**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Special Meeting: Wednesday 4th January, 2017

at 2.00 p.m.

PRESENT:- Councillors Pidduck (Chairman), Sweeney (Vice-Chairman), Barlow, Biggins, Brook, Hamilton, Maddox, Pemberton and Roberts.

Also Present:- Phil Huck (Executive Director), Sue Roberts (Director of Resources), Steve Solsby (Assistant Director – Regeneration and Built Environment), Keely Fisher (Democratic Services Officer) and Katie Pepper (Democratic and Electoral Services Apprentice).

**79 – Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R. McClure and Williams.

**80 – North West Coast Connections Project (NWCC) Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report and S42 Consultation: Barrow Borough Council Consultation Response to National Grid’s Formal Consultation 2016/17**

The Committee were informed that to meet future energy demand, to increase security of supply and to decarbonise electricity generation, the Government’s National Policy Statement (NPS) EN-1 concluded there was a significant need for new major energy infrastructure. NPS EN-1 included information regarding the specific need for major new electricity networks infrastructure. National Grid was required to strengthen its electricity transmission network in Cumbria and Lancashire to connect the proposed new nuclear generation at Moorside (near Sellafield West Cumbria) by new electricity transmission lines to the existing electricity network.

National Grid was undertaking a formal public consultation on the North West Coast Connections (NWCC) project. National Grid owned the high-voltage electricity transmission network in England and Wales, operating it across Great Britain.

National Grid had been working on the project for six years. National Grid planned to build a 400kV connection from the proposed Moorside Power Station in West Cumbria to the national electricity grid at Heysham, near Lancaster and Harker, near Carlisle. That project – ‘North West Coast Connections’ – was a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), which would be decided by the Secretary of State through the Development Consent Order (DCO) process. The £2.8bn project was to connect the proposed new nuclear power station at Moorside in Cumbria into the electricity network and the project would only be implemented if the new nuclear power station at Moorside went ahead.

Officers of the Council had produced a formal response to the PEI Consultation, which was set out in the detailed report considered by the Committee. The full Headlines Report to the consultation response was also considered by the Committee.

Dalton with Newton Town Council had tabled a revised response to the consultation.

It was moved by Councillor Sweeney that a further point be added to Barrow Borough Council’s consultation response as follows:-

“Barrow Borough Council is concerned that the deficiencies in the timeliness   
 and completeness of the information provided by National Grid makes the   
 Section 42 consultation process inadequate to meet the requirements of the   
 Development Consent process”.

The above motion was duly seconded, voted upon and carried, and it was

RESOLVED:-

1. To agree to submit the report and Appendix 2 as the Council’s response to National Grid’s formal consultation on the North West Coast Connections (NWCC) Project; and

2. To delegate authority to the Assistant Director (Regeneration and Built Environment) after consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council to approve the technical response prepared by the consultant team on behalf of the Council and the local authorities within the Planning Performance Agreement group.

3. To note that Barrow Borough Council is concerned that the deficiencies in the timeliness and completeness of the information provided by National Grid makes the Section 42 consultation process inadequate to meet the requirements of the Development Consent process.

**81 – Sale of 1-5 Lawson Street, Barrow-in-Furness**

The Committee were reminded that the Council had purchased 1-5 Lawson Street in March 2007.

The property had remained vacant and unused since purchase and was no-longer required by the council. Recent interest by The Well, looking to establish a ‘Recovery Hub’ in the building had now been withdrawn.

Approval was now sought to declare the property fully surplus to requirements and permission given for the Commercial Estate Manager to dispose of the asset on the open market by the appropriate method of sale.

RESOLVED:- To agree to proceed with the sale of 1-5 Lawson Street (on the terms and conditions outlined in the report).

**82 – Cavendish Dock Road, Barrow-in-Furness**

Following negotiations over the last fifteen months and the successful pilots in loading a goods train and transporting aggregate from the Woodbridge Haven site. Burlington Aggregates wish to be considered for leasing the land (see Site A plan, attached). Again the proposal will be subject to obtaining the necessary planning permission together with the company being successful in obtaining a major award in 2017 for stocking, supplying and transporting a range of aggregates to the development at Drigg and potentially other major projects in the North of the County. The establishment of the distribution hub will we be an important component to the logistics needed once the projects starts to progress.

The Council re-tendered the option of leasing the land, after a decision was taken not to proceed with Snoozebox. The Little Box Company Limited were the successful bidder for the interest in leasing land at Woodbridge Haven, to facilitate demand for temporary accommodation. However following earlier interest in the same area of land, in particular the need to utilise the existing railway line, an alternative area of land was offered to the south of Cavendish Dock Road which they now wish to proceed with, subject to the necessary planning permission being obtained;

It was proposed that Site A be let to:

Burlington Aggregates Limited for use as a site compound/Stone aggregate distribution centre on a term of seven years (from the grant of full planning permission) for a rental of £20,000 pa minimum subject to review in the third year.

£1 for every tonne of aggregate dispatched from the site as exceeds 25,000 tonnes.

It was proposed that Site B be let to:

The Little Box Company Limited for use as serviced residential accommodation units on a term of ten years (from the granting of full planning permission) for a rent of £125,000 pa subject to review in the fifth year.

RESOLVED:- To authorise the Commercial Estate Manager to let Site A and Site B, Cavendish Dock Road on the terms reported.

The meeting closed at 4.10 p.m.