

<b>Agenda Item No:</b>	9	
<b>Committee:</b>	Cabinet	
<b>Date:</b>	19 May 2025	
<b>Report Title:</b>	Fenland Future Ltd – Appointment of Director	

**Cover sheet:**

**1 Purpose / Summary**

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet approval to appoint a new Director to fill a vacancy on the Board of Fenland Future Ltd.

**2 Key Issues**

- 2.1 The Board of Fenland Future Ltd (FFL) has a vacancy since the retirement of the Councils' Chief Accountant on 31 May 2025.
- 2.2 It is important that the new Director has a solid finance background to complement the skills of the two remaining directors.
- 2.3 Fenland Future Ltd is delivering development on two sites and the resource and skill set is needed to aid in the progression.
- 2.4 It is proposed to appoint Sian Warren (FDC Chief Accountant from 1 June 2025) as the new Director of FFL to work alongside current Directors Dan Horn and Anna Goodall along with Jane Bailey as the Company Secretary.
- 2.5 The proposed new Director's skillset ideally fills the gap created by the retirement.

**3 Recommendations**

- 3.1 Cabinet are asked to approve the appointment of Sian Warren to the Board of FFL and delegate to the Company Secretary all necessary arrangements to make his happen.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	
Portfolio Holder(s)	<p>Cllr Chris Boden – Leader, Finance Portfolio Holder and Chairman of the Investment Board</p> <p>Cllr Steve Tierney – Transformation, Communications &amp; Environment Portfolio Holder and Investment Board Member</p>

Report Originator(s)	Paul Medd – Chief Executive Peter Catchpole – Corporate Director & Chief Finance Officer Carol Pilson – Corporate Director & Monitoring Officer Amy Brown – Assistant Director & Deputy Monitoring Officer
Contact Officer(s)	Paul Medd – Chief Executive Peter Catchpole – Corporate Director & Chief Finance Officer Carol Pilson – Corporate Director & Monitoring Officer Amy Brown - Assistant Director & Deputy Monitoring Officer
Background Papers	Cabinet meeting 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2020 LATCo Business case Cabinet meeting 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2020 Fenland Future Ltd, Articles of Association and Reserved matters

## **Report:**

### **1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES**

- 1.1 It was agreed in the original business case presented to Cabinet on 9 June 2020 that the Board of Directors will be comprised of Council officers with an elected member attending in an observational capacity. It was initially intended that the officers appointed to the Board would be the Chief Accountant, the Head of Economic Growth and Assets and the Head of Housing and Community Support and this was duly implemented. Due to the resignation of the Head of Economic Growth and Assets and the subsequent re-designation of parts of this role, Anna Goodall, Assistant Director covering Economic Growth was later appointed to the Board. The change this time is simply to replace the outgoing Chief Accountant with the new incumbent.

### **2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Fenland Future Ltd is constituted to run with a minimum of three directors and it is therefore necessary to appoint a third director as soon as possible.

### **3 CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 Whilst there are no specific consultation requirements, the appointment has been discussed with the existing representatives of FFL who have confirmed their support of the proposals outlined in this report.

## **4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 None. The composition of the Board is as designated by the original LATCo Business case as presented to Cabinet on 9 June 2020 and as determined by the Articles of Association approved by Cabinet on 29 June 2020. The Articles of Association state that the Board of Directors will comprise a minimum of three and a maximum of five directors.
- 4.2 Other officers were considered in discussion between the Chief Executive and the Section 151 Officer and the suggested recommendation is as contained in this paper.

## **5 IMPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 Legal Implications**

- 5.2 5.1.1 Fenland Future Ltd would be operating below the minimum number of Directors required and action is required to correct this situation. Part 3, Table 3, paragraph 3.1.1(g) specifies that the determination of Reserved Matters for example appointment or dismissal of Directors are the responsibility of Cabinet unless delegated to the Investment Board. Such a delegation has not been made and it is therefore appropriate that Cabinet make this decision.

### **5.3 Financial Implications**

- 5.4 There are no financial implications to this appointment and the Service Level Agreement between Fenland District Council and Fenland Future Ltd already includes the costs for three Directors and a Company Secretary.

### **5.5 Equality Implications**

- 5.6 N/A