

**A MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
WAS HELD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2015**

The Mayor (Councillor Farr) (ex-officio), Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook) (P); Councillors Ms Ballard, Mrs Batty (P), Beavis (P), Mrs Cully(P), Edgar, Geddes(P), Hylands (P), Langdon (P), Philpott (P), Ronayne (P).

It was reported that in accordance with Standing Order 2.3.6 Councillors, Hook and Hicks had been nominated to replace Councillors Edgar, and Ms Ballard respectively for this meeting.

**15. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received from The Mayor, and Councillors Ms Ballard and Edgar.

**16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**17. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD ON 24 JUNE 2015**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Economic Development Board meeting held on 24 June 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

**18. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations.

**19. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no public questions.

**PART II**

**20. LAND AT MANOR WAY LEE ON THE SOLENT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive informing Members of an opportunity to acquire open land at Manor Way from the Homes and Communities Agency.

Members welcomed the acquisition of the land and that it would be designated in the Local Plan as open space.

Members sought clarification regarding the financial arrangements for the land and were advised that the land had been valued at £200,000 and that this sum would be deducted from any future financial contribution for Open Spaces paid under the Section 106 agreement from the Daedalus development.

In answer to a Members question, the Board were advised that the land would be acquired with vacant possession.

Members welcomed the acquisition of the land for community use for the residents of Lee-on-the-Solent and commended Councillor Burgess for his involvement and pursuance of the acquisition.

**RESOLVED:** That the acquisition of the land at Manor Way, shown hatched black on Appendix 1 on the terms set out in Paragraph 2.2 of the report of the Borough Solicitor and the Deputy Chief Executive be agreed.

## **21. ACQUISITION OF LAND AT CHARK FARM, LEE ON THE SOLENT AND GOMER LANE GOSPORT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Property Services requesting the authorisation for the acquisition of a number of small, open space land parcels forming part of the housing development at Chark Farm, Lee-on-the-Solent.

It was acknowledged that the land at Lee-on-the-Solent was now known as Cherque Farm.

In answer to a Member's question, the Board were advised that the land at Gomer had been acquired at auction and that the land in Lee-on-the-Solent was an historical matter that required finalising to make the Council the legal owners.

Members were advised that the land at Gomer had been purchased at auction and had become available at too short notice to be considered by the Board previously. The land had been maintained by the Council for a number of years; however no legal agreement had been in place. There had been concern that the land would not be maintained had the Council not purchased it.

It was anticipated that there may be interest in purchasing the land from residents adjacent to it.

The Board expressed thanks to Councillor Gill for his swift action in alerting the Council to the sale of the land at Gomer and acknowledged that an application had been submitted, rejected and was currently going through the appeals process for the construction of 3 houses on similar pieces of land on the estate. The Board recognised the importance of retaining the open spaces on the estates and welcomed the formalisation of the legal agreements.

**RESOLVED:** That:

- a) the acquisition of a number of small open space land parcels from Bilton Homes (as shown on the plans attached to the reports) under a Dedication Agreement for the Chark Farm Housing development be approved; and
- b) the report from the Chief Executive in paragraph 2.5 of the report of the Head of Property Services be noted.

## **22. ACQUISITION OF LAND AT NEWBROKE ROAD, GOSPORT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Property Services requesting authorisation of the acquisition of a number of small open space land parcels forming part of the housing development the Newbroke Road, Gosport.

Members were advised that the report dealt with formalising the ownership of land already maintained by the Council and that there would be no payment made for its acquisition. Members were advised that the land did not include the boundaries of the properties, or the perimeter wall of the car park.

Members were advised that the car park was leased to the users by Taylor Wimpey and that the perimeter fences either belonged to Taylor Wimpey or the home owners.

**RESOLVED:** That the acquisition of number of small open space land parcels from Taylor Wimpey (as shown on the plan attached to the report of the Head of Property Services) under a Dedication Agreement for the Newbroke Road housing development be approved.

### **23. LEASE OF THE FORMER FORTON RECREATION GROUND PUBLIC TOILETS, GOSPORT, TO Y SERVICES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Property Services seeking Board approval for the grant of a new lease of the disused Forton Recreation Ground public Convenience to Y Services.

Members felt that the proposal was an excellent use of the building and that the granting of the lease for 20 years was welcoming. Members also welcomed that Barclays had agreed to fund the redevelopment.

Members recognised that the proposal would benefit the young people in the area and that in conjunction with the recent pumping works the site would be much improved.

Members welcomed the regeneration of the building in this way and congratulated Y Services on the proposal and securing funding for the project.

**RESOLVED:** That the terms contained in the Report of the Head of Property Services be approved and that the Borough Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive be authorised to enter into a new lease with the proposed tenant.

### **24. LEASE OF THE TOWN HALL OFFICES TO THE OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR HAMPSHIRE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Executive seeking Board approval for the lease of office space within the Town Hall to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire.

Members recognised this formed part of the Hampshire Constabulary rationalising the public estate and that the current Police Station was largely empty. Members were advised that negotiations had been ongoing and that some of the operational details were yet to be finalised.

Members welcomed the retention of a Police Station in the Town Centre and recognised the importance of the facility being equipped with a secure, independently accessible reception area.

Members were advised that the Community Safety Team would also be relocating to the ground floor, adjacent to the allocated offices.

In answer to a Member's question the Board were advised that the Police had requested 8 car parking spaces, as highlighted in the plan, but negotiations were still ongoing surrounding this. Members were also advised that the existing disabled bays would be relocated.

Members welcomed the retention of a front line Police presence in Gosport following the closure of the custody suite and Magistrates Court and felt it was complimented by the patrol base on Fareham Reach.

In answer to a Member's question, the Board were advised that the utility charge had been set based on the square footage percentage of the Town Hall that the Police would be occupying.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council be authorised to enter into a ten year Lease with The Office of the

Police and Crime Commissioner for the Hampshire Police Area (OPCC) to provide their office accommodation in part of the Town Hall, and that the Chief Executive and Borough Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive be authorised, in conjunction with the Head of Property Services, to conclude negotiations.

**25. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none.

The meeting concluded at 6:46pm

**CHAIRMAN**