

Minutes

Planning Committee

10.00 am, Monday, 5 September 2016

Present

Councillors Perry (Convener), Lunn (Vice-Convener), Bagshaw, Balfour, Blacklock, Child, Dixon (Substituting for Councillor Cardownie) Gardner, Heslop, Keil, Milligan, Mowat, and Ritchie.

In attendance: Councillor Ricky Henderson

1. Suspension of Standing Order 30

Decision

To agree that Standing Order 30.1 be suspended for the duration of the meeting in order that local members may be heard.

2. Local Development Plan: Post-Examination Modifications

a) Local Ward Members

Councillor Ricky Henderson advised that the Local Plan process had been a long and difficult drawn out process for everyone involved.

He acknowledged that members had a difficult decision to take with regard to the Local development Plan and asked that they take the following information into consideration when coming to a decision.

The communities within his ward had generally supported the proposals agreed in May 2015 and submitted to the Scottish Government for approval. This proposal had recommended the removal of certain proposed sites and the inclusion of others such as East of Milburn Tower, and he would welcome the Committee's reconfirmation of this decision today.

If this was not possible, he wished to highlight one particular site within his ward, Curriemuirend Park. Over the last two years, the Friends of the Park had been active in promoting their activities and undertaking fundraising. His constituents felt that the Reporter's conclusion in the LDP for the park was flawed and unreasonable, and accordingly the Reporter's recommendation should be rejected.

The Reporter had been inconsistent, as proposals for Allison Park in Kirkliston had been rejected on the grounds that it would breach policies on open space protection

(Policy ENV 18) and playing fields protection (Policy ENV 19).

Curriemuirend Park is a public park, the Public Parks and Gardens Strategy agreed in March 2006 categorised all parks in the city and Curriemuirend was classed as a community park and he asserted that it would be a grave mistake to include a public park as a development site.

The inclusion of the site would lead to a loss of open green space, also while the land was classed as available for development, it made fundraising impossible and no long term strategy for works to the park could be agreed as there was no guarantee that it would remain as public open space.

In conclusion he asked that Curriemuirend Park be removed from the Local Development Plan.

b) Report by the Executive Director of Place

Approval was sought for the modifications to the Edinburgh Local Development Plan, as a necessary step in the final stages of the project. The modifications were recommended in the report of the examination by a Reporter into unresolved representations on the Second Proposed Plan.

The recommendations were largely binding on the Council, and were intended to ensure the Plan's consistency with national and regional policy. They included comparatively limited changes to the Plan's housing allocations, and a strengthening of the Plan's requirements for infrastructure enhancements to support growth, which was a major concern of many participants on the process.

The timetable for the adoption, was to publish the Plan as modified, notify all who made representations to the Second Proposed Plan (There is no provision to make responses at this stage. The notification is a one-way communication to make people aware that the Plan is about to be adopted) in September 2016.

Scottish Ministers would be notified at the same time and sent the relevant documents. There would then be a statutory 28 day period in which the Council could not adopt the Plan and in which Scottish Ministers may make a response. They can extend the period or direct the Council not to adopt the LDP or direct the Council to consider modifying the LDP, or approve the LDP themselves.

After that period, the Council can proceed to formal adoption. Standing Orders require adoption to be carried out by the full Council. This would be scheduled for the Council meeting in October or November 2016.

Decision

- 1) To approve the modifications to the emerging Local Development Plan as detailed in (Appendices 1 and 2) of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 2) To note that the Local Development Plan will now be progressed to formal adoption by the full Council following the process described in paragraphs 3.11 to 3.14 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.

(References – Planning Committee, 12 June 2014 (Item 1) and 19 June 2014 (Item 1); 14 May 2015 (Item 3); report by the Executive Director of Place; submitted.)

Dissent

Councillor Bagshaw requested that his dissent be recorded in respect of the above decision.