

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2196

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Covid-19 Recovery Plan (Objectives and Framework)
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	(All Corporate Priorities)

Purpose:

To seek approval for the Council's COVID-19 Recovery Plan Objectives and the Recovery Plan Framework.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had, and will continue to have, a significant impact on the Council and the local community. Many Borough residents and businesses will have been detrimentally affected in different ways.

This report includes a set of Recovery Plan Objectives for the Council to follow. These objectives will continue to underpin the Council's approach to the pandemic. They are grouped in three key phases: Response; Adjustment; and Recovery.

In addition to the objectives a 'Recovery Framework' has also been established. This identifies seven key areas: - Workforce; Democratic; Service; Public Spaces; Community; Economy; and Financial Recovery.

It is intended that a bespoke Recovery Plan will be formulated for each key area. These plans are likely to consider the impacts from COVID-19 and identify actions that address or mitigate these impacts.

Looking at 'recovery' now helps to ensure that the approach, decisions and actions taken will positively influence the longer-term outcomes for the Council and the wider community.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees the 'Recovery Objectives' and 'Recovery Framework' for COVID-19.

Reason:

To provide a clear structure and direction for the Council's recovery to the COVID-19 emergency.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2197

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Housing
Subject:	Nitrate Credits for Fareham Housing Schemes
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Providing housing choices

Purpose:

For the Executive to note the approach being used in order to achieve nitrate neutrality for Fareham Housing schemes.

The report explains how water use efficiency measures will be installed on some existing Fareham Housing properties in order to provide 'nitrate credits' which can then be used to offset water use/nitrate generation on Fareham Housing new build projects.

The approach, which has been found acceptable by Natural England, should ensure the nitrate issue does not prevent planning consent from being granted on Fareham Housing new build schemes. Thereby allowing the programme for the provision of new affordable homes to continue.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive notes the content of the report and the approach to nitrate neutrality for Fareham Housing developments.

Reason:

To ensure the Executive are aware of the nitrate neutrality approach for Fareham Housing schemes.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2198

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Leisure and Community
Subject:	Christmas Lights Switch On - Alternative Proposals for 2020
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Leisure opportunities for health and fun

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval, following the COVID-19 pandemic, for an alternative proposal to recognise the switching on of Fareham's Christmas lights in Fareham Town Centre.

Historically, each year Fareham Borough Council holds a large, public event in November to mark the switching on of the Christmas lights in the town centre. The event is well received and attended by approximately 4,000 people, who see it as the start of Christmas.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, large scale public events are unable to take place, and therefore the normal event arrangements have been cancelled.

The festive lights will still be installed in the Town Centre as they are each year and will be switched on by the Mayor and Mayoress. This will take place on Sunday 22 November at 4.30pm, albeit without the usual activities associated with Fareham's usual Christmas light switch on event.

During the lead up to Christmas the Council would still like to support local businesses and encourage shoppers into the Town Centre, Fareham Shopping Centre, West Street and Fareham High Street. Therefore, the proposal is that instead of the usual one-day large-scale event, a festive market will run for 3 consecutive days, from Friday 4 December to Sunday 6 December.

The festive market arrangements will ensure that social distancing and safety requirements are in accordance with Government guidance to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19, whilst still providing people with a reason to come into Fareham and support local businesses and traders.

To encourage people into the Town Centre, it is also proposed that free parking is made available in all Pay and Display car parks, from 12.00 noon until 6.00pm, on each day that the festive market is in situ, and when parking charges apply.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price, JP addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees:

- (a) to an alternative proposal, as set out in the report, to recognise the switching on of Fareham's Christmas lights in Fareham Town Centre, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the Government restrictions currently in place; and
- (b) to free parking between 12 noon and 6.00pm in the Pay and Display car parks within the Town Centre, on each day that the festive market is in situ, and when parking charges apply.

Reason:

To continue to encourage footfall into the Town Centre in the lead up to Christmas and to support local businesses and traders.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2199

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Leisure and Community
Subject:	The naming of Fareham's new Arts and Entertainment Venue
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Leisure opportunities for health and fun

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to propose possible names for the new arts and entertainment venue being built in Fareham Town Centre to replace Ferneham Hall. It is suggested that the names are included in a public consultation exercise prior to members making a final decision, based on the outcome of the consultation results.

The Council is building a new arts and entertainment venue in Fareham Town Centre which will include an 800-seat auditorium, a 120-seat theatre, community rooms, a flexible studio space as well as a bar and café area. The remodelled venue will offer different, and much improved, facilities from those of Ferneham Hall, so it is considered appropriate to give the building a new name to emphasise this point.

It is suggested that, to ensure the name "Ferneham" is not completely lost, proposals for how it is incorporated into the new venue will be put forward when options are presented at a later date for the naming of the rooms and areas within the remodelled venue.

This report suggests options for naming the new venue and these have been drawn from the history of Fareham as well as the world of arts and entertainment. The preferred options will be subject to a public consultation exercise. The results will be reported back to a future meeting of the Executive to allow a final decision on the name of the venue.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price, JP addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees:

- (a) that the preferred names for the new Arts and Entertainment Venue of: The Quay Fareham, The Kiln Fareham, The Tannery Fareham and Fareham Live, go forward to a public consultation exercise; and
- (b) that the name “Fernehams” is incorporated into future options for the naming of rooms and areas within the remodelled venue.

Reason:

To provide a suitable name for the new Arts and Entertainment venue.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2200

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Leisure and Community
Subject:	Covid-19 Community Recovery Plan
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Leisure opportunities for health and fun; Protect and enhance the environment

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to set out the Council's Community Recovery Plan in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Council's Community Recovery Plan forms part of a Recovery Framework which will be presented to the Executive on 3 August 2020.

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on every aspect of life and society in our Borough, and it has led to logistical challenges, created financial difficulties and prompted community-wide concerns around health and well-being.

This report focuses on the impact of the pandemic on leisure and community facilities and organisations within the Borough and suggests actions that the Council might take to help the sector to recover over the coming months.

Although we are now entering the Recovery Phase, continuing restrictions around social distancing, public fear around using community spaces and the economic downturn that the virus has triggered mean that even once the doors to community facilities reopen, they will face many further challenges.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price, JP addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves the Covid-19 Community Recovery Plan and the following actions therein:

- i) to support our Community Centres and Sports Clubs through this challenging period, a special grants programme be considered to assist them with the additional expenses being accrued at this time. This scheme will be presented in a separate report to the Executive;
- ii) the Leisure Centre contract, regarding the agreed capital investment and the duration of the contract, be reviewed. The results of this review will be presented in a separate report to the Executive;
- iii) an assessment of the Council's Arts and Entertainment project, including its capital costs and current business plan be carried out. The results of this review will be presented in a separate report to the Executive;
- iv) youth projects are likely to face additional costs when they finally reopen their facilities. As the Youth Activity Fund for the year has yet to be paid out, it offers an opportunity for the Council to distribute the funding to best support the Youth Projects;
- v) to build on the lessons learnt from the pandemic and to reflect these changes in the future service level agreements with our voluntary organisations;
- vi) to work closely with our voluntary organisations to understand more fully the issues at hand and identify longer term solutions to the provision of the Food Bank;
- vii) to develop alternative proposals to replace the Christmas Lights Switch-On event. These proposals will be presented in a separate report to the Executive;
- viii) in order to encourage smaller craft stands to the Fareham and Portchester markets, those traders not eligible for the discretionary business grant to receive free pitch hire until Christmas 2020; and
- ix) to present a separate report to the Executive recommending the establishment of a community lottery in Fareham.

Reason:

This report forms part of a Recovery Framework in response to the Covid-19 pandemic which will be presented to the Executive on 3rd August 2020.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2201

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Planning and Development
Subject:	Covid-19 Public Spaces Recovery Plan
Report of:	Director of Planning and Regeneration
Corporate Priority:	Protect and enhance the environment

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to set out the Council's Public Spaces Recovery Plan in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Council's Public Spaces Recovery Plan forms part of a Recovery Framework which will be presented to the Executive on 3rd August 2020.

The plan has been produced in accordance with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Safer Public Places – Urban Centres and Green Spaces guidance that was published by HM Government on 13 May 2020. The guidance document provides a framework for identifying the issues associated with the use of public spaces considering the need for social distancing. It focuses primarily on urban centres and green spaces which are likely to have high footfall.

The report focuses on the impact of the pandemic on urban and green spaces in the Borough, and highlights actions that the Council, and others, have taken to enable people to safely use public spaces.

Government has provided Councils across England with a share of £50m of additional funding to support the safe reopening of high streets and other commercial areas. The money allows local authorities in England to put in place additional measures to establish a safe trading environment for businesses and customers, particularly in high streets, through measures that extend to the end of March 2021.

Fareham Borough Council has been allocated a grant of £103,270 which comes from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The Fund will particularly focus on high streets, as well as other public places that are at the heart of towns and cities gearing up to reopen as safe, welcoming spaces. Most of the details of how this will be allocated in Fareham will be included in the Economic Recovery Plan.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price, JP addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves the Covid 19 Public Spaces Recovery Plan as detailed in the report.

Reason:

The report forms part of a Recovery Framework in response to the Covid-19 pandemic which will be presented to the Executive on 3rd August 2020.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2202

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Works to Property at Bridge Road, Sarisbury Green
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Protect and enhance the environment

Purpose:

This report provides a detailed account of the action undertaken to date to remedy untidy land at this site and the failure to comply with a Section 215 Notice issued under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The report subsequently makes recommendations as laid out under Section 219 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the Council to take 'Direct Action' to ensure compliance with the Section 215 Notice.

