

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET MEMBER SIGNING HELD ON THURSDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER, 2017, 10am

PRESENT:

Councillor Alan Strickland

191. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Noted.

192. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

193. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

194. ACCEPTANCE OF INCREASED PLANNING FEES

Councillor Strickland considered the report which sought authorisation from the Cabinet Member to enable the Council to immediately increase planning fees by 20% more than the current fees, in accordance with the Draft Regulations, on the date the Draft Regulations take effect, should they be approved by Parliament.

RESOLVED

That, subject to regulations being made in substantially the same form as the draft Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits)(England) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 ("the Draft Regulations") to:

- a) increase all planning fees by up to 20%; and
- b) amend and introduce all planning fees as proposed in the Draft Regulations;

in accordance with and immediately on any such regulations coming into force.

Reasons for decision

The acceptance of the 20% increase in planning fees and introduction of new fees will allow the Planning Service to increase its capacity and drive further efficiencies in the Planning Service and ensure compliance with statutory requirements.

Alternative options considered

To reject the offer of a 20% increase in planning fees and the option to charge fees for permission in principle applications and application where permitted development rights have been removed.

This option was rejected as the Council does not have discretion under the 2012 Regulations to vary or waive the fees. Further, it would only represent a modest rise in planning fees and would be unlikely to discourage development given that planning fees are a very small proportion of the overall cost of a building/development project.

195. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

CHAIR: Councillor Alan Strickland

Signed by Chair

Date