

## **WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Regulatory Committee held in the Council Chamber - The Guildhall on 10 December 2019 commencing at 6.34 pm.

**Present:** Councillor Mrs Jessie Milne (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs Angela Lawrence (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor David Cotton  
Councillor Timothy Davies  
Councillor Mrs Caralyne Grimble  
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan  
Councillor Mrs Cordelia McCartney  
Councillor Mrs Judy Rainsforth  
Councillor Jim Snee

**In Attendance:**  
Andy Gray Housing and Enforcement Manager  
James Welbourn Democratic and Civic Officer

**Apologies:** Councillor Lewis Strange

### **11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

### **12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests.

### **13 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2019 were approved as a correct record.

### **14 CONTAMINATED LAND STRATEGY**

Members considered a report on an updated contaminated land strategy.

The Housing and Enforcement Manager introduced the report, and highlighted the following points:

- In 2018 there was a detailed audit of the food safety and environmental protection work areas. Some aspects of the subject area of contaminated land fell within environmental protection;

Having an up to date Contaminated Land Strategy was a statutory requirement and

was identified as an obligation of that 2018 audit;

- A strategy on this topic has not been updated, or seen by Regulatory Committee (or its predecessor) since circa 2010;
- There was a financial implication for this work, and there was recognition that contaminated land was a specialist area of expertise. Some authorities do have officers that specialise in this area of work;
- Some officers at West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) had been trained on prioritising Potential Contaminated Land Sites (PCLS). However, there were resourcing implications around taking this work forward;
- An external environmental consultancy firm, Delta Simons, would assist with the initial logging and prioritising of PCLS, and then WLDC would take over full control of this work;
- It was unclear at this stage what the number of identified sites would be, however any sites identified as part of this work would be fully mapped on electronic systems.

Following this introduction, Members asked questions of the Housing and Enforcement Manager. Further information was provided:

- If a site in West Lindsey was subject to the planning process or development, then any information on contamination should be available to Enforcement Officers;
- This process was trying to pull together information on contaminated sites in West Lindsey. Historic manufacturing sites, such as those in Gainsborough would be known to Enforcement;
- Contaminated land sites should be an ongoing piece of work for WLDC. It was identified in the 2018 audit that this process had stopped;
- Under usual circumstances, if contamination was identified as part of the planning process, the remediation of the site would be dealt with at this stage. In the main, the remediation of contaminated land was the responsibility of the landowner;
- Orphan sites, where the owner of a site was unknown were likely to be the responsibility of the local Council;
- Contaminated sites would be given a risk score, and this score could be distributed to people or groups that enquire about these sites;
- Community consultation had not been factored in because of the volume of sites. However, there was community consultation as part of the planning process which includes Parish Council engagement.

**RESOLVED** to approve the Contaminated Land Strategy Review 2019-2024.

The meeting concluded at 6.54 pm.

Chairman