

## **Local Plan Committee**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.00pm**  
*in the Members Room, The Cube, Corby*

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**Councillors present:** Councillors Dady, Beeby, Ferguson, Keane and Goult

### **19. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cassidy.

### **20. 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.

### **21. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Members were asked to approve the minutes of the Local Plan meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 copies of which had been circulated.

#### **RESOLVED that:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019, copies of which had been circulated to Members, be agreed as a correct record.

### **22. Gretton Neighbourhood Plan – Council Response to Pre-Submission Draft**

The report before Committee updated on the progress made with the Gretton Neighbourhood Plan and sought Committee endorsement of Officer's comments on the Pre-Submission version of the Plan.

Under the Localism Act 2011 Corby Borough Council had a statutory duty to provide advice and assistance to those communities choosing to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan. The level of advice and assistance the LPA provides was summarised in the officer's report in the form of a diagram.

The Neighbourhood Plan had to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan in force, including the Joint Core Strategy and the Minerals and Waste Plan.

The Gretton Neighbourhood Plan covered a period to 2031, this timescale mirrored the JCS and Part 2 Local Plan for Corby. The plan focussed on those planning issues which consultation shows matter most to the community of Gretton and which would give the greatest additional value, these locally formulated policies were specific to Gretton Parish and reflected the needs and aspirations of the community including:

- Ensure that development takes place in the most sustainable locations;
- Encourage the appropriate types of development that meet local needs;
- Protect important buildings and structures of historic and architectural interest;
- Protect important community facilities and shops;
- Promote high quality design in new developments;
- Protect the countryside and the special landscape; and
- Protect open spaces that are important to the community and the wildlife.

A number of 'Basic Conditions' had to be met in order for a neighbourhood plan to be finalised. Deciding whether an SEA or Appropriate Assessment was needed was a key stage in the neighbourhood planning process.

In late September 2019 Corby Borough Council commissioned consultants AECOM to undertake a screening opinion on the Neighbourhood Plan in relation to whether an SEA process was required, their opinion was that a full SEA was unlikely to be required.

A public consultation of the Gretton Neighbourhood Plan under Regulation 14 commenced on 1 October and concluded on 12 November 2019.

The officer response to the Pre-Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan had been provided to the Neighbourhood Forum to meet consultation deadline. A summary of the comments was contained in the officer's report to Local Plan under the headings of Conformity Checklist and Additional Comments.

After submission, responsibility for taking the process forward was with the Local Planning Authority, Corby Borough Council must conduct a publication stage consultation on the Final Plan for at least six weeks under Regulation 16 and then arrange for an independent examination, this would consider whether the Plan met the basic conditions and other legal requirements. If successful at the examination stage the Council would arrange for a neighbourhood plan referendum. If that resulted in a majority Yes vote the plan would become part of the statutory development plan for the area.

Officers were asking Members of the Committee to make comment within the next seven days if they wanted to add anything.

Councillors asked that if the Referendum was to take place that it coincide with elections being held for Corby in order to save on costs and maximise turn out if this was at all possible.

Officers confirmed they would speak to Democratic Services once this stage had been reached.

The Parish Council and volunteers were to be congratulated on all the hard work that has clearly gone into the drafting of the Plan which added value to the Local Plan process.

**RESOLVED that:**

- Note progress in producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Gretton.
- Endorse the officer response provided by Corby Borough Council's Planning, Housing and Environmental Health teams set out at Appendices 1 and 2 as a response to the recent public consultation on the Gretton Neighbourhood Plan under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.
- Provide any further comments at or within seven days of the Committee meeting to be compiled and agreed by the Chairman of this Committee and passed on to the Neighbourhood Planning Group as an additional response to the public consultation on the Gretton Neighbourhood Plan under the same Regulations (please send comments by email to [Localplans.Consultation@corby.gov.uk](mailto:Localplans.Consultation@corby.gov.uk)).

**23. Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm.