

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held in the Darent Room - Sessions House on Thursday, 12 April 2018.

PRESENT: Mr N J D Chard (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), Mr R H Bird, Mrs M E Crabtree, Mr D Farrell, Mr J P McInroy and Mr H Rayner (Substitute for Mr M D Payne)

ALSO PRESENT: Mr E E C Hotson

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms R Adby (Head of Business Partnerships and Relationships), Mr S Dodd (Investment and Development Consultant), Ms K Ripley (Head of Property Strategy and Commissioning) and Mrs A Hunter (Principal Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

125. Apologies and Substitutes

(Item 1)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Sweetland and Mr Payne. Mr Rayner attended as substitute for Mr Payne.

126. Declarations of Interest by Members in Items on the Agenda

(Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

127. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2018

(Item 3)

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2018 are correctly recorded and they be signed by the Chairman.

128. Motion to Exclude the Press and Public

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

EXEMPT ITEM

(open access to minutes)

129. Strategic Acquisition of Former Royal Mail Sorting Office, Maidstone, in partnership with Maidstone Borough Council - update

(Item 4)

Simon Dodd (Investment and Development Consultant), Ros Aaby (Head of Business Partnerships and Relationships) and Karen Ripley (Head of Property Strategy and Commissioning) were in attendance for this item

- (1) Mr Hotson (Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services) introduced the report which provided an overview and update of the strategic acquisition of the former Royal Mail Sorting Office in Maidstone. Mr Hotson outlined the background to the acquisition, the partnership arrangements with Maidstone Borough Council and the constraints on development arising from the nature of the site.
- (2) Mr Dodd gave a presentation which gave an overview of the process, outlined some of the site's constraints, set out the emerging options and concepts for development and indicated the proposed next steps in the project.
- (3) Following the presentation, Mr Hotson and officers answered Members' questions.
- (4) Resolved that:
 - (a) The report be noted;
 - (b) Further information about the future of Thameslink and train services to and from Maidstone be provided to Members; and
 - (c) Mr Hotson's assurance that Members would receive further updates before any decision was made about the future of the site.