The property known as 98 Bridge Road Sarisbury Green is a semi-detached dwelling with extensive gardens.

The dwelling has been unoccupied for several years and there are abandoned cars left in the front and rear gardens. The rear garden is in an extremely overgrown state with high trees some in excess of 60 feet high. The poor state of the property has a negative impact upon the surrounding neighbours and the amenity of the area.

The Council have carried out extensive enquires and attempted to engage with the property owner to resolve the matter. The Council served a Section 215 Notice under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 which gave directions to improve the condition of the property.

The Council has taken legal action with an individual sentenced at Magistrates Court on three occasions. The fines and costs are still outstanding.

The Council has powers laid out within Section 219 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the Council to take 'Direct Action' to ensure compliance with the Section 215 Notice.

The cost of carrying out these works will be registered as a local land charge on the Local Land Charges Register to ensure recovery of Council costs in the long term.

This report sets out the justification for taking 'Direct Action' and requests that the required funding is allocated.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive authorises the use of sufficient funds for the 'Direct Action' set out in this report to be undertaken under Section 219 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 to ensure compliance with the Section 215 Notice issued under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Reason:

To ensure compliance with the Section 215 and to have a positive impact upon the amenity of the area and thereby enhance the local environment.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2203

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Capital and Treasury Management Outturn 2019/20
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Dynamic, prudent and progressive Council

Purpose:

This report provides the Executive with details of the capital and treasury management outturn for 2019/20 to comply with the reporting requirements of the Code of Practice for Treasury Management. The report also seeks approval for the proposed methods of financing the General Fund capital programme.

Actual capital expenditure on General Fund schemes in 2019/20 was £16,496,896 (£3.5 million in 2018/19) compared with the revised capital programme of £17,324,000. The overall variance was £827,104 and a detailed analysis of the variations is given in Appendix A to this report.

Total savings of £214,924 were achieved, additional expenditure of £67,363 was incurred and a total of £679,543 will be carried forward into 2020/21. Details of the various methods used to finance this expenditure are set out in this report.

Full details of Treasury Management investment and borrowing activity in 2019/20 are also set out in this report. Treasury activity in 2019/20 is summarised below:

	31 March 2019 Actual £'000	2019/20 Movement £'000	31 March 2020 Actual £'000
Total borrowing	45,510	12,149	57,659
Total investments	(13,100)	(3,200)	(16,300)
Net borrowing	32,410	8,949	41,359

Net interest received in 2019/20 was £603,316 (£481,480 in 2018/19) and net interest paid was £1,676,656 (£1,728,219 in 2018/19).

During 2019/20, the Council complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements of the Prudential Code.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves the General Fund capital programme for 2019/20 to be financed as set out in this report;
- (b) agrees that the additional expenditure incurred, amounting to £67,363 be financed retrospectively from unallocated capital resources; and
- (c) notes the treasury management activity for 2019/20.

Reason:

To provide the Executive with details of the capital and treasury management outturn in 2019/20 and to comply with the reporting requirements of the Code of Practice for Treasury Management.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2204

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 August 2020

Portfolio	Leisure and Community
Subject:	Covid-19 Impact on Leisure Centres
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Leisure opportunities for health and fun

Purpose:

As a result of the Covid-19 Impact, and in light of a changing economy, the Leisure Centre contract, both with regard to the agreed capital investment and the duration of the new contract have been reviewed to help determine the future financial implications for the Council.

The report sets out a range of options, with differing implications and levels of financial commitment required by the Council for consideration.

At the 4 November 2019 Executive, it was agreed to award a 10-year contract for the management of Fareham and Holly Hill Leisure Centres to SLM, otherwise known as Everyone Active.

It also agreed to the capital investment required, particularly at Fareham Leisure Centre to help deliver improved revenue projections in the tender submission.

As a result of the Covid-19 crisis, and in light of a changing economy, there will be implications for the Council and the contractual arrangements it has with Everyone Active to operate both its Leisure Centres.

As the leisure sector recovers from the closure of its sites during the lockdown period and the potential economic recession in the future, this report seeks to present the potential risks and considers the financial implication for the Council.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) agrees to proceed with the capital expenditure of £6.81 million to enhance the Leisure facilities at both centres, but particularly at Fareham Leisure Centre;
- (b) agrees the principle of the COVID -19 recovery deal proposed within the report between Fareham Borough Council and Everyone Active up to the amount of £1.83 million to enable the reopening of Fareham and Holly Hill Leisure Centres; and
- (c) delegates authority to the Director of Leisure and Community and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer to agree minor amendments to the deal following consultation with the Executive Member for Leisure and Community.

Reason:

This report is in response to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the operation and development of the Council's two leisure centres currently operated by Everyone Active. It provides a financial solution to enable both leisure centres to reopen at the beginning of August 2020.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 3 August 2020