

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2022/23
Decision No.
2362

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 16 May 2022

Portfolio	Leisure and Community
Subject:	Grant Money for Carbon Reduction Initiatives at Community Centres
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Leisure opportunities for health and fun; Protect and enhance the environment

Purpose:

This report presents a proposal to fund up to £30,000 of carbon reduction measures across the Council's 10 community centres, the majority of which would be by utilising the remaining £26,750 previously ringfenced for the