

By: Mark Dance, Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Gary Cooke, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services
John Lynch, Head of Democratic Services

To: Selection and Member Services Committee – 1 March
2017

Subject: Appointment of Representative to the Chilmington Green
Partnership Working Group

Classification Unrestricted

FOR DECISION

Introduction

1. Ashford Borough Council has granted outline planning approval for a comprehensive mixed use development at Chilmington Green, Ashford, including 5,750 homes. Kent County Council has been working closely with the Borough Council and the developer consortium to ensure that a high quality, sustainable development is delivered.

2. A unique feature of the development will be the establishment of the Chilmington Green Community Trust that will manage many of the community assets as well as help to develop the new community.

3. A Partnership Working Group (PWG) has been established as part of the accompanying Section 106 Agreement. Its terms of Reference are set out below. Please note that "Community Management Organisation (CMO)" is the former title of the Chilmington Green Community Trust:-

"A working group of persons drawn from the entities [described below] in the numbers [referred below] whose function pending creation of the Community Management Organisation (CMO) is to assist the Consortium Members in an advisory capacity

- a) With the production of the CMO Operating Business Plan by the Consortium Members pursuant to [the submission obligation in the Section 106 – that is not to carry out a Material Operation unless and until the business plan is submitted to the council for approval]*
- b) Contributing towards the creation of the CMO as an organisation*
- c) Liaison with the consortium members the local community the parish councils within the site the borough council the county council pending creation of the CMO as an entity*
- d) Inputting to the detailed design of any non-residential building or facilities that are due to be transferred to the CMO in respect of such*

buildings and/or facilities [to be transferred] made prior to the creation of the CMO

- e) *Holding workshops for the local community pending creation of the CMO as an entity*

“That pending creation of the CMO the consortium members shall convene and hold monthly meetings of the PWG at the offices of ABC or such other local venue and frequency as may be otherwise unanimously agreed between the Council and the Consortium.

“That the consortium members shall invite the following bodies to send one representative to PWG meetings at least 10 working days in advance:

- f) *One [borough] council member [that is councillor] who may be supported by senior officer(s)*
- g) *One representative of the county council (to be nominated by the county council) who may be supported by senior officers*
- h) *One representative of all the parish councils within the site together (to be nominated by the parish councils)*
- i) *and one representative of the voluntary sector*

“That the [PWG] shall be advisory only but shall keep and circulate minutes of its meetings and record areas of agreement and disagreement of those attending

“That the meetings of the [PWG] will be chaired by the consortium and are to be held in private, with ten days’ notice of any meeting...and notes of such meetings will be kept which shall be made available to the public by the council on receipt of a request to do so subject to lawful redaction... and [observing] the [law].”

4. It is intended that the legal agreements which will have the effect of granting planning permission and bringing forward the development will be finalised by the end of February 2017. It is therefore important that a formal appointment is made immediately in order to cover the period up to the May elections.

5. The Cabinet Member for Economic Development has recommended that the Local Member, Mr Charlie Simkin should be appointed, for the period until a post-election appointment is made.

Duration of the Partnership Working Group

6. The Partnership Working Group will continue until the Chilmington Green Community Trust is established as a legal entity. This is expected to

happen before the end of 2017. Once the Trust is formed, a decision on the membership of the Trust will need to be taken by this Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

7. The Committee is invited to appoint Mr Charlie Simkin as its representative on the Chilmington Trust Partnership Working Group for the remainder of the Council's term until the position is reviewed following the May Local Government elections.

John Lynch: Head of Democratic Services

Officer Contact: Andrew Tait
Democratic Services Officer 03000 416749

Katie Chantler: Project Manager
Growth Environment and Transport 03000 417046