

## **GEGSC - Report to Overview & Scrutiny of 21st September 2023 meeting**

The full agenda and papers are here:

[Agenda for Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee on Thursday 21 September 2023, 10.00 am](#)

I'd particularly like to point members to item 5; the minutes read:

5.1 Brendan Walsh, Interim Director of Place, was invited to give an update on Tewkesbury's Garden Town. He was also supported by Colin Chick, Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure at Gloucestershire County Council. The key information highlighted was:

There was a plan for a garden town to be created in Tewkesbury with the first phase being concentrated around Junction 9 of the M5. The garden town would create 10000 additional homes and infrastructure for new places of employment. It was emphasised that this was one of the biggest home building projects in the country.

Tewkesbury Borough Council created a Gateway Review Team under the company, Cratus to create a report which outlined recommendations for what Tewkesbury Borough Council would need to do to make the project happen. The report contained 17 recommendations which had begun being implemented. (See here for the full report:

<https://minutes.tewkesbury.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=256&MId=4219&Ver=4> its item 7a.)

The members were informed that a Local Plan had to be created to encompass how the garden town would fit with the rest of Tewkesbury. It was stated that this would take 3 years to complete and was pivotal to the garden town being created.

Brendan was fascinating; he has 30 years of experience in placemaking. A wide-ranging insight into the way thinking is developing nationally.

Lots of learning that would be applicable to Golden Valley and Tewkesbury Road. (And he thinks that Gloucestershire needs another 7 or 8 Garden Towns to cope with the 100-150k houses Gloucestershire will need in the future.)

[Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee - Thursday 21 September 2023, 10:00am - Gloucestershire County Council Webcasting \(public-i.tv\)](#)

The item starts 23 minutes 47 seconds in.

Other Agenda items worth a look are:

Item 4: High St Heritage Action Zone

Item 7: Growth Hub Update

Item 8: Exec Director's Report (Colin Chick) As ever lot's of detail on what GCC is doing across the County.

I'd start with the minutes and the background papers for these last 3 items. You have to listen to Brendan Walsh's intervention.

Councillor Paul McCloskey