

MINUTES

CABINET

18 JULY 2023

Present:

Members:

Councillors: Tindall (Leader)
Bromham
Dhyani
England (Deputy
Leader)
Symington
Weston
Wilkie

Officers:	D Welsh	Chief Housing Officer
	J Doe	Strategic Director Place
	C Silva Donayre	Strategic Director Corporate & Commercial
	M Brookes	Assistant Director Legal and Democratic
	N Howcutt	Chief Finance Officer (S151)
	D Barratt	Assistant Director Strategic Housing
	D Southam	Assistant Director Place, Communities & Enterprise
	S Whelan	Hemel Place Strategy Programme Manager
	P Stanley	Head of Development Management
	G Brennan	Senior Project Manager
	C O'Neil	Democratic Services Manager

Also attended: Councillor Williams, Stevens, Hobson, Banks,

The meeting began at 7.30 pm

CA/57/21 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting were formally approved as an accurate record.

CA/58/21 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies.

CA/59/21 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

CA/60/21 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation

CA/61/21 **REFERRALS TO CABINET**

There were no referrals to Cabinet.

CA/62/21 CABINET FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan was noted, with the addition of the Parking Policy paper as deferred from this meeting to be added to 12th September meeting.

CA/63/21 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Decision

1. To secure agreement for two temporary Planning Enforcement Officers, with a combined resource of 16 months. 2. To recommend to Full Council to approve a drawdown from the Dacorum Development Reserve of up to £110,000.

Corporate Priorities

A clean, safe and enjoyable environment
Building strong and vibrant communities
Ensuring economic growth and prosperity
Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery

Statutory Officer Comments:

Monitoring Officer:

As set out in the legal implications section, the Council has a duty to investigate alleged breaches of planning control and take action where it is expedient to do so. The additional resource should help the Council to fulfil this duty within a reasonable period of time.

Deputy S151 Officer:

The additional Planning Enforcement resources requested is unbudgeted and would be supported by a drawdown from revenue reserves. Reserve resources are one-off in nature. There are sufficient resources within the Dacorum Development Reserve to support the resource request set out in this report.

Advice

Cllr Tindall introduced the report. JDoe advised this had recently been considered by SPAE Overview & Scrutiny and welcomed any questions which both he and his colleague PStanley would be happy to address.

There were no questions.

Recommendation agreed

CA/64/21 TOWN CENTRE VISION

Decision

That Cabinet approves the Hemel Hempstead Town Centre Vision.

Corporate Priorities

A clean, safe and enjoyable environment

Building strong and vibrant communities
Ensuring economic growth and prosperity
Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery

Statutory Officer Comments:

Monitoring Officer:

There are no direct considerations arising from the report but the delivery of the Vision will have various legal implications which will need to be considered as each separate project progresses.

Deputy S151 Officer:

There are no direct financial implications arising from the report. Any activity associated with the delivery of the Hemel Hempstead Town Centre Vision will be supported by the Place, Communities and Enterprise service. Financial resourcing of this activity will be addressed as part of future reports, as required

Advice

Cllr Wilkie introduced the report and handed over to officers.

JDoe advised the report recently went through SPAE Overview & Scrutiny and invited his colleagues DSouthern and SWhelan to give a short presentation on the Town Centre Vision as part of the Hemel Place Strategy.

Cllr Banks commented that she had recently visited Liverpool; they have a high street shopping centre set up close to the docks. She noted that they have taken out, what she assumes was dock side warehouses, and have put in blocks of green space linking the docks to the town, observing that it was a very interesting connection between dock and town centre and expressed her opinion that a similar sort of link would be great if it could be incorporated locally.

Cllr Symington thanked officers for the work and noted it is aspirational. She asked; is this in any way limiting or is this a vision that we can do what we want with?

JDoe advised it is not limiting, it is ambitious and visionary but grounded in the background evidence. There will be more details to come in terms of delivery plans. Will be a framework for dealing with sites as they come forward.

Recommendation agreed

CA/65/21 PARKING PROPOSALS FBC

Decision

1. That Cabinet agrees to progress to a formal consultation on the proposed changes to parking tariffs and charging policy
2. That Cabinet delegates authority to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate & Commercial Services and the Strategic Director Corporate & Commercial Services to consider the responses from the consultation and decide to implement the proposed changes to parking tariffs and charging policy or agree any amendments thereto.

3. That Cabinet agrees to progress the implementation of 'smart' technology as part of the re-commissioning of the parking enforcement contract

Corporate Priorities

A clean, safe and enjoyable environment
Building strong and vibrant communities
Ensuring economic growth and prosperity
Providing good quality affordable homes, in particular for those most in need
Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery
Climate and ecological emergency

Statutory Officer Comments:

Monitoring Officer:

Public consultation will take place regarding the proposed changes to ensure that the views of affected persons are considered prior to implementation of the new tariffs and policies. The report recommends that the final decision to implement the changes be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate & Commercial Services and the Strategic Director, Corporate & Commercial Services after responses are considered

S151 Officer:

The proposed parking policy changes will provide additional income to the Council to support the commercial strategy income generation projections and in line with the approved 2022 MTFS

Advice

As set out in Cllr Tindall's opening remarks at the start of this meeting; following consultation with the wider Cabinet and his Liberal Democrat colleagues, it is proposed that this item be deferred and moved on forward plan to meeting of 12th September. In the meantime he advised that he has asked for further financial profiling be carried out before this paper and its recommendations can be properly considered.

Cabinet agreed to defer this item to 12th September.

CA/66/21 CONTRACT AWARD – MARCHMONT AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

Decision

That Cabinet:

1. Approves entering into the JCT D&B contract with Bugler Developments Ltd for the delivery of 32 homes at the Marchmont Fields development.
2. Delegates authority to the Assistant Director (Legal & Democratic Services) to execute and complete all legal agreements ancillary to the JCT Design & Build Contract 2016 and/or reasonably required to complete the Project, including (but not limited to):
 - a. all professional appointments;
 - b. collateral warranties; and

C. Agreements under

S.38, & S.278, of the Highways Act 1980;
S.247, Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990;
S.104 of the Water Industry Act 1991, and
S.50 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991.

Corporate Priorities

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Ensuring efficient, effective and modern service delivery
Climate and ecological emergency

Statutory Officer Comments:

Monitoring Officer:

The Council holds the statutory powers of appropriation under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 and section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016. By Section 204 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 the local authority is liable to pay compensation, in accordance with the statutory provisions, in respect of the interference of rights affected by the carrying out of building or maintenance works. The proposals contained in this report are consistent with the exercise of the above mentioned statutory powers of the Council. It is considered that the exercise by the Council of its statutory powers of appropriation in the circumstances referred to in this report is reasonable and proportionate

S151 Officer:

The award of contract has followed a competitive procurement process to secure value for money.

Advice

Cllr Dhyani introduced the report as published with the agenda and invited questions, there were none.

Recommendation agreed

CA/67/21 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

That, under s.100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A Part 1 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during the items in Part 2 of the Agenda for this meeting, because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that, if members of the public were present during those items, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to the financial and business affairs of the Council and third party companies/organisations.

Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part 1, paragraph 3 & 4

CA/68/21 BRYFIELD COTTAGES, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Please refer to Part II (restricted) minutes.

The Meeting ended at 7.57 pm