

Economy and Business Development Scrutiny Committee

24 MAY 2017

PRESENT: Councillor P Strachan (Chairman); Councillors C Branston (Vice-Chairman), A Christensen, M Collins, M Hawkett, T Hunter-Watts, P Irwin, C Poll and W Whyte

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor S Bowles

APOLOGIES: Councillor J Bloom

1. TEMPORARY CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

There were none.

2. MINUTES

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2016 be approved as a correct record.

3. REVIEW OF WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE

It was reported that the committee had considered a number of items over the past two years. These included:-

- Strategic Infrastructure Planning
- Aylesbury Vale Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan
- Aylesbury Vale Broadband and Business Plan
- Business Skills and Training Update
- Aylesbury Vale Economic Updates
- Responding to Business Needs
- Enterprise Zone Updates
- Aylesbury Vale Estates Business Plan 2015/2016 and 2016/17
- Strategic Economic Development Priorities
- Waterside North next phases
- Town Centre Partnership
- Aylesbury Town Centre Plan

Tracey Aldworth introduced Claire Britton to the Committee. Claire had been recruited as Economic Development and Delivery Manager and recruitment for other posts within the her team was being undertaken.

It was noted that the main focus for the future was in growing the economy in the Vale and the scale of productivity post Brexit. Of national interest was the Green Paper on Building our Industrial Strategy. The consultation on this had now closed.

Other areas to focus on in the future were East/West Rail and the Oxford Cambridge Expressway.

Members felt it would be useful to invite an officer from BCC Highways to a future meeting to discuss business needs and associated infrastructure. They also suggested looking into the future of electric vehicles in the Vale, with perhaps having representatives of Catapult Transport Systems being invited to a future meeting.

RESOLVED –

That the Members noted the business undertaken by the committee over the past two years and that this would inform the work programme for the forthcoming year.

4. WORK PROGRAMME

It was noted that there had not been a work programme for the committee for some while. However Tracey Aldworth had prepared a work programme for the remainder of the Council year and this was circulated to the committee.

After some discussion regarding Broadband, the financial sector and Enterprise Zones it was agreed that the meetings for the remainder of 2017/18 should include:-

6 September 2017

- Aylesbury Vale Enterprise Zone Progress Report
- Aylesbury Vale Broadband Business Plan
- Buckinghamshire Skills Strategy

31 October 2017

- Car Parking Strategy
- Strategic Economic Plans
- Connected Counties Broadband Update

22 November 2017

- Aylesbury Town Centre Plan Update
- Budget Report
- AVE Business Plan (or Jan)

17 January 2018

- National Infrastructure Commission – Oxford to Cambridge Corridor
- AVE Business Plan (or Nov)
- AVDC Economic Development Strategy

13 March 2018

- TBC

RESOLVED –

That the work programme for the remainder of 2017/18 as noted above be agreed.