

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**ECONOMY, SKILLS & TRANSPORT O&S COMMITTEE –**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**10.30AM hours on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Committee Room 2, Council House – Action Notes**

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**Present:**

Councillor Tahir Ali (Chair)

Councillors John Clancy, Fred Grindrod, Karen McCarthy, Simon Morrall, Julien Pritchard and Ken Wood

**Also Present:**

Cllr Bridget Jones, Deputy Leader

Ian MacLeod, Assistant Director, Planning

Doug Lee, Development Planning Manager

Fatima Chandoo, Solicitor

Baseema Begum, Research & Policy Officer

Rose Kiely, Group Overview & Scrutiny Manager

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**1. NOTICE OF RECORDING**

The Chairman advised the meeting to note that members of the press/public may record and take photographs.

**2. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE AND CHAIRMAN**

Committee appointments were noted as listed on the agenda.

**3. ELECTION OF A DEPUTY CHAIR**

Councillor Fred Grindrod was confirmed as Deputy Chair for the municipal year.

#### **4. APOLOGIES**

An apology was received from Cllr Phil Davis.

#### **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Karen McCarthy stated that she was also a member of the City Council's Planning Committee.

#### **6. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Noted.

#### **7. REQUEST FOR CALL IN: PHOENIX BUSINESS PARK, BRICKFIELD ROAD, TYSELEY - PROPOSED COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER**

(See document No 1)

Cllr Wood outlined the reasons for the call-in and made the following specific points:

- A Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) is the most powerful decision that Members of the City Council can make.
- It was felt that there was a lack of clarity at the cabinet meeting where the report was discussed due to missing information and a lack of background information provided.
- Clarity is needed on the number of jobs that will actually be created – this is unclear in the cabinet report.
- The planning application should be put on hold until an investigation into the actual number of jobs being created is established.
- The cabinet should then consider the report with all of the information available and present and make its decision.

The Deputy Leader, Councillor Bridget Jones responded:

- Primarily about the creating up to 300 jobs in Birmingham and that there was a need to use all the opportunities to create jobs for local people otherwise the business concerned would re-locate out of the city.
- There would be a downside for businesses being re-located but officers are working with them to support them in staying in the city and safeguarding jobs for local people.
- There is no cost being incurred by the City Council. The City Council are being indemnified against the costs.
- The number of jobs noted in section 5.2 and 5.6 of the report are

Ian MacLeod, Assistant Director, Planning added:

- Officers are working with both parties and the CPO is a last resort option.

- Local people from East Birmingham are employed as part of the Euro Packaging workforce. Euro Packaging are growing their business focussing on research and development based on sustainable options. Want to help keep the investment in the city but the company does have other options.
- A significant number of jobs will be created in a deprived area of the city. It is clear that 300 jobs will be created.
- The application is consistent and is clear on the number of jobs that will be created.
- Although there was an error in the original planning application this has been now corrected and the cabinet report contains the right figure.

The Cabinet Member and officers then left the room. Following a discussion amongst Committee members and a vote was taken with 4 to 3 against calling the decision in.

**RESOLVED:-**

That the decision taken by the respective Cabinet on 24<sup>th</sup> May approving the Proposed Compulsory Purchased Order of Phoenix Business Park should not be “called in”.

**8. DATES OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Members agreed that all future meetings would start at 1030 hours instead of 1000 hours.

**9. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL-IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

None.

**10. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**11. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Agreed.

**RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting finished at 1115 hours.