

Local Plan Committee

Wednesday 19th June 2019 at 7.00pm

in the Council Chamber, The Cube, Corby

Councillors present: Councillors Dady, Keane, Cassidy and Watt

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Beeby.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any interest they might have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate whether these were prejudicial or non-prejudicial, the nature of the interest and whether they intend to participate in the relevant agenda item. No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Members were asked to approve the minutes of the Local Plan meeting held on 27th March 2019 copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that:

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2019, copies of which had been circulated to Members, be agreed as a correct record.

4. Oxford – Cambridge Arc Update

The Principal Planning Officer (Local Plan) presented a report updating Members on the Oxford – Cambridge Arc and progress of the Growth Deal.

Updates on the Arc and the implications for North Northamptonshire had been presented to NNJPC and NNJDC on 25 April and 6 June 2019 respectively.

The officer summarised as follows:

- The Government had affirmed that the extent of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc covered the whole of Northamptonshire.
- Discussions had been ongoing with Government and Homes England to identify the support needed to accelerate the delivery of committed growth, and unlock the potential of the area to contribute in the longer term.
- Preparation of a joint spatial vision for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc had been delayed. This would have implications for the timing and nature of the Joint Core Strategy review.

Planning and Development consultants Litchfield's had been commissioned to prepare a North Northamptonshire Investment Framework setting out measures to accelerate housing and employment delivery and identify priorities for future funding.

Priority projects within the North Northamptonshire Investment Framework included Corby Northern Orbital Road, Walking & Cycling Improvements, Little Stanion highways infrastructure and A6003 Improvements, the Joint Planning & Delivery Unit would work with relevant stakeholders to identify how priority projects would be delivered.

Litchfield's next stage was to undertake further work on the economic prospectus for North Northamptonshire providing a clear economic narrative showing existing economic strengths and USPs and focussing on attention and resources to realise key priorities.

Members raised concerns about when infrastructure was likely to come forward, there was a large amount of building work around Weldon, in particular Priors Hall Park and Weldon Park and nothing coming forward about when the North Orbital Road would be completed, it was key that infrastructure was put in place.

Officers advised that there was some money available for the A43 improvements, money would come forward through S106 and the Tresham Village application had not being given

consent currently, officers said that highways was a significant issues and it was hoped that an outline application for the A43 would be forthcoming but would be tied to a revised S106.

Members also asked about the Cowthick Plantation and were advised that there was no application in so was not included in this report.

RESOLVED that:

The Officer's report be noted.

5. North Northamptonshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment

The new North Northamptonshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment had recently been published, its primary objective had been to identify the current and future needs of the traveller communities in North Northamptonshire.

The need for an update followed the change in definition of Travellers in the Planning Policy for Travellers Sites published in 2015. The Government changed the definition of Gypsy and Travellers so that households who are not travelling for work purposes fell outside the planning definition of a Traveller.

The methodology used for the assessment was based on National Planning Policy and best practice and drew on a combination of desk based research, stakeholder consultation and direct engagement with members of the travelling community.

The assessment had shown that there was a requirement for a further 7 pitches to be provided in the next 5 years, the assessment did not however identify specific sites to accommodate future requirements, this would be the responsibility of the local authority through the planning process and Local Plan policies.

RESOLVED that:

- The content of the report be noted
- Agree the inclusion of the North Northamptonshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment as part of the Council's planning evidence base

6. Part 2 Local Plan for Corby – Publication Draft (Pre-submission)

The officers report sought approval of the Publication Draft (Pre-Submission) version of Part 2 Local Plan for Corby and revised Local Development Scheme prior to a period of statutory public consultation under Regulation 19 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Part 2 Local Plan for Corby would provide detailed policies and additional non-strategic development allocations in accordance with the strategic policies of the Joint Core Strategy (Part 1 of the Local Plan).

Both stages of consultation were carried out in compliance with the North Northamptonshire Statement of Community Involvement and a summary of representations for each stage had been reported back to the Local Plan Committee on 8 March 2017 and 10 October 2018.

As a result of representations received the Council had progressed updates to various pieces of evidence to address issues that had arisen from the public consultations. A considerable amount of work had been carried out to refine and develop the Plan in response to representations made during the consultation period, helpful input had also been received from key officers across the Council including development control and housing strategy.

Key stakeholders had been asked again to provide their views as the Plan had been refined, fortnightly Project Group meetings had been held to support the preparation of the Plan, a copy of the document had been approved by the Senior Management Team on 5 June 2019. It was considered that the Plan was now ready for public consultation ahead of submission to the Secretary of State in accordance with Local Plan Regulations.

Key changes made since the Emerging Draft Options were summarised in the report, advanced notification of the consultation would be provided during July allowing additional time during the summer holidays in accordance with the statements of consultation.

Subject to the approval of the Part 2 Local Plan it was expected that examination including hearings would take place in summer 2020 and concluded by winter 2020, if the Plan is found to be 'sound' it would be formally adopted.

RESOLVED that:

Members:

- Approve the Publication Draft (Pre-Submission) attached to the report at Appendix 1 subject to any amendments agreed by the Head of Planning and Environmental Services in consultation with the Chair
- Agree the revised Local Development Scheme set out in the report to be adopted and brought into effect.

7. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm.