

MERANTUN DEVELOPMENT LIMITED SUB-COMMITTEE
13 JULY 2020

(8.10 pm - 8.21 pm)

PRESENT Councillors Stephen Alambritis (in the Chair), Mark Allison and Martin Whelton

Caroline Holland (Director of Corporate Services), Chris Lee (Director of Environment and Regeneration), Louise Round (Managing Director, South London Legal Partnership and Monitoring Officer), James McGinlay (Merantun Managing Director), Paul McGarry (Merantun Director for Design), Julia Regan (Head of Democracy Services) and Louise Fleming (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

ALSO PRESENT Councillors Daniel Holden and Peter Southgate

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

There were no apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

4 MERANTUN DEVELOPMENT LTD: COMPANY PROGRESS REPORT (Agenda Item 4)

The Director of Environment and Regeneration presented the company progress report and advised that this represented a significant milestone in the progress of the company, in that the planning applications would be considered by the Planning Applications Committee on Thursday 16 July, which included a balance of affordable housing and housing for private rental. It was hoped to provide a positive progress update to the next meeting of the sub-committee.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing and Transport welcomed the progress that had been made and that applications were being considered by the Planning Applications Committee and the award of contract for the development which was due to take place at the end of the year.

In response to questions from Members, the Company Director advised that the anticipated date for commencing construction was February/March 2021, with a 12-month build the anticipated completion date was sometime in Spring 2022.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance welcomed the progress and echoed the comments made. He was encouraged that the company was putting forward the most viable development and delivering some affordable housing.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the business case would be reviewed and updated in light of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Head of Future Merton gave an overview of the four sites. Social housing providers were being engaged to express interest in the sites, pending the consideration of the Planning Applications Committee.

The Director of Environment and Regeneration advised that a number of local authorities had established housing companies, including some of the Council's neighbours. This was a tried and tested means of providing housing.

The Leader welcomed the progress and the approach set out in the report and it was

RESOLVED

1. That the progress of Merantun Development Limited (MDL) for the delivery of their new build housing programme be noted.
2. That the progress on design and planning of the four sites be noted.
3. That the year to date expenditure incurred by the Company be noted.