



BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2020

AT 6.00 P.M.

VIRTUAL MEETING - SKYPE - VIRTUAL

MEMBERS: Councillors M. Thompson (Chairman), J. Till (Vice-Chairman), A. J. B. Beaumont, S. R. Colella, R. J. Deeming, M. Glass, C.A. Hotham, R. J. Hunter, A. D. Kriss, P. M. McDonald and C. J. Spencer

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence and Named Substitutes
2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Arrangements

To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests.
3. To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 6th August 2020 (Pages 1 - 6)
4. Bromsgrove District Council Recovery and Restoration Plan (Report to Follow)
5. Review of Remote Meeting Protocol (Pages 7 - 8)
6. Finance and Budget Working Group - Update
7. Task Group Updates (Pages 9 - 10)

- a) Equalities Task Group (formerly the Identifying Racial Disparities Task Group).
 - b) Impact of Review of Library Services Task Group
 - c) Impact of Flooding Task Group
8. Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Update
 9. Cabinet Work Programme (Pages 11 - 18)
 10. Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme (Pages 19 - 26)
 11. To consider any other business, details of which have been notified to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services prior to the commencement of the meeting and which the Chairman, by reason of special circumstances, considers to be of so urgent a nature that it cannot wait until the next meeting.

K. DICKS
Chief Executive

Parkside
Market Street
BROMSGROVE
Worcestershire
B61 8DA

2nd October 2020

If you have any queries on this Agenda please contact
Jo Gresham

Parkside, Market Street, Bromsgrove, B61 8DA
Tel: (01527) 64252 (Extn.3031)
e.mail: joanne.gresham@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

GUIDANCE ON VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic Bromsgrove District Council will be holding this meeting in accordance with the relevant legislative arrangements for remote meetings of a local authority. For more information please refer to the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police Crime Panels meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Please note that this is a public meeting conducted remotely by Skype conferencing between invited participants and live streamed for general access via the Council's YouTube channel.

You are able to access the livestream of the meeting from the Committee Pages of the website, alongside the agenda for the meeting.

[Livestream for Overview and Scrutiny Board Meeting 12th October 2020](#)

If you have any questions regarding the agenda or attached papers please do not hesitate to contact the officer named above.

Notes:

As referred to above, the virtual Skype meeting will be streamed live and accessible to view. Although this is a public meeting, there are circumstances when Council might have to move into closed session to consider exempt or confidential information. For agenda items that are exempt, the public are excluded and for any such items the live stream will be suspended and that part of the meeting will not be recorded.



INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

Access to Information

The Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 widened the rights of press and public to attend Local Authority meetings and to see certain documents. Recently the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has further broadened these rights, and limited exemptions under the 1985 Act.

- You can attend all Council, Cabinet and Committee/Board meetings, except for any part of the meeting when the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- You can inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- You can inspect minutes of the Council, Cabinet and its Committees/Boards for up to six years following a meeting.
- You can have access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to six years from the date of the meeting. These are listed at the end of each report.
- An electronic register stating the names and addresses and electoral areas of all Councillors with details of the membership of all Committees etc. is available on our website.
- A reasonable number of copies of agendas and reports relating to items to be considered in public will be made available to the public attending meetings of the Council, Cabinet and its Committees/Boards.
- You have access to a list specifying those powers which the Council has delegated to its Officers indicating also the titles of the Officers concerned, as detailed in the Council’s Constitution, Scheme of Delegation.

You can access the following documents:

- Meeting Agendas
- Meeting Minutes
- The Council’s Constitution

at www.bromsgrove.gov.uk

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BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

6TH AUGUST 2020, AT 4.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors M. Thompson (Chairman), J. Till (Vice-Chairman),
A. J. B. Beaumont, S. R. Colella, R. J. Deeming, M. Glass, C.A. Hotham,
A. D. Kriss, P. M. McDonald and C. J. Spencer

Officers: Mrs. S. Hanley, Ms. J. Pickering, Ms. A. Scarce, Mr C. Forrester,
Mr. D. Allen, Mr. D. M. Birch and Ms. C. Flanagan and Ms. J. Gresham

28/20 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES**

Apologies were received from Cllr. R. Hunter, Cllr. J. King whilst named as substitute for Councillor Hunter, she was unable to attend.

29/20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS**

There were no declarations of interest nor of any whipping arrangements.

30/20 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 6th July 2020 were submitted for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 6th July 2020 be approved as an accurate record.

31/20 **IDENTIFYING AND ADDRESSING RACIAL DISPARITIES TASK GROUP**

The Senior Democratic Officer presented the report in relation to the Identifying and Addressing Racial Disparities Task Group and explained that there eight Members who were interested in participating in the Task Group. It was noted that it was usual practice to have no more than seven Members of a task group. However, it was noted that it was at the Board's discretion and this number had been increased on previous occasions. This group had already set a precedent as being the third task group to be undertaken at any one time. Members were happy to accept eight Members plus the Chairman on this occasion.

Agenda Item 3

Overview and Scrutiny Board
6th August 2020

In respect of the recommendations contained in the report it was suggested by the Senior Democratic Officer that, as there had been discussion regarding the scope and wording within the Terms of Reference at the previous meeting, these be considered at the first meeting of the group which was scheduled for 10th August 2020 at 5pm. Recommendation (a) would not be therefore be voted on at this meeting and any amendments made (by the Task Group) to the Terms of Reference would be considered at the September 2020 meeting of the Board.

As this was an important topic it was suggested that the duration of the Task Group be initially for six months and a report then be brought to the Board and an extension be agreed if needed.

Some Members requested clarification as to whether, given that this was an extra Task Group, there would be any financial cost to the Council or would the suspension of the Corporate Performance Working Group absorb any additional costs. The Senior Democratic Officer reported that the Chairman of the Task Group received a pro-rata allowance however the Members did not receive any payment. It was also confirmed that the Chairman of a Working Group did not receive an allowance.

There was a discussion regarding the number for the quorum as it was thought that it might prove difficult to get all nine Members at a meeting. It was noted that at the first meeting the quorum would be discussed in addition to the number of meetings that a Member could miss before being removed from the Task Group.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the membership of the Task Group be agreed at nine (including the Chairman):
- (b) the length of time the Task Group will have to carry out its investigations be agreed at six months initially; and
- (c) the Task Group commence its investigation as soon as possible.

32/20

BURCOT HOSTEL REPORT - PRE-SCRUTINY

The Strategic Housing Manager presented the Burcot Hostel report and provided the Board with some background to the project and explained that the Burcot Hostel would be replaced by alternative facilities in the district, provided by Bromsgrove District Housing Trust (BDHT).

Agenda Item 3

Overview and Scrutiny Board
6th August 2020

Members were informed that, following discussion with BDHT, it had been agreed to replace the hostel with six units of alternative temporary accommodation from BDHT stock. This accommodation comprised of the following units:-

- 2 x 1 bedroom units,
- 2 x 2 bedroom units
- 2 x 3 bedroom units

Members' attention was drawn to the section of the report where it stated that, since the Covid 19 crisis, Central Government had actively encouraged homeless services not to place homeless households in facilities with shared living spaces and so, from this perspective, the Burcot Hostel was considered no longer fit for purpose.

Some Members questioned whether there were any families currently in Bed and Breakfast accommodation and it was confirmed by officers that there was not. Following on from that Members questioned whether, given that the ban on evictions was likely to be concluded at the end of August, what contingency plans were in place to assist those residents in need of assistance. The Strategic Housing Manager confirmed that his Team were putting in place a communication plan with BDHT by at the end of August, in order to provide signposting for people who required assistance. It was also reported that BDHT were working behind the scenes to create capacity in their service and that all services including benefits were well connected so residents who required assistance knew where to go and would get the support needed.

An amendment to Recommendation 2.1 regarding funding the scheme from borrowing was suggested as it was felt that, as the Council currently had healthy balances, the funding should come from there. The Executive Director, Finance and Resources advised that whilst this was acceptable for consideration by Cabinet, caution should be shown as to the level of funding (from balances) that might be needed in the future to accommodate changes to services impacted by Covid-19 and associated lockdown. However, she stated that she was comfortable that the recommendation be amended and the £35k that was to be approved be used from balances on this occasion.

Members thanked the officers for the report and asked whether there would be an opportunity to bring the Housing Service in-house in future, depending on the length of contract with BDHT which it was understood had two years left to run. Some Members were concerned at the level of payments being made and wanted confirmation that the Council were

getting value for money. Officers explained that this was a new venture and the figures that had been provided in the report were based on a worst case scenario and that officers were asking for an 'in principle' agreement with the understanding that further work needed to be undertaken.

RECOMMENDED that the creation of a £35k capital budget for the scheme for the 2020/21 capital programme funded from balances.

RESOLVED that the Burcot Hostel report be noted.

33/20

BURCOT LANE SITE REDEVELOPMENT REPORT - PRE SCRUTINY

The Chairman thanked those Officers in attendance and explained to Members that this item would begin in public session, but it was highlighted that should they wish to discuss the detail provided in appendix 1 then the Board would need to consider whether it was appropriate to go into private session.

The Deputy Chief Executive provided a brief overview of the project to date and introduced officers that were involved in it and present at this meeting. They were as follows:

- Sue Hanley – Strategic Lead
- Derek Allen – Strategic Housing Manager
- Chris Forrester – Financial Lead
- Dale Birch – Planning Lead
- Laura Ward – Bailey Garner (external consultants)

A presentation had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting and the Strategic Housing Manager provided further clarification on this and presented the timeline and background to the project.

Councillor McDonald queried what investigations had been carried out by officers in order to ascertain the successes and failures of other Local Authorities around the country who had set up similar housing companies. The Deputy Chief Executive clarified that the officers had liaised with a number of Local Authorities to better understand the establishment of a housing company and had sought robust legal advice on how best to establish a housing company. It was further clarified that a large number of Local Authorities had created their own housing company and although this was not a guarantee in itself, it was a well-established model. It was confirmed that any decision made would be subject to a robust business case. The Strategic Housing Manager explained that reports had been tabled previously regarding research on

Local Authorities and their establishment of a housing company and agreed to circulate information to Members. Councillor McDonald requested that this information also be provided to Cabinet Members.

The Head of Finance and Customer Services reported that the sale of the 6 units at market price would cover construction costs and all other costs would be recouped from the transfer to a Housing Provider and Rental Company. Some Members questioned how service charges would be managed and it was confirmed that whichever provider had responsibility for the housing would apply their own charges which would be covered through rental costs. It was also noted that the percentage of affordable houses from a planning perspective was 30%, which was the level that was considered and approved in the planning application.

34/20

BURCOT LANE SITE REDEVELOPMENT - APPENDIX 1
(CONFIDENTIAL ITEM)

It was reported to Members that the most appropriate way to get best value for the affordable units would be to transfer them to a registered provider. However, as yet those exploratory discussions had not taken place and that other considerations needed to be made around quality, maintenance and value for money for the council.

The Head of Finance and Customer Services explained that in respect of the amount of borrowing, the rental of the units would cover those borrowed funds.

There was detailed discussion around the consideration of the Council becoming a Registered Provider and whether this option had or should be considered. Officers highlighted that the whole scheme was a complex piece of work and any decisions would only be made after a robust and detailed business case was submitted to Cabinet with regard to the arrangements for the private rented units. Some Members felt that this was an opportunity to look at recommendation 2.2 as it seemed like an easier option and that perhaps with more detailed research the Council could look to becoming a Registered Provider itself.

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Housing and Health and Well Being reported to the Board that this was a very important piece of work and that Members would be able to consider all aspects of the business case. The Principal Solicitor did, however, clarify that any business case that was produced would be as recommended in the officers' report.

Members agreed to amend recommendation 2,1 as detailed below.

Agenda Item 3

Overview and Scrutiny Board
6th August 2020

RECOMMENDED that

1. Cabinet have full sight of information in respect of other local authorities who have set up housing companies, including successes and failures (to include the reasons for failure).
2. Full consideration be given to the Council becoming a Registered Provider.

(During consideration of this item Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed relating to financial and business affairs. However, there is nothing exempt in this record of the proceedings.)

35/20

TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS, DETAILS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED TO THE HEAD OF LEGAL, EQUALITIES AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING AND WHICH THE CHAIRMAN, BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, CONSIDERS TO BE OF SO URGENT A NATURE THAT IT CANNOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 5.58 p.m.

Chairman

Burcot Lane Site Redevelopment

Project team



Overview

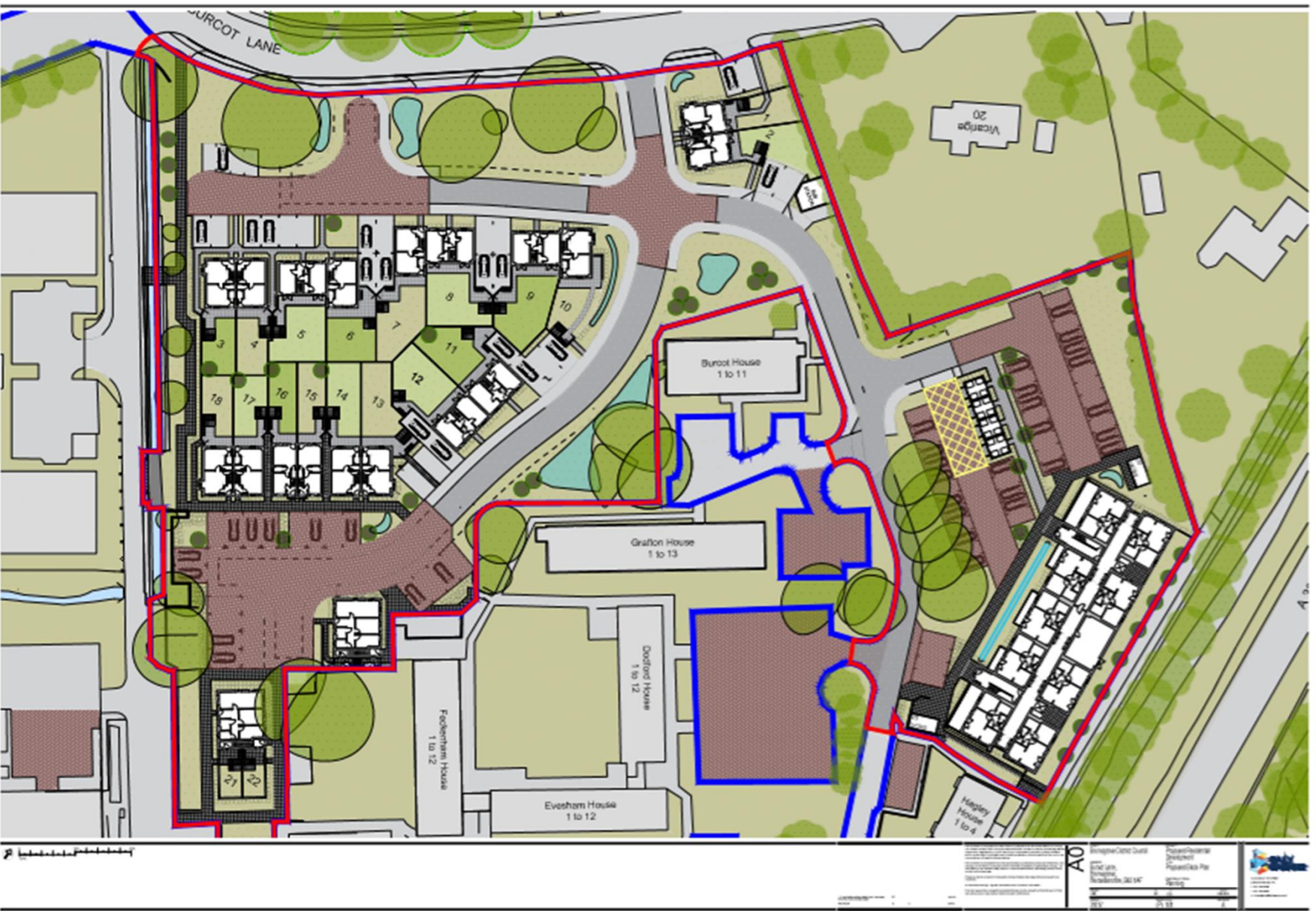
- Introductions (Burcot Lane Project Team & Baily Garner)
- Overview of scheme and significant steps since 2017



Overview of scheme

- Scheme location – site of the former Council House at Burcot Lane
- Will deliver 61 units of accommodation – this will be a mix of homes for sale, market rent and housing association
- Visual plan of the development





Options

Three options for the site have been considered at length:-

1. Sale to a developer
2. Work in partnership with a housing association
3. Council retains and facilitates development
 - Homes England grant awarded
 - Option 3 offers the best housing mix and an opportunity for a revenue stream

Significant steps

Significant steps since 2017 include:-

- Baily Garner appointed to drive project development
- Contract signed with Homes England
- Planning permission secured to develop site
- Tender process – developer
- BDHT have agreed to invest in their adjacent properties and local area



Next Steps

- Cabinet report and recommendations
- Business case for housing company
- Disposal of properties
- O&S views/comments/questions



Agenda Item 3

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BROMSGROVEDISTRICTCOUNCIL

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

2ND JUNE 2020. AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors M. Thompson (Chairman), J. Till (Vice-Chairman),
A. J. B. Beaumont, C.A. Hotham, R. J. Hunter, A. D. Kriss,
P. M. McDonald and C. J. Spencer

Observers: Councillor K. May and Councillor G. Denaro

Officers: Ms. J. Pickering, Mr D Riley, Ms. A. Scarce, Mr P. Bailey and
J Gresham

5/20

REMOTE MEETING PROTOCOL & VIRTUAL MEETINGS

The Senior Democratic Services Officer introduced the Remote Meeting Protocol to the Board and highlighted the following areas:

- It was vital that attendance at the meeting was made in good time in order to check IT.
- External attendees and presenters were still able to attend and participate in the meeting.
- Etiquette during the meeting including surroundings, other electronic devices and dress code.
- Voting protocols including roll calls, seconders and proposers.
- What to do if technical issues arose.

The Senior Democratic Officer clarified to Members the process that was undertaken in order to get the virtual meetings up and running. It was explained that the Democratic Services team had watched other Councils and understood the possible pitfalls and adopted a protocol that hopefully addressed these prior to commencing virtual meetings.

Members queried some of the processes and officers explained that the reason 'mock' meetings had been carried out was to understand the functionality of Skype prior to the live virtual meetings. It was also explained to Members that there would always be at least two members of the Democratic Services team in attendance – one to facilitate the meeting and one to ensure smooth running of the technical issues and participants.

Agenda Item 5

Overview and Scrutiny Board
2nd June 2020

Councillor S. Baxter expressed that the Planning meeting she had attended on the previous evening had gone very well. This had also been expressed by one of the public speakers who had also been in attendance. She stated that the Remote Meeting Protocol that had been produced was really good and queried if there was a planned review in the future in order to reflect the inevitable changes to future meetings. The Senior Democratic Officer confirmed that the protocol would be regularly reviewed and that it would be put on the Board Work Programme for discussion in three months' time. Councillor Baxter also stated that it was very apparent the amount of work that Democratic Services had done in the background for the Planning meeting, in particular the testing of Skype with Members and the managing of technical issues which had arisen on the night.

The Chairman commented on the possibilities that conducting meetings in a virtual setting could open up and that it would allow greater accessibility for residents to Council meetings. He also expressed that this would be a good opportunity to publicise meetings. The Senior Democratic Officer said that she would be very happy to contact the Communications Team in order to initiate a piece of work promoting the work of Democratic Services and public Council meetings.

Councillor. R. Hunter commented that it would be a really positive outcome of the pandemic that the Council meetings would become more accessible going forward. A representative from IT Services stated that pre-Lockdown devices were installed in some Committee Rooms in order to start the streaming of meetings via YouTube in the future. The current situation had therefore brought this matter to the forefront and it was hoped that this would continue when Members returned to holding meetings at Parkside.

RESOLVED that the Remote Meeting Protocol be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.28 p.m.

Chairman

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

Equalities Task Group

Terms of Reference as at August 2020

The Identifying and Addressing Racial Disparities within Bromsgrove District Council's Operations Task Group has been set up by the Overview and Scrutiny Board to carry out detailed scrutiny/pre-scrutiny of the above topic.

1. The Task Group be made up of 9 Members with a quorum of 5. The Task Group will meet throughout the next six months at intervals to be decided by the Group.
2. Meetings will be restricted to 1.5 hours in order for the Group to remain focused (with the option to extend should it be deemed necessary).
3. The Task Group agreed that if Members missed more than 2 meetings then they would no longer be on the Task Group.
4. The Task Group will be a standing item on the agenda of the Overview and Scrutiny Board and either a verbal or written report will be provided at each of the Board's meetings.
5. The Task Group is able to make recommendations to the Overview & Scrutiny Board who will then put forward its recommendations for consideration by Cabinet or directly to Cabinet/Council.
6. The Task group is expected to complete the investigation in six months and provide its findings and recommendations to the Overview and Scrutiny Board in a written report at that time.
7. Should the Task Group not complete its work within that timescale, then an interim report will be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Board with a request for further time to complete the investigations.

