
NOTICE OF MEETING

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE & LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL

TUESDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2015 AT 6.00 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM A - CIVIC OFFICES - FLOOR 2

Telephone enquiries to Joanne Wildsmith CCDS Tel: 9283 4057

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Membership:

Councillor Julie Swan (Chair)
Councillor Simon Boshier
Councillor Ben Dowling
Councillor Hannah Hockaday
Councillor Lee Hunt
Councillor Matthew Winnington (Vice-Chair)

Standing Deputies

Councillor Alicia Denny
Councillor David Fuller
Councillor Phil Smith
Councillor Lynne Stagg
Councillor Alistair Thompson

(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the minutes of this meeting.)

Please note that the agenda, minutes and non-exempt reports are available to view online on the Portsmouth City Council website: www.portsmouth.gov.uk

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies for absence**
- 2 Declarations of Members' Interests**
- 3 Minutes of Previous Meeting - 16 December 2014 (Pages 1 - 8)**

The minutes of the last formal EDCL panel held on 16 December 2014 are attached for approval.

RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the EDCL Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 16 December 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Review - Revitalising local high streets and secondary shopping centre areas in the city (Pages 9 - 10)

a) Witnesses to include:

- i) New Traders Association - at Fratton Road - Nick Courtney
- ii) Paul Gonella, Strong Island
- iii) Portsmouth Cycle Forum - Jon Spencer and/or Dr Rich Boakes
- iv) Amber Kerens-Bathmaker/James Roberts, PCC Transport & Environment
- v) Councillor Luke Stubbs, Cabinet Member for Planning, Regeneration and Economic Development

b) Written evidence to include:

- vi) **Void properties** - schedule attached prepared by Ed Woodhouse the Head of Revenues and Benefits, who points out that for comparison, around 4% of our retail property is currently empty. This compares to around 10% of industrial property and 18.5% of office property.

vii) Planning de-regulation

(information provided by the City Development Manager)

In the last few years central government has introduced in a number of new 'permitted development' measures which have deregulated the planning system. These include allowing offices to convert to residential dwellings without needing planning permission and introducing a 'temporary use' option which allows most types of properties to convert to A1 (shop), A2 (financial services) and A3 (restaurant/cafes) Uses for a period of two years without requiring planning permission.

The LGA has been campaigning against these changes and believes that councils should be provided with powers to set out permitted development rights locally, subject to consultation and a local impact assessment. The LGA has also been pushing for payday lenders and betting shops to be taken out of the A2

(financial services) Use Class Order, and put into their own category, so as to give local councils greater controls over the proliferation of these types of businesses.

- viii) Feedback from telephone conference with Penny Mordaunt MP**
- this took place with the Chair Cllr Swan and Vice-chair Cllr Winnington on 23 January, the notes will follow.

- ix) Cosham Traders** - Tony Broome's comments to be circulated (subject to his confirmation)

5 Date of next meeting

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