

Agenda Item No: 13



Notices of Motion for consideration by Council at the Meeting of the Council on Monday, 9 October 2017

(a) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14, Councillor Barnes has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration of the Council:

"Lewes District Council resolves to positively continue its long standing support for the much needed re-opening of the Uckfield to Lewes railway line.

This is something which hundreds of Lewes District residents have called for over many years, and it would be a strategic addition to the rail network for the Lewes District. This vital transport link, especially if electrified, would help Lewes District Council meet their sustainable transport aspirations. Other examples of successful projects along these lines include the Borders Railway line"

(b) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14, Councillor Robertson has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration of the Council:

"That officers set up a mechanism whereby an email notification is sent to all councillors in the event of the district council making any expenditure, for whatever reason, in excess of £1million.

That a provision to this effect be inserted in the Financial Procedure Rules and that the Deputy Chief Executive and Head of Democratic Services be authorised to make such revision".

(c) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14, Councillor Robertson has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration of the Council:

“That if a site is allocated as a strategic site, for whatever purpose,(residential or otherwise), in the Local Plan then officers, in conjunction with the Chair of the Planning Applications Committee, will wherever practicable, and subject to the cost, availability and suitability of venue, arrange for the application to be heard locally”

(d) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14, Councillor lent has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration of the Council:

Provision for electric charging points for vehicles in new homes and businesses in the 21st-century

Preamble

As members will know, Michael Gove, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, has announced a government plan to ban the sale of all petrol and diesel cars by 2040. This being the case, over the next 23 years the UK will have to ramp up the provision of charging points to provide the infrastructure to fuel electric vehicles.

Motion commentary

New electric vehicles can only be supported if there are charging points available. Accordingly, planning permission for newbuild residential and business premises should include for the provision of an electric charging point.

The council has the opportunity to make a significant contribution to reducing carbon emissions and helping the government move towards its 2040 electric car target. Therefore, please let us require new planning applicants, from 2018 onwards, to include an 'electric vehicle charging scheme' for housing and business/commercial developments such that the planning application should include an 'electric vehicle charging scheme' plan.

Therefore, my motion is as follows:

“That from 1 January 2018 all new housing and business/commercial planning applications to Lewes District Council include the provision of an 'electric vehicle charging scheme'; and that any such scheme would not become binding on the applicant unless included by the local planning authority as a condition of any planning permission granted”.

Sub-text: The applicant would propose a scheme and offer an analysis of its viability or otherwise. Council officers can then advise members as to whether any particular development is suitable for an electric car charging scheme thus leading to the conditioning of the planning permission in appropriate cases.”

(e) In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14, Councillor Ient has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration of the Council:

Powering new homes and businesses in the 21st-century

Preamble

The National Planning Policy Framework (“NPPF”)

The NPPF states in section 17, under the heading of Core Planning Principles:

“Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy);”

Further it states that:

“93. Planning plays a key role in helping shape places to secure radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and providing resilience to the impacts of climate change, and supporting the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure. This is central to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development”.

And

“95. To support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should:

- plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and
- when setting any local requirement for a building’s sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government’s zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards”.

“97. To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy, local planning authorities should recognise the responsibility on all communities to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources. They should:

- have a positive strategy to promote energy from renewable and low carbon sources;

“• identify opportunities where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers”.

Lewes District Council Core Strategy

In furtherance of these national planning policies the Lewes District Council in its joint core strategy under Core Policy 14 (renewable and low carbon energy and sustainable use of resources) provides us with a **key strategy objective:**

“To ensure that the district reduces locally contributing causes of climate change and is proactive regarding climate change initiatives”.

Further, in the following core policy 14 statement on page 129, it begins by saying under Item 1 “Encourage renewable and low carbon energy in all development....”

Motion commentary

Currently it appears that in the planning application process this council does not specifically refer applicants to either the NPPF renewable and low carbon energy policies or our own. This motion aims to bring up-to-date the application of key policies in giving planning permission in this area. In all housing and industrial newbuild projects there are opportunities to include for the provision of renewable energy as an alternative to using mains electricity or gas. This could include provision for solar roofs, air source heating, ground source heating or community renewable energy projects etc.

The council has the opportunity to make a significant contribution to reducing carbon emissions and helping the government move towards its 2050 targets for climate change. Therefore please let us require new applicants from 2018 onwards to include a 'renewable energy scheme' for housing and business/commercial developments such that the planning application should include a 'renewable energy scheme' plan.

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Therefore, my motion is as follows:

“That from 1 January 2018 all new housing and business/commercial planning applications to Lewes District Council include the provision of a 'renewable energy scheme'; and that any such scheme would not become binding on the applicant unless included by the local planning authority as a condition of any planning permission granted”.

Sub-text to the motion: The applicant would propose a scheme and offer an analysis of its viability or otherwise. Council officers could then advise members as to whether any particular development is suitable for a renewable energy scheme thus leading to the conditioning of the planning permission in appropriate cases.