Aims and Objectives of the Task Group

The Task Group will undertake a scrutiny investigation into Identifying and Addressing Disparities of those who come under the protected characteristics communities (as detailed within the Equalities Act 2010) within Bromsgrove District Council's Operations and will cover the following areas, although this list is not exclusive:

- Identify if any disparities exist within the Council's operations.
- How easy is it for Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME), together with those groups included within the protected characteristics communities of the Equalities Act 2010, residents to access council support?
- Identify ways that these disparities, if any, can be addressed

Agenda Item 7

For information, the protected characteristics communities within the Equalities Act 2010 are as follows:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

CABINET LEADER'S WORK PROGRAMME

1 NOVEMBER 2020 TO 26 FEBRUARY 2021
(published as at 1 October 2020)

This Work Programme gives details of items on which key decisions are likely to be taken in the coming four months by the Council's Cabinet

The Work Programme gives details of items on which key decisions are likely to be taken by the Council's Cabinet, or full Council, in the coming four months. **Key Decisions** are those executive decisions which are likely to:

- (i) result in the Council incurring expenditure, foregoing income or the making of savings in excess of £50,000 or which are otherwise significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the district;

If you wish to make representations on the proposed decision you are encouraged to get in touch with the relevant report author as soon as possible before the proposed date of the decision. Contact details are provided, alternatively you may write to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, Parkside, Market Street, B61 8DA or e-mail: democratic@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

The Cabinet's meetings are normally held every four weeks at 6pm on Wednesday evenings at Parkside. They are open to the public, except when confidential information is being discussed. If you wish to attend for a particular matter, it is advisable to check with the Democratic Services Team on (01527 881443) to make sure it is going ahead as planned. If you have any queries Democratic Services Officers will be happy to advise you. The full Council meets in accordance with the Councils Calendar of Meetings. Meetings commence at 6pm.

CABINET MEMBERSHIP

Councillor K J May	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, the Town Centre and Strategic Partnerships
Councillor A. Kent	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services (including Governance/Policy and Performance/HR)
Councillor S Webb	Portfolio Holder for Strategic Housing and Health and Well Being
Councillor G. N. Denaro	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Enabling
Councillor M Sherrey	Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services
Councillor P Thomas	Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Cultural Services and Community

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Car Park Maintenance Report Key: No	Cabinet 25 Nov 2020 Council 2 Dec 2020		Report of the Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services	Kevin Hirons, Environmental Services Manager Tel: 01527 881705 Councillor K. J. May
Evolution and Local Recovery - Government White Paper Key: No	Cabinet 25 Nov 2020 Council 2 Dec 2020		Report of the Chief Executive	Kevin Dicks, Joint Chief Executive Tel: 01527 64252 Ext 3250 Councillor K. J. May
District Level Economic Recovery Framework Key: No	Cabinet 25 Nov 2020 Council 2 Dec 2020		Report of Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Ostap Paparega, Head of North Worcestershire Economic Development Tel: 01562 732192 Councillor K. J. May

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Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Domestic Abuse Policy - Identifying Abuse and Responding Effectively Key: No	Cabinet Not before 25th Nov 2020 Council Not before 2nd Dec 2020		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Bev Houghton, Community Safety Manager Tel: 01527 64252 Councillor S. A. Webb
Fees and Charges 2021/22 Key: No	Cabinet 25 Nov 2020 Council 2 Dec 2020		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Finance Monitoring 2020/21 - Quarter 2 Report Key: No	Cabinet Not before 25th Nov 2020		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro

Fees and Charges 2021/22
Key: No

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Housing Strategy Key: No	Cabinet Not before 25th Nov 2020		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Derek Allen, Strategic Housing Manager Tel: 01527 881278 Councillor S. A. Webb
Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2024/25 - Update Report Key: No	Cabinet Not before 25th Nov 2020		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Solihull Local Plan Draft Submission Version Key: No	Cabinet 25 Nov 2020 Council 2 Dec 2020		Report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Mike Dunphy, Strategic Planning and Conservation Manager Tel: 01527 881325 Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
Council Tax Base 2021/22 Key: No	Cabinet Not before 13th Jan 2021		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Final Council Tax Support Scheme Key: No	Cabinet 13 Jan 2021 Council 20 Jan 2021		Report of the Head of Financial and Customer Services	David Riley, Revenue Services Manager Tel: 01527 64252 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Homelessness, Flexible Homelessness Support and Homelessness Reduction Grants 2020/21 Key: No	Cabinet 13 Jan 2021		Report of the Head of Community and Housing Services	Amanda Delahunty, Strategic Housing Officer Tel: 01527 881269 Councillor S. A. Webb
Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2024/25 - Update Report Key: No	Cabinet Not before 13th Jan 2021		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
				Councillor G. N. Denaro
Worcester Birmingham Canal Revised Conservation Area Appraisal Adoption Key: No Page 24	Cabinet 13 Jan 2021 Council 20 Jan 2021		Report of the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	Mike Dunphy, Strategic Planning and Conservation Manager Tel: 01527 881325 Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services
Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2024/25 (including the Capital Programme) Key: No	Cabinet Not before 10th Feb 2021 Council Not before 24th Feb 2021		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Council Tax Resolutions Key: No	Cabinet Not before 10th Feb 2021		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer

Decision including Whether it is a key Decision	Decision Taker Date of Decision	Details of Exempt information (if any) and information explaining why items have been postponed (where available)	Documents submitted to Decision Maker / Background Papers List	Contact for Comments
	Council Not before 24th Feb 2021		Resources	Services Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Pay Policy Statement 2021/22 Key: No	Cabinet Not before 10th Feb 2021 Council Not before 24th Feb 2021		Report of the Executive Director of Finance Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro
Finance Monitoring 2020/21 - Quarter 3 Report Key: No	Cabinet Not before 31st Mar 2021		Report of the Executive Director of Finance and Resources	Chris Forrester, Head of Financial and Customer Services Tel: 01527 881673 Councillor G. N. Denaro

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

WORK PROGRAMME

2020/21

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board considers and agrees the work programme and updates it accordingly.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Date of Meeting	Subject	Additional Information
12 th October 2020	Corporate Peer Challenge (including the Council's Recovery and Restoration Plan)	Added at the request of the Chairman following the documents recent publication. The Board considered the original report at its meeting on 29 October 2018.
	Review of Remote Meeting Protocol	Requested at June 2020 meeting
	Working Group Updates	
	Finance and Budget Working Group	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader's Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	
23 rd November 2020	Housing Strategy	
	District Level Recovery Framework	
	Domestic Abuse Policy	
	Bromsgrove Market Update	Update agreed would be received 12 months' time - schedule in for meeting in June 2020 (delayed due to COVID-19)
	Working Group Updates	
	Finance and Budget Working Group	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader's Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	

Agenda Item 10

11 th January 2021	Council Tax Support Scheme	
	Homelessness Grants 2021-22	
	Staff Survey	Following presentation at the February 2020 meeting it was agreed that a further update would be received work programme in September 2020
	Speeding – The Overview and Scrutiny Board to call in representatives of the Safer Roads Partnership to discuss issues with speeding	Delayed from March 2020 meeting. Officers to contact Safer Road Partnership
	Finance and Budget Working Group	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader’s Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	
Monday 8 th February 2021	Working Group Updates	
	Budget Update 20-21	
	Finance and Budget Working Group	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader’s Work Programme	
Monday 29 th March 2021	Working Group Updates	
	Finance and Budget Working Group	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader’s Work Programme	
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	

Areas Identified at the Work Programme Planning Event held on 5th June 2019 and to be scheduled in to meetings on an as and when basis

Potential Task Groups

- Public Transport / Bus Routes / Community Transport - Members agreed that this subject should be reviewed by a Task Group. The review could focus on public transport provision in rural areas and would require Members to consult with both the bus companies, Worcestershire County Council and BURT.

Agenda Item 10

- Affordable and Social Housing Task Group - This review could focus on the accommodation provided by social housing organisations, planning enforcement and housing development controls and the impact of planning on the green belt.
- WCC LPT4 – It was agreed at the O & S meeting on 2nd September 2019, that this would not be considered by the Strategic Planning Steering Group. Councillor Colella had made the proposal and he had felt that it merited having a Task Group and that it would be positive for newly elected Members to be involved in this Task Group. The Board considered this matter again at the meeting held on 13th January 2020 after Cllr Colella provided a topic proposal. It was decided by the Board that it was still not appropriate to action.

Potential Items for Board discussion

- Protecting Local Shops – Members concluded that this was not a suitable subject for scrutiny as stated. However, Members agreed that the relevant Portfolio holder and the Town Centres Manager could be invited to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board to answer questions about town centre economic development. Members agreed that the focus should be on how to increase footfall in the town centres.
- Removal of Early Morning Bus Passes - Members expressed concerns that early morning bus passes had been removed impacting on those travelling to work. Members noted that there was an ongoing review of public transport and consultation was being held over the summer of 2019. Members concluded that they could revisit the subject of bus passes after this consultation has been completed.

