

SEFTON AREA PARTNERSHIP OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Aintree Village-Formby-Hightown-Ince Blundell- Little Altcar

Lydiate-Maghull-Sefton-Thornton

Minutes of the Meeting of the Area Partnership held on Thursday 19 May 2016 at Maghull Town Hall

PRESENT

Cllrs G Lee (Chair, Melling), I Loughlin (Senior Planner, SMBC- Community Infrastructure Levy), A Ibbs (Little Altcar), Cllr Ron Baker (Melling PC), I Cowell (Clerk Ince Blundell), J Bailey (Lydiate), S Gent (Aintree Village PC), D Miles (Thornton PC), P Wiencke (Formby), Cllr J Desmond (Maghull), C Jones (Sefton)

APOLOGIES

Mike Coles (Formby PC), Vicki Hodson (Secretary), Jack Colbert (Aintree Village PC), Maria Duffy (Sefton PC), Johnny Duffy (Sefton PC), Maurice Byrne (Maghull TC)

1. GUEST SPEAKER

1.1 Ian Loughlin – Community Infrastructure Levy

1.1.1 Overview

The Community Infrastructure Levy is a planning charge, introduced by the Planning Act 2008 as a tool for local authorities in England and Wales to help deliver infrastructure to support the development of their area. It came into force on 6 April 2010 through the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010. Development may be liable for a charge under the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), if your local planning authority has chosen to set a charge in its area.

Most new development which creates net additional floor space of 100 square metres or more, or creates a new dwelling, is potentially liable for the levy. Some developments may be eligible for relief or exemption from the Community Infrastructure Levy for example; affordable housing, self-build housing, structures that are not buildings like wind turbines.

Although the Levy is optional, due to the restrictions to Section 106 Sefton Council have decided to progress with the Levy where other councils have not.

1.1.2 Comments/Questions

(a) **How is the levy charge calculated?** The levy rates will be set out by the authorities with rates being set out at pounds per square metre. Higher rates will be charged in further developed areas.

(b) **Can the CIL charges be amended once in place?** In order to change the rates, it would have to go through the consultation process again.

(c) **The question was asked whether the levy was flexible and could be used for example in Formby if the development was in fact in Birkdale?** The levy can provide this flexibility providing it meets the requirements to 'support the development of the area'

(d) **Cllr Lee discussed how his infrastructure in his local area was very poor and asked the question whether the money could be used to update the doctors surgery in his local area;** The guidelines for CIL specify it is to support the development of the area and not to be spent on NHS services as these costs should be picked up by the Health Service themselves.

(e) In order to prevent the stock piling of CIL, there is a time limit on when the money is to be spent by; this is currently 5 years but there may be scope to request an extension on this. Stephen Gent is concerned it could be difficult to spend the money within this time due to lack of development opportunities within the area.

(f) **With 1100 new homes to be built in the Melling area, there is concern over the current lack of infrastructure and the question was asked whether the council could spend their portion of CIL to provide the required infrastructure.** Ian Mcloughlin informed the group to be clear and precise when putting forward their Neighbourhood Plan and the Council may use money from their CIL as contribution. There is a cap on the neighbourhood portion given to a Parish Council which does not have a 'Neighbourhood Plan' currently £100 per year for each house in the parish, this cap is also based on existing homes.

(g) The neighbourhood portion of the levy can be spent on a wider range of things than the rest of the levy provided it meets the requirements; it could for example be used to rejuvenate play areas or resurfacing the Tennis courts as mentioned by J Bailey. The Parish council must publish on their website (or the Councils) how much CIL they have received and spent each year.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (31st March 2016)

It was agreed by Cllr Gerry Lee that the previous minutes of meeting were a true and accurate record and those present were in agreement.

3. CORRESPONDANCE

- Invitation of Melling residents to Neighbourhood Plan Policy Development workshop - 21/4/16
- J Duffy, Sefton PC
Suggestion to use Bill Rushdens Café for Annual Event - 6/5/16

- Cllr G Lee, Melling Parish Council - 10/5/16
Approval of Minutes
- J Duffy Chairmans Report - 10/5/16
Sefton PC Diary 2016/17
- M Coles, Formby PC - 11/5/16
Expressed willingness to stand for Vice-Chair at AGM
- Ian Cowell Ince Blundell Clerk - 18/5/16
Advising councillor Cllr Warren & Ashbury resigned from Hightown PC
Comments on good work Parish Councillors do locally
- I Loughlin – Senior Planner, SMBC - 19/5/16
Presentation of Communication Infrastructure – See Minutes

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Transport & Infrastructures Survey

Cllr Gerry Lee will communicate with Vicki Hodson regarding the Transport & Infrastructure Survey which has been forwarded to Vicki.

4. FUTURE SPEAKERS

- * Ian Maher – Leader of SMBC

5. ANOTHER OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 WiFi – Formby Village

To run WIFI in the village, it costs £300 but coffee shops in the area provide wifi anyway. Suggestion was made to invite BT or Outreach to meeting to discuss.

5.2 Little Altcar – Annual Civic Service

This will be held on Sunday 10 July at St Michaels & All Angels Church. Problems with invitations for the event were discussed; Anne Ibbs will ensure all receive invitations.

5.3 Wind Farm Proposals

Melling have rejected the development at Lowerhouse Wind Farm. Aintree Village have also opposed these plans. Developers of these plans have requested to attend the Canal Fest, the group expressed concerned as this could be seen as supporting the development.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 21/7/16 commencing at 7.30pm at Maghull Town Hall.