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Wednesday, 13 November 2024

To All Councillors:

As a Member or Substitute of the **Community & Environment Committee**, please treat this as your summons to attend a meeting on **Thursday, 21 November 2024 at 6.00 pm** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bank Road, Matlock, DE4 3NN**

Yours sincerely,

Paul Wilson
Chief Executive

This information is available free of charge in electronic, audio, Braille and large print versions, on request.

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AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Please advise the Democratic Services Team on 01629 761133 or email committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk of any apologies for absence.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 5 - 24)

22 July 2024, 30 July 2024, 12 September 2024

3. RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS (Pages 25 - 30)

To receive the minutes of the following Sub-Committee meetings:

- Local Plan Sub-Committee – 16 July 2024

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To enable members of the public to ask questions, express views or present petitions, **IF NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**, (by telephone, in writing or by email) **BY NO LATER THAN 12 NOON OF THE WORKING DAY PRECEDING THE MEETING**. As per Procedural Rule 14.4 at any one meeting no person may submit more than 3 questions and no more than 1 such question may be asked on behalf of one organisation.

5. INTERESTS

Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any interests they may have in subsequent agenda items in accordance with the District Council's Code of Conduct. Those interests are matters that relate to money or that which can be valued in money, affecting the Member, her/his partner, extended family and close friends. Interests that become apparent at a later stage in the proceedings may be declared at the time.

6. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE OF PROCEDURE NUMBER 15

To answer questions from Members who have given the appropriate notice.

7. EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY AND NEXT STEPS (Pages 31 - 50)

Empty homes represent a waste of a much-needed housing resource in a time of severe shortage. Over time, their condition and appearance can significantly deteriorate, attracting crime and antisocial behaviour, whilst potentially blighting streets and neighbourhoods. In recognition of this, the Council appointed a dedicated, full time Empty Homes Officer (EHO), who commenced in post in November 2022.

The purpose of this report is to summarise the key highlights and learning points from the first 18 months of the EHO being in post, to July 2024. The report makes a number of recommendations as to how work in this important area can be improved in current and future years.

8. THE RE-INTRODUCTION OF A LOCAL VALIDATION CHECKLIST (Pages 51 - 94)

The report proposes re-introducing a revised/updated Local Validation Checklist which sets out the requirements for validating planning applications. The use of a local checklist is supported by the government within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

The list sets out additional information required to be submitted with an application above that required by the national validation requirements. The revised checklist also includes a separate revision addressing the requirements for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) which became a requirement for a large number of planning application from April of this year.

The information requirements set out within the proposed local list are not intended to add any additional burden to development, but to ease the fair and timely assessment of planning applications by being consistent and reducing delays.

9. PLANNING APPEAL: GRITSTONE ROAD, MATLOCK (Pages 95 - 100)

The report sets out options for defending an appeal at a Planning Inquiry relating to an application which was recommended for refusal by Officers and refused by the Planning Committee.

10. PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY LOCAL PLAN REVIEW ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION - COUNCIL RESPONSE (Pages 101 - 126)

On the 7th October 2024, the Peak District National Park Authority published a 'Issues and Options' consultation on a new Local Plan for the Peak District. The new Local Plan will replace the existing Core Strategy (2011) and Development Management Policies Documents (2019) and provide the framework to guide new development; and policies to determine planning applications within the Peak District National Park to 2045. The new Local Plan seeks to ensure that development is coordinated; reflects the goals of local communities and meets the National Park statutory purposes.

The purpose of this report is to provide a District Council response to the Peak District National Park Authority's Local Plan Review Issues and Options consultation and enable Members to respond by the 29th November 2024 deadline.

11. PERMANENT GYPSY AND TRAVELLER SITE IDENTIFICATION (Pages 127 - 134)

ARK were engaged by the Council to undertake an initial search of potential permanent traveller sites. This project concluded in May 2024 and a further, more detailed assessment was then commissioned and concluded in October 2024. This report sets out the progress of the 2nd phase of work. Whilst ARK were unable to secure suitable sites, they have identified 3 potential sites that need further assessment. ARK have also reflected on the shortcomings of the traditional approach of councils to acquire land and recommend that the District Council revise its approach to include the use of auctions, subject to the development of an appropriate delegation policy.

Members of the Committee - Councillors Martin Burfoot (Chair), Peter O'Brien (Vice-Chair), Robert Archer, Matt Buckler, Sue Bull, David Chapman, Peter Dobbs, Marilyn Franks, Susan Hobson, Stuart Lees, Joanne Linthwaite, Dermot Murphy, Andy Nash, Peter Slack, Steve Wain and Nick Whitehead

Substitutes – Councillors Anthony Bates, John Bointon, Geoff Bond, Sue Burfoot, Bob Butcher, David Burton, Neil Buttle, Nigel Norman Edwards-Walker, Steve Flitter, Gareth Gee, Dawn Greatorex, David Hughes, Laura Mellstrom, Lucy Peacock, Simon Ripton, Roger Shelley and Nick Wilton

NOTE

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