

MINUTES

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2024

3.00 PM



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

PRESENT

Councillor Gloria Johnson Chairman

Councillor Matthew Bailey
Councillor Ashley Baxter
Councillor David Bellamy
Councillor Harrish Bisnauthsing
Councillor Pam Byrd
Councillor Richard Cleaver
Councillor Helen Crawford
Councillor Steven Cunnington
Councillor James Denniston
Councillor Phil Dilks
Councillor Richard Dixon-Warren
Councillor Barry Dobson
Councillor Patsy Ellis
Councillor Phil Gadd
Councillor Ben Green
Councillor Tim Harrison
Councillor Graham Jeal
Councillor Anna Kelly
Councillor Gareth Knight

Councillor Philip Knowles
Councillor Robert Leadenham
Councillor Bridget Ley
Councillor Paul Martin
Councillor Penny Milnes
Councillor Virginia Moran
Councillor Charmaine Morgan
Councillor Chris Noon
Councillor Habibur Rahman
Councillor Rhea Rayside
Councillor Susan Sandall
Councillor Max Sawyer
Councillor Ian Selby
Councillor Vanessa Smith
Councillor Paul Stokes
Councillor Mark Whittington
Councillor Jane Wood
Councillor Paul Wood
Councillor Sue Woolley

OFFICERS

Karen Bradford, Chief Executive
Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer
Nicola McCoy-Brown, Director of Growth and Culture
Graham Watts, Assistant Director (Governance and Public Protection) and Monitoring Officer
James Welbourn, Democratic Services Manager (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
Lucy Bonshor, Democratic Officer

95. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor Emma Baker
Councillor Rhys Baker
Councillor Pam Bosworth
Councillor Paul Fellows
Councillor Jane Kingman
Councillor Zoe Lane
Councillor Nikki Manterfield
Councillor Nick Robins
Councillor Penny Robins
Councillor Lee Steptoe
Councillor Ian Stokes
Councillor Elvis Stooke
Councillor Rosemary Trollope-Bellew
Councillor Sarah Trotter
Councillor Murray Turner

96. Disclosure of Interests

No interests were disclosed.

97. Public Open Forum

No members of the public had registered to speak.

98. St Martin's Park Redevelopment Project, Stamford

Members received an update regarding the St. Martin's Park, Stamford redevelopment project, as well as considering the preferred option recommended by the members of the Finance and Economic Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15 January 2024 for the next steps with the project.

Prior to excluding the public and press, the following points were raised during debate:

- The land was purchased with the best of intentions when Stamford's last large-scale employer closed its factory onsite.
- A way forward for the project had been sought for it to break even whilst retaining employment use on the land. Originally, it was decided to go ahead with a redevelopment of the St. Martin's Park site to ensure that Stamford wasn't blighted by a failed industrial site.
- The cost of the project to date was £10 million, with a further third of a million pounds being added every year.
- The 1904 factory building on site was in a poor state and may collapse before it could be demolished.

The options contained within Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 were exempt from publication, and the public and press were excluded from the meeting, following a vote, under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 following a vote; if they had remained they would have been party to commercially sensitive information.

When the meeting returned to being public, having been moved, seconded, and voted upon it was **AGREED** to approve Option 2 within Appendix 1 of the report, with additional points 1-5 from Appendix 2, as amended.

Councillor Phil Dilks, Tim Harrison, Virginia Moran and Vanessa Smith wished their abstention from the vote be recorded.

Councillors Charmaine Morgan and Max Sawyer wished for their vote against the proposals to be recorded.

The meeting closed at 5:25pm.