

Minutes of the Meeting of the General Services Committee held on 11 October 2021 at 6.00 pm

Present: Councillors Robert Gledhill (Chair), John Kent (Vice-Chair), Mark Coxshall, Shane Hebb (For Item 15), Victoria Holloway and Barry Johnson.

Deborah Huelin (Substituting for Cllr Hebb for Item 14).

Apologies: Councillors Fraser Massey

In attendance: Sean Clark, Corporate Director Resources and Place Delivery
Mykela Pratt, Strategic Lead HR, Resourcing and Improvement
Matthew Boulter, Democratic Services Manager

11. Minutes

The minutes of the General Services Committee meeting held on 5 July 2021 were approved as a correct record.

12. Items of Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

13. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

At 6.02pm the Committee agreed to enter exempt session due to the consideration of individuals for the purpose of shortlisting.

14. Recruitment of Assistant Director Children's Services - Shortlisting

The Committee discussed the shortlist of candidates.

RESOLVED that two candidates be progressed to interview.

At 6.04pm the Committee agreed to return to public session.

15. Thurrock Regeneration Limited (TRL) Progress Report

Cllr Coxshall introduced the report stating that he would have liked to have made the recruitment process for board members quicker but the process was still well underway and progressing. It was confirmed two applicants had already applied and there was confidence more quality candidates would apply.

Cllr Kent highlighted the benefits of the Belmont Road site for housing but believed the access issues were significant and troublesome to the local community. He asked that communications with the community be sensitive and that issues were resolved effectively. It was commented that some communications would be most effective door to door than through a letter.

A discussion was had on the change of consent to the Belmont Road site and officers confirmed that Thurrock Regeneration Limited (TRL) were aware they needed to submit a new planning application and that any variations needed to be communicated to the local community.

Cllr Holloway enquired where the recruitment for board members had been undertaken. Officers highlighted trade journals and direct approaches and agreed to send the committee a list of all recruitment sources. It was confirmed that the Council could go out to recruitment again if board members were not found in the first attempt. It was important the right mix of people were found for the roles. Officers agreed to forward the results of the recruitment to the committee as soon as they were agreed and formal notification would be made at the next available meeting of the Committee.

The meeting finished at 6.15 pm

Approved as a true and correct record

CHAIR

DATE

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Democratic Services at Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk**