

Otterpool Park Working Group

Held at:	Folkestone Room - Civic Centre Folkestone
Date	Thursday, 23 April 2020
Present	Councillors Gary Fuller, Jim Martin, David Monk (Chairman), Terence Mullard and David Wimble
Apologies for Absence	
Officers Present:	Andy Jarrett (Chief Strategic Development Officer), John Bunnett (Development Director), Amandeep Khroud (Assistant Director), Sue Lewis (Committee Services Officer), Susan Priest (Chief Executive), Charlotte Spendley (Director of Corporate Services) and Jemma West (Committee Service Specialist)
Others Present:	Councillors Ian Meyers, Connor McConville, Tim Prater and Lesley Whybrow

18. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

19. **Minutes**

The minutes of the working group held on 6 November and 16 December 2019 were approved.

It was agreed that an issue raised by Councillor Mullard at the 6 November 2019 meeting relating to the name of the development become an agenda item for the next meeting of the working group.

20. **Otterpool Park LLP - Structuring and initial activities**

Members received a draft cabinet report which makes recommendations regarding the corporate structuring and initial activities of Otterpool Park LLP (the "Delivery Vehicle"), the Council's delivery vehicle in relation to the development of the Otterpool Park garden town (the "Project").

Members paid particular attention to the following:

Legal controls – members asked a series of questions about the controls placed on the company by the council. Members were advised there are a series of documents that provide the control framework – as outlined in the Members' Agreement. It is also a requirement for the company to have an approved business plan in place and more detail is included on this matter in the report. Members asked that the report makes clear when decisions are made by full council or as executive decisions made by cabinet.

Independent Directors – members asked that progress be made as soon as possible to outline the process for the appointment of independent members.

Council involvement – members asked that consideration be given to ways that councillors can be involved in the approval of the business plan. Officers confirmed it was the intention that members of OSC have early opportunity to consider the draft business plan and that further consideration would be given to the role of full council.

Members also requested that working groups are held regularly to keep them informed of progress and to allow input into future discussions on matters of substance. It was agreed that the forward schedule of workshops would be re-circulated and meetings would be held more frequently.

The finalised report will be presented to Cabinet in May and members of the working group unanimously agreed:

1. To receive and note Report C/19/69.
2. To recommend to Cabinet the report and recommendations as shown in the report.

(Voting: For 5; Against 0; Abstentions 0)