



POLICY & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2019 - 7 P.M.
SHEVINGTON LIBRARY

AGENDA

1. **Apologies** – to receive apologies from Committee members.
2. **Declaration of Interests** - to receive any declarations of interest (personal and/or prejudicial) with regard to items on the Agenda.
Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required to disclose any personal interest, (which includes any disclosable pecuniary interest), they may have in any of the items included on the agenda for the meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 28 June 2012 and amended on 25 October 2012. Members are reminded that if they have any personal interests of a prejudicial nature or a disclosable pecuniary interest they must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room. Any member needing clarification must contact the Clerk.
3. **Christmas Decorations** – *for information, discussion and agreement*
Please welcome Mr Chris Pennington, Street Lighting Officer at Wigan Council, who will be attending the meeting to discuss the following:
 - Possible expansion of Christmas lighting provision in Appley Bridge (in the area around Costcutter & Booth's), Shevington Vale (Woodhook shops and open spaces), Shevington Moor (the commercial area in Shevington Moor road and the area around Whitacre Park) and Crooke – this would have to be done in phases.
 - The provision of small Christmas trees with lighting for over shops in Shevington.
 - Ornate fencing around the Christmas tree in the centre of Shevington - the pros and cons and whether this would be permitted at this location.Mr Pennington's focus will be on establishing what the Parish Council would like.
4. **Minutes of the Last Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting (6 Dec 2018)**
- to consider, agree and approve the signature of the previously circulated Minutes by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting. (enclosed)
5. **Village Issues** – *for information only*
To receive reports relating to the legitimate business of the Council from Committee members and Council officers (Councillors are asked to advise the Clerk in advance of any reports – including the subject matter - they wish to make.)
6. **Consultation on the Revised Draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework**

– *for discussion and agreement* (enclosed by email)

The consultation on the revised Draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) is now open and will close on Monday, 18 March 2019.

The new spatial framework focuses on making the most of Greater Manchester's brownfield sites, prioritising redevelopment of town centres and other sustainable locations. It will also help to address the housing crisis with a minimum target of 50,000 additional affordable homes – 30,000 of which will be social housing.

The net loss of green belt has been reduced by more than half and the city-region has made clear its opposition to fracking as part of the radical approach that Greater Manchester is taking to environmental policy.

Transport and wider infrastructure will be critical to the success of this new plan, so Leaders have also published **Greater Manchester's 2040 Transport Strategy Delivery Plan alongside it**. This plan sets out all the transport improvements to be implemented by 2025, as well as longer-term plans that will support the GMSF. This coordinated, strategic approach also helps Greater Manchester make the case to central government for additional funding to invest in the city-region's transport and infrastructure network.

Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, has said: *"After the first spatial framework consultation in 2016 we listened to the public and I ensured this plan was radically re-written and bold in its ambitions. We are ready to listen again to the views people have on this plan and take account of them."*

The plan sets out to lay the foundations for radical reform across housing, growing our economy and creating jobs, the environment, and transport to ensure Greater Manchester continues to thrive.

With the support of local people, we will be able to build a Greater Manchester that will allow everyone to grow up, get on and grow old."

Portfolio lead for housing, planning and homelessness, Paul Dennett, said: This is an exciting time for Greater Manchester, as we begin on a project that improves the city region for generations to come.

"We want to make sure we get this right - to grow in a sustainable way whilst also making the city region more resilient. To support this we have made sure that included in our plans are 50,000 additional affordable homes – 30,000 of which will be social housing."

The full plan and executive summary are available now so that the public can give their feedback. A range of background documents were published on 21 January. These background documents give more detailed information on a range of topics. A list of them is available www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/gmsf. No matter when responses are submitted, they will all be considered fully.

The consultation document and its associated documents may be accessed online. As the documents are extremely long (e.g. the main document is 443 pages long) they will not be circulated in hard copy, but are being emailed. Members who do not have internet access at home may access them online at Shevington Library, where hard copies are also available to view.

We are also being invited to comment on transport proposals. Transport for Greater Manchester is seeking views on its plan to support the city-region's vision to be one of the best places in the world to live, work, grow up and grow old.