Previous Task Groups to be revisited

- Pavement Parking – The Overview and Scrutiny Board to receive an update on the recommendations arising from previous reviews of car parking.
- Anti-Social Behaviour and CCTV – the Overview and Scrutiny Board to receive an update on the recommendations arising from the previous review of CCTV.
- Air quality – The Overview and Scrutiny Board to receive an update on the recommendations arising from the previous review of air quality.
- Homelessness - The Overview and Scrutiny Board could revisit recommendations made by a previous Task Group on this subject.

Outstanding Items and Potential Items for pre-scrutiny

- Demonstration of modern.gov on an iPad together with data regarding paperless agendas.
- Corporate Dashboard – Demonstration (requested at the Overview & Scrutiny Board meeting held on 10th February 2020).

When considering topics for investigations Members may wish to take into account the Council's Strategic Purposes as detailed below:



Run & grow a successful business

What does this mean to me?

Businesses choose to come to Bromsgrove & grow here, providing services & jobs.

Further development enhances the town & district centres as places that people want to visit.

Improved connectivity makes life easier, whether that's on the roads or online.

Why?

As an entrepreneurial area, supporting business is incredibly important for the District. Through North Worcestershire Economic Development & Regeneration we will continue to support new businesses. We will also work with established companies within the District to help them grow & flourish.

We are committed to making the Town & district centres places that residents & visitors can enjoy & that attract a variety of businesses.



Priority: Economic development & regeneration

We will:

Consult businesses to understand current needs & growth plans, working with partners to support business growth.

How we will measure it:

- Number of businesses engaged through the consultation
- Number of existing businesses supported to grow & develop

Work & financial independence



What does this mean to me?

There are more opportunities for young people, with the right skills for local businesses.

Money management support will help to reduce debt & increase financial confidence.

People get the benefits they are entitled to, when they need them.

Why?

The economic picture for Bromsgrove District is positive, with consistently low unemployment. However, the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2015 (specifically income, employment & education indicators) show there were issues, particularly in parts of Charford & Sidemoor.

We will support our residents to access work opportunities in new industries, focusing on the skills agenda. We will also work with residents to help them manage their money & access the right benefits.



Priority: Skills for the future

We will:

Undertake a skills audit with partners & work together with them to address any gaps.

How we will measure it:

- Number engaged through the skills audit.



**Live independent,
active & healthy lives**

**What does this
mean to me?**

People are supported to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Communities & individuals feel less isolated.

There are more positive things to do through improved access to sport & cultural activities.

Why?

Whilst the health of people in Bromsgrove District is generally good, health priorities include improving mental well-being, increasing physical activity & ageing well. Increasing numbers of people living with reduced mobility, dementia & diabetes are an issue for the District. Through the Bromsgrove Partnership, Bromsgrove District Council will continue to play its part in addressing these issues.

We also want to enhance sport & cultural opportunities in the District, which will have health & social benefits.



**Priority: Improving
health & well-being**

We will:

Support targeted activities for healthy lifestyles.

How we will measure it:

- Number of people accessing targeted activities
- Number of people with diabetes
- Number of people who have had a stroke

Affordable & sustainable homes



What does this mean to me?

More affordable & appropriate homes become available.

Private tenants have homes which are safe & tenancies which are secure & affordable.

Homes can adapt to changes in circumstances & are increasingly energy efficient.

Why?

Bromsgrove has the highest level of home ownership in Worcestershire, & the smallest private rented sector in the county; demand for housing within the district has had a significant impact on property prices.

Access to affordable housing is recognised as an issue, as is ensuring homes are sustainable into the future.



Priority: A balanced housing market

We will:

Develop & implement a District Housing Strategy.

How we will measure it:

- Number of affordable homes (commitments & completions)

Communities which are safe, well-maintained & green



What does this mean to me?

Crime & anti-social behaviour reduces even further & the fear of crime also starts to decrease.

The district is well-maintained & people feel involved in keeping it clean.

It's easier to recycle more & reduce waste going to landfill.

Why?

Bromsgrove District Council has committed to playing its part in addressing the impact of climate change; from work to increase recycling to support to reduce fuel poverty, a **green thread** runs throughout this Council Plan.

It is important to ensure that Bromsgrove remains attractive for everyone, & our Place Teams, in partnership with local communities, provide a strong service across the District.

The District is a low crime area; through the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership we continue to work hard to address the causes of crime & anti-social behaviour & to support victims.



Priority: Reducing crime & disorder

We will:

Target the causes of crime affecting the night-time economy.

How we will measure it:

- Anti-social behaviour reports in the Town & district centres
- Crimes in the Town & district centres