

At a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in Council Chamber - Allerdale House, Workington on Friday 22 March 2019 at 2.00 pm

## **Members**

Councillor Alan Pitcher (Chair)  
Councillor John Cook  
Councillor Hilary Harrington  
Councillor Bill Pegram

Councillor Janet Farebrother (Co-Chair)  
Councillor Joseph Cowell  
Councillor Jim Osborn  
Councillor Martin Wood

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Malcolm Grainger, Councillor Joe Holliday, Councillor Frank Johnston and Councillor Billy Miskelly

## **Staff Present**

A FitzGerald, I Hinde, L Jardine and K Kerrigan

## **Also Present**

M Fryer (Executive Member: Deputy Leader - Economic Growth)

### **432. Declaration of Interests**

6. Portfolio Presentation by the Executive Member for Economic Growth. Councillor Joseph Cowell; Other Interest; Works within the 'container pods' industry.
6. Portfolio Presentation by the Executive Member for Economic Growth. Councillor Mark Fryer; Other Interest; Shareholder of Workington Town RLFC, holding shares under the threshold for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

### **433. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2019 were signed as a correct record.

### **434. Questions**

None Received

### **435. Public Participation**

None Received

### **436. Portfolio Presentation by the Executive Member for Economic Growth**

Councillor Mark Fryer, Executive Member and portfolio holder for Economic Growth provided an update on various projects including the Hadrian's Wall Cycleway and the Maryport Regeneration Project whilst discussing an overview of his portfolio including planning and building control.

Discussion then followed in relation to the Wave Centre, with Councillor Fryer confirming that the Wave Centre is an asset to Maryport and that the introduction of the 'clip and climb', the 'cave' and the gym are reducing the subsidy that the Council currently pays. Maryport continued to be the subject of debate with Councillor Fryer explaining the 5 point plan to improve the town and the plan to keep employment and industry in Maryport.

Discussion then moved towards the coastal road between Allonby and Silloth and that without remedy the road could be lost to Coastal Erosion, however the issue of funding and responsibility was with several stakeholders, with Councillor Fryer confirming that the road itself being an asset of Cumbria County Council.

Members asked questions of the potential to use the Solway Coast for energy and also on the current uses of Workington and Silloth Harbours. The Head of Place Development confirmed that harnessing energy from the Solway Coast is a complex issue, not just due to cost, but due to Ecology and Hydrology concerns.

#### **437. Reedlands Road Project Update**

Head of Place Development, Kevin Kerrigan provided an update to members. He advised that the scheme was to provide 10 industrial units with construction due to start in August 2019. The units be leased out to tenants and managed by Allerdale Borough Council.

The project is being financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and through Council borrowing.

#### **438. Discussion Item**

The topic of discussion was the New Community Stadium for Workington, which was an item on the meeting of the Executive prior to this meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 22 March 2019.

The Monitoring Officer clarified both the 'call in' procedure and the decision made at the Executive Meeting, 22 March 2019.

The Monitoring Officer and Head of Place Development then answered questions from members and debate ensued in relation to finance, planning and public consultation.

#### **439. Forward Plan**

Members were concerned about the Geological Disposal Facility Site Evaluation Criteria, which was an item on the forward plan.

The Head of Place Development confirmed that this item was discussed at Executive on 22 March 2019 and that the only decision made was to approve the draft response to the consultation, not to make any other decisions or commitments.

Members then noted the forward plan of key and non key decisions.

#### **440. Work Programme**

Members discussed the formation of a task/finish group in relation to the New Community Stadium for Workington; however no updates were made to the Work Programme.

**The meeting closed at 4.00 pm**