The Greater Manchester Draft Delivery Plan 2020-2025 sets out more than 65 transport projects and improvements that will be delivered in the next five years. It has been developed closely alongside the Plan for Jobs, Homes and the Environment to ensure transport, housing and economic growth align and support each other.

The projects include the Metrolink Trafford Park Line, the purchase of 27 new tram, £160m for new walking and cycling infrastructure across all ten districts; expanding the city-region's electric vehicle charging network and new interchanges in Tameside and Stockport. The Draft Delivery Plan also outlines other projects Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) is making the business case for or exploring for future development.

Members are invited to consider and agree responses. In view of the size of the documents and the importance of giving the consultation justice, members may wish to defer the matter to the meeting in March.

(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

7. Consultation on Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan

– *for discussion and agreement* (enclosed by email)

West Lancashire Borough Council are undertaking public consultation on the Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version during which time comments are invited upon the content of the plan and the evidence base which has been used to inform the preparation of it. As a neighbouring authority of WLBC, we have been invited to comment.

The neighbourhood plan has been prepared by Burscough Parish Council in consultation with the local community and has now been passed to West Lancashire Borough Council as the responsible body to take forward to completion (called being 'made') in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations. Once 'made' it would then be used to determine planning applications in the Burscough parish area alongside the West Lancashire Local Plan and other local and national planning policies.

The neighbourhood plan contains a vision, objectives and policies for the Burscough parish area, covering a time period to 2027. It will shape what development takes place in the future and where, what new buildings will be expected to look like, what new infrastructure may be needed and which sites, such as open spaces, should be protected.

The consultation period in which we can submit our comments to the Borough Council will end on **Wednesday, 20 February 2019**. Up to this time it will be possible to view copies of the relevant documents, including the evidence base, on the WLBC website:

www.westlancs.gov.uk/np

Because of the size of the documents, they are being circulated by email only. Members with no internet access at home may access them online at Shevington Library. Hard copies are available at Burscough PC office, Burscough Library and WLBC offices at Ormskirk.

Following the close of public consultation Borough Council officers will collate the responses received and are required to send them, along with the Submission Neighbourhood Plan and supporting evidence, to an independent examiner who will consider if the plan is satisfactory.

Members are invited to consider and agree the best way forward.

(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

8. Consultation on Wigan Post Office Re-Location

- for discussion and agreement (enclosed)

The enclosed letter outlines the public consultation the Post Office are running regarding a proposal to move Wigan Post Office functions into WH Smiths Ltd. They have proposed some questions regarding accessibility of the proposed site and they are also planning to run some customer forums. The Council have been invited to respond to the consultation. Members are invited to consider and agree the best way forward.

(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

9. Shevington Vale School's Consultation – for discussion and agreement (enclosed)

Shevington Vale Community Primary School wish to promote health and wellbeing within the community and would like to apply for a lottery grant for equipment that would be used for this purpose. As part of their bid they are consulting members of the community. Details of the consultation are enclosed. Members are invited to discuss and agree a response.

(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

10. Canal Towpath Upgrade – for discussion and agreement

On Tuesday, 22 January 2019 six local walkers joined the towpath above Herons Wharf and had an extremely wet and muddy walk until they reached the Lock keeper's cottage and barge; from there the path was wider. There were so many deep puddles it was impossible to look out for wildlife.....one coot and a lot of wet sheep. They have asked whether there is any possibility of improvement along that stretch?

The canal towpath is the responsibility of the Canal & River Trust – a Charitable Trust that is willing to support volunteer groups in the maintenance and repair of towpaths. The CVRA were involved in such a project with regard to the repair of the towpath in Crooke Village a few years ago.

Members are invited to discuss this and agree the best way forward.

(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

11. Precept Information for Council Tax Letter – for agreement (enclosed)

The precept information included on the Council Tax letter has been updated in line with this year's scenario. Members are invited to consider and agree the precept information for the Council Tax letter.

12. Planning Applications – to consider for comment

At the time of the preparation of this agenda there were no relevant planning applications to bring to the attention of the Committee.

- 13. Dates of Next Meetings:** 28 February (Council);
7 March (Policy & GP and Finance Committees).

POTENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

- 14. Achievement Awards & Annual Parish Meeting** (enclosed)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

K Pilkington

Clerk to the Parish Council