

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 January 2015

Portfolio Health and Housing

Subject: Award of Contract - Construction of Six Passivhaus

Homes at Coldeast Sarisbury

Report of: Director of Community

Strategy/Policy: Affordable Housing Strategy

Corporate A Balanced Housing Market

Objectives:

Purpose:

This report seeks approval to enter into contract with a selected developer for the construction of 6 x 2 bedroom Passivhaus homes at Coldeast Close in Sarisbury.

On 7th April 2014 the Executive approved a provisional budget to fund the construction of 6 new affordable homes at Coldeast Close in Sarisbury. In addition to providing much needed rented homes, the project will showcase the merits of building to the rigorous 'Passivhaus' standard and will inform future development expectations for Welborne.

Since the last report, the design for the homes has been set and planning permission has been secured. In addition, £120,000 of grant funding has been secured via the Homes and Communities Agency 2015-2018 Affordable Homes Programme to help meet the costs of construction.

A two stage competitive tender has been conducted to identify a suitable contractor to construct the scheme. Approval is sought from the Executive to enter into contact with the recommended contractor and bring the scheme forward.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor Mrs K K Trott addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

(a) notes the level of grant funding secured from the Homes and Communities Agency to support delivery of the project;

- (b) approves a revised budget of £1,000,000 in light of the funding secured and the costs of construction confirmed by the tender; and
- (c) authorises the Director of Community to enter into contract with Interserve Construction Limited to complete the proposed development.

Reason:

To enable new affordable homes to be built, which will meet local housing needs, inform future housing construction at Welborne, and contribute to the corporate objective of enabling 500 new affordable homes by 2017.

Confirmed as a true record:

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Portfolio Planning and Development

Subject: Titchfield Village Parking Review

Report of: Director of Planning & Development

Strategy/Policy: Local Plan: Adopted Core Strategy (August 2011) and

Publication Development Sites and Policies Plan

(February 2014)

Corporate Protect and Enhance the Environment

Objectives: Maintain and Extend Prosperity

Purpose:

To consider and, if appropriate, approve recommendations for changes to the parking arrangements in Titchfield Village Centre, including The Square, Barry's Meadow Car Park and Titchfield Community Centre Car Park.

An assessment of the use of main car parks in Titchfield Village Centre has been carried out following the approval of proposals to carry out a review of car parking in the Village at the Executive Decision Meeting on 15 April 2013. The proposals included recommendations to undertake local consultation with interested parties and survey work to establish the patterns of use of the main car parks and provide evidence to support bringing forward a package of measures to improve the existing parking arrangements.

This Report provides a summary of the data collection exercise carried out in May 2014 and describes the recommended options identified for implementation in the three main car parks in Titchfield Village.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive supports the proposal and recommendations to change the parking arrangements in Titchfield Village Centre, and approves that:

(a) for The Square, to introduce 8 extra spaces restricted to 30-minute parking (no return within one hour) between 8am and 6pm Monday to Sunday, resulting in a total of 13 spaces with this restriction; and in addition to convert

one space in the south-western corner of The Square to motor-cycle parking only;

- (b) for Barry's Meadow Car Park, to withdraw existing parking permits for business users previously issued for this car park;
- (c) for Titchfield Community Centre Car Park, to re-arrange the internal layout of the car park to create an estimated 25 to 30 extra parking spaces; and
- (d) the effectiveness of the schemes detailed in recommendations (a) (b) and (c) be reviewed after one year.

Reason:

To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of Titchfield Village Centre by improving parking arrangements for visitors, residents and businesses.

Confirmed as a true record:

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Portfolio Policy & Resources

Subject: Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue

Budget and Council Tax

Report of: Director of Finance & Resources

Strategy/Policy: Finance Strategy

Corporate Objectives:

Purpose:

This report reviews the Council's finance strategy and makes recommendations regarding the capital programme, the revised revenue budget for 2014/15 and the revenue budget for 2015/6.

On 1 December 2014, the Executive considered the Council's capital programme, revised service budget for 2014/15 and proposed service budgets for 2015/16.

Capital Programme and Resources 2014/15 to 2018/19

The capital programme amounts to £33,176,000, and there are capital resources totalling £34,774,000 over the programme period. Whilst a surplus of capital resources exists, there are likely to be emerging spending requirements that require new resources to be accumulated now so that the Council can meet its future commitments.

