

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting held: 12th September 2018

Present: Councillor Mike Tebbutt (Chair)
Councillors Duncan Bain, Ash Davies, Ruth Groome, Jan Smith

18.PP.05 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cedwien Brown and Ian Jelley

18.PP.06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

18.PP.07 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6th June 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

18.PP.08 RIGHT TO SPEAK

Councillor David Benson (Stoke Albany Parish Council) indicated that he wished to speak on Item 7 on the agenda.

18.PP.09 SEATS ON STREETS: PROPOSED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER (LDO)

A report was submitted which sought to inform Members of the comments received to the Local Development Order consultation and to seek agreement that the Local Development Order: Seats on Streets be recommended to Full Council for adoption and that the Statement of Reasons for Making the Local Development Order be recommended to Full Council for agreement.

Members heard that a Local Development Order (LDO) was adopted by Kettering Borough Council on 25 September 2013 that meant a simplified procedure could be followed that would enable Kettering Town Centre restaurants / cafe's etc, to use part of the public realm/ pavements for seating and tables

associated with their businesses. This resulted in the automatic grant of planning permission for change of use of the highway for the placing of tables and chairs outdoors, with only an annual street café licence needing to be obtained by businesses.

It was then heard that this “Seats on Streets” Local Development Order had been in use since it was adopted. However, this order was time limited and had now expired, which meant that to continue with this system for new applicants, a new Order was required.

Members were then informed that the LDO sought to deliver a ‘Café Culture’ which was one of the key aims of the Kettering Town Centre Area Action Plan. “Seats on Streets” was also identified as a short-term project in the Kettering Town Centre Delivery Plan 2018 – 2025, which was approved by Executive Committee on 18th April 2018.

As part of the planning of the LDO, Members of Planning Committee endorsed the recommendation that an updated LDO be prepared and that it go through a consultation period, before being presented to Members of Full Council for adoption. This followed the same process previously undertaken, which took account of feedback received through a public consultation process.

Members were informed that three new conditions were also proposed to safeguard listed buildings and their settings, and highway safety / vehicle flows, and access by emergency vehicles. Two informatives were also proposed to clarify procedural issues.

Members enquired whether or not the proposed Local Development Order could be extended to include relevant businesses within the A6 Towns and recommended that Town Councils be invited to discuss the possibility of additional Local Development Orders for the A6 Towns.

It was heard that following the implementation of the Seats on Streets LDO, a formal letter would be sent to all A6 Town Councils to open discussions regarding the possibility of an LDO within the A6 Towns.

Members sought clarification on a numbers of areas in the supporting documentation. Members also noted there was a difference in the recommended minimum footway distances between that specified in the proposed LDO, and the Street Café Licence documentation, and that it would be helpful if a common dimension could be agreed.

Members complimented officers on the comprehensive report and it was

RESOLVED

That Members:

- (a) Note the representations received on the LDO through the public consultation and agree the responses to these representations.
- (b) Endorse the draft LDO and the Statement of Reasons for Making the LDO.
- (c) Note that the LDO will be reported to Executive for further comment; and
- (d) Agree that subject to any changes agreed by Members, the LDO is recommended to Full Council for adoption and the Statement of Reasons for Making the LDO is recommended to Full Council for agreement.

18.PP.10 SITE SPECIFIC PART 2 LOCAL PLAN - UPDATE

A report was submitted to update Members following the consultation on the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan – Draft Plan.

Members heard that the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan (SSP2) would form part of the statutory North Northamptonshire Development Plan, and would provide local planning policies to cover Kettering Borough. The plan would include the identification of sites for housing, employment, recreation and other land uses and would be used alongside the Joint Core Strategy.

Members heard that the purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the consultation on the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan – Draft Plan which took place from 22nd June 2018 to 3rd August 2018.

Councillor David Benson of Stoke Albany Parish Council addressed the Committee under the Council's Right to Speak Policy, raising objections on behalf of both the Parish Council and residents of Stoke Albany with regards to the proposed increase in housing included within the draft Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan. Councillor Benson advised the committee that the village in its current state was not sustainable, due to its lack of amenities available to residents, and highway risks associated with the roads within the village. Councillor Benson suggested a significant scale back in development is needed, and that the

Parish Council is prepared to actively engage with the Borough Council.

The Draft Plan consultation was widely advertised, letters and e-mails were sent to consultees registered on the consultation portal. Information packs were provided to Parish and Town Councils, Neighbourhood Forums, Schools and Borough Councillors, these included posters, guidance notes, information sheets, plans and response forms. Information was made available on the Councils website and inspection copies were available in the Council Offices and libraries. A press release was sent to the local media and the Council's social media was used to inform people of the consultation.

Officers also attended Kettering Town Forum, A6 Town Forum and Rural Forum to provide information on the consultation and to answer questions. Following the Kettering Town Forum meeting officers also attended the Interfaith Forum; and provided additional information to the Kettering Business Network.

Seven drop-in consultation events were also held and it was stated that these were an opportunity for people to come along, view the proposals and ask questions. In total 219 people attended the consultation events.

In total 557 comments had been received to the consultation, from 239 people. These comments had now been entered onto the Council's consultation portal and were available for the public to view.

Members then heard that officers were now in the process of reviewing and responding to the comments received. Once this process had been completed, they will be reported to a future meeting of the Planning Policy Committee.

Members heard that the consultation on the Draft Plan was not a formal consultation stage but would contribute towards ensuring that stakeholders and local communities could input into the plan at an early stage. The next consultation on the SSP2 would be the Pre-submission consultation, which would take place October-December 2018.

During discussion Members felt it was very important for them to be part of the consultation events and to help raise awareness to members of the public of the importance of taking part in the consultation.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED that

- a) Members note the update given on the consultation for the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan – Draft Plan

(The meeting started at 6.30 pm and ended at 7.10 pm)

Signed
Chair