
Extraordinary Policy and Resources Committee

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT on Wednesday, 17 December 2025 from 7.00 pm - 7.07 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Lloyd Bowen (Vice-Chair), Tim Gibson (Chair), Alastair Gould, Angela Harrison, James Hunt, Mark Last, Peter Marchington (Substitute for Councillor Julien Speed), Ben J Martin, Kieran Mishchuk, Richard Palmer, Hannah Perkin (Substitute for Councillor Charles Gibson), Ashley Wise and Dolley Wooster.

PRESENT (VIRTUALLY): Councillor Elliott Jayes.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Lisa Fillery, Robin Harris, Charlotte Hudson, Jo Millard and Larissa Reed.

OFFICERS PRESENT (VIRTUALLY): Emma Wiggins.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Mike Whiting.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mike Baldock, Charles Gibson, Elliott Jayes and Julien Speed.

586 **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

The Chair outlined the emergency evacuation procedure.

587 **Declarations of Interest**

During the discussion, Councillor Ben J Martin declared a non-pecuniary interest as he sat on the board of Swale Rainbow Homes.

588 **Appropriation of Cockleshell Walk, Sittingbourne**

The Head of Housing and Community Services introduced the report which sought approval of the appropriation of the land at Cockleshell Walk, Sittingbourne. She explained that it was currently a surfaced car park, and residential development was being pursued. The Head of Housing and Community Services explained that whilst the land had previously been appropriated under the Spirit of Sittingbourne scheme, legal advice indicated that a separate appropriation for residential purposes was required to protect the Council's liabilities. She advised Members that there were no additional financial implications for the project budget. In response to a Member's request for clarification, the Head of Housing and Community Services confirmed that the appropriation related to changing the designation of the land's use from car park to residential development.

Resolved:

(1) That the land (as defined in paragraph 1.1 in the report) be confirmed as no longer required for those purposes for which it was held (surface level car park).

(2) That the appropriation of the land for planning purposes to facilitate its development pursuant to Section 122 (1) of the Local Government Act be approved.

(3) That the reliance on powers under Section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 to override any third party rights interfered with by the development of the land be approved.

(4) That delegated authority be given to the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods to take all necessary steps to affect the appropriation of the land for planning purposes in accordance with Section 122 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

(5) That delegated authority be given to the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods to appoint external consultants to assess and agree any compensation and claims arising from the development of the Land.

(6) That delegated authority be given to the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods and the Director of Resources, to agree the terms of and enter into any documentation required to settle any property and compensation matters necessary to progress the development of the Land.

589 Exclusion of the Press and Public

It was not necessary to agree the exclusion of the press and public as there was no discussion on the confidential appendix.

590 Appendix II - Appropriation of Cockleshell Walk, Sittingbourne

There was no discussion on the confidential appendix.

Chair

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All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel