

## **PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION CABINET ADVISORY BOARD**

**Monday, 19 August 2019**

**Present: Councillor McDermott (Chairman)**  
**Councillors Backhouse, Dr Basu, Hamilton, Lewis, Lidstone, Neve, Mrs Soyke,**  
**Stanyer and Willis**

**Officers in Attendance:** Cheryl Clark (Democratic Services Officer) and David Scully (Landscape and Biodiversity Officer)

**Other Members in Attendance:** Councillor Ellis

### **CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION**

PT19/19      The Chairman opened the meeting and outlined procedural matters of the meeting.

### **APOLOGIES**

PT20/19      Subsequent to the meeting, it was ascertained that apologies had been sent to the Chairman by Councillor Bland.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

PT21/19      No declarations of interest were made.

### **NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS WISHING TO SPEAK**

PT22/19      There were no Visiting Members who had registered to speak at the meeting.

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 5 AUGUST 2019**

PT23/19      Members had the opportunity to review the minutes.

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting dated 5 August 2019 be approved as a correct record.

### **WORK PROGRAMME AS AT 24 JULY 2019**

PT24/19      The Chairman advised that the Forward Plan had been re-published on 14 August 2019. He also advised that Councillor Lidstone had identified that the consultation period relating to the Cabinet Decision on 15 August had been incorrectly shown and should have read September/October. The Chairman confirmed that the decision on 15 August was however made on the correct basis.

**RESOLVED** – That the Work Programme be noted on the amended basis.

### **NET GAIN FOR BIODIVERSITY IN THE BOROUGH**

PT25/19      Mr David Scully, Landscape and Biodiversity Officer, introduced and summarised the contents of the report. Members of the Committee had the opportunity to ask questions and discussed matters including:

- Interim measures and longer term policy;

- The government provided DEFRA Biodiversity Metric;
- Resources to monitor and oversee the Council's proposed policy including use of consultants;
- Application of conditions to planning permission;
- Risks that offsets would not reflect the true impact of a loss;
- Control or restriction of pesticides not being within the remit of planning conditions;
- Definitions of native species; and
- Engagement of key partners and stakeholders such as the Kent High Weald Partnership, Kent Wildlife Trust and the Woodland Trust.

The Chairman thanked Mr Scully for providing such an informative report and for the provision of further member presentations in the future. The options for reporting the Advisory Board's recommendations were referred to on page 3 and the officer recommendations to Cabinet on page 17 of the agenda report.

**RESOLVED –**

That the Cabinet Advisory Board support the recommendations in the report.

**URGENT BUSINESS**

PT26/19      There was no urgent business for consideration.

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

PT27/19      **RESOLVED** – That the next meeting take place on 30 September 2019, at 6.30pm,

**NOTES:**

1. An audio recording of the full proceedings of this meeting is available on the relevant Cabinet Advisory Board page of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council website.
2. The meeting concluded at 7.10 pm.