Kerrigan to make a presentation on government proposals to make changes to planning legislation.

20/16 Promoting the West Cumbrian Coast to Visitors

Resolved that the Council contact Parish Councils along the coast to Silloth to seek their interest in forming a Joint Working Party to promote tourism in the area.

21/16 Sea Brows Footpaths

Resolved that the Council contact Allerdale Borough Council to request the current position concerning the closed footpaths at Sea Brows, Maryport, in particular, whether remedial works were planned or grant funding was being sought, & when it was anticipated the footpaths would be opened.

22/16 Items for Next Agenda

- 1) To investigate means by which the local business economy could learn from other similar types of town in the area.
- 2) To review the provision & maintenance of milestones.

The meeting finished at 8.45pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date