Revised General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15

The revised general fund revenue budget for 2014/15 amounts to £12,958,700 for service budgets with other budgets totalling £-3,442,600 giving an overall position of £9,516,100.

General Fund Revenue Budget 2015/16

The proposed general fund budget for 2015/16 totals £11,773,100 for service budgets along with £-2,652,900 for other budgets giving an overall position of £9,120,200 which is a reduction of £395,900 against the original budget for 2014/15.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees:

- (a) that the capital programme for the period 2014/15 2018/19, amounting to £33,176,000 be approved;
- (b) that the revised 2014/15 general fund budget, amounting to £9,516,100 be approved;
- (c) that the base 2015/16 general fund revenue budget amounting to £9,120,200 be approved; and
- (d) that the use of the surplus on the spending reserve as set out in paragraphs 30-32 be approved.

Reason:

To allow the Council to approve the capital programme, general fund revised revenue budget for 2014/15 and draft revenue budget for 2015/16.

Confirmed as a true record:

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Portfolio Leisure and Community

Subject: Community Fund Application - Adrian Stannard

Report of: Director of Finance & Resources

Strategy/Policy: Community Engagement Strategy

Corporate Strong and Inclusive Communities

Objectives:

Purpose:

This report presents an application for funding under the Council's Community Fund Programme.

Mr Adrian Stannard, a resident of Winnham Drive, Portchester, has applied for the sum of £9,250 from the Council's Community Fund programme to pay for the resurfacing of a footpath leading from Winnham Drive to Portchester Road (between nos. 92 & 96).

The funds would be used to pay for works to improve the surface of the existing footpath. Officers from Building Services have surveyed the footpath and recommended the laying of new edgings and a fresh tarmac pathway. The works would be carried out by Fareham Borough Council contractors.

The footpath is regularly used by the public but believed to be in private ownership. Despite lengthy attempts to identify the current owners, Officers have been unable to do so. Following advice from the Southampton & Fareham Legal Partnership an advertisement was placed in The News newspaper on 3rd September 2014. Whilst a couple of responses were received they did not confirm the ownership status of the footpath.

In the interests of members of the public who use this footpath on a regular, often daily, basis and have done for a number of years, it is proposed to use these public funds to upgrade the path to a good standard.

Ward Councillors Bell & Walker have been consulted on the bid and have responded in full support of the application.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor N J Walker addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves the application for funding submitted by Mr Adrian Stannard for £9,250.00 and agrees that it is taken from Fareham Borough Council's Community Funding Programme.

Reason:

This application meets the agreed Community Funding Programme criteria for financial support for community capital projects.

Confirmed as a true record:

Monday, 5 January 2015



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Portfolio Policy & Resources

Subject: Irrecoverable Debts

Report of: Director of Finance & Resources

Strategy/Policy: Finance Strategy

Corporate Dynamic, Prudent and Progressive Council

Objectives:

Purpose:

In certain circumstances, debts can be considered as irrecoverable, this report seeks approval to write those debts off where the value is in excess of £5,000

Appendix A to the report lists the debts that are considered irrecoverable. Every effort has been made to recover the debts and there is no further legal action that can be taken, where it is applicable. Some housing benefit debts may be recommended for write off where it is believed that the debt should not be recovered due to the circumstances applicable to that case.

Glossary of Terms Used

Bankruptcy/Liquidations/Administration

Once a person has been declared bankrupt or a company has been placed in liquidation, legislation prevents the Council from taking any further action to recover the debt. Debts due to the Council are classed as non-preferential and therefore the likelihood of receiving a dividend is very low.

Ceased Trading or Company Dissolved

Where a company is no longer trading, but the assets of the company (or the individual) are insufficient to justify the cost of placing the company in liquidation. A company which has ceased trading may be dissolved.

Not worth Pursuing

Occasionally, due to specific circumstances or to the time and expense involved in collection, a debt may be uneconomical to collect.

No Trace

Every effort has been made to trace the debtor, including the use of tracing agents where it is effective to do so.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the debts listed in Appendix A to the report, be written off as irrecoverable.

Reason:

There is no further legal action that can be taken to collect the debt or that exceptional circumstances apply that justify the non-collection of the debt.

Confirmed as a true record:

Monday, 5 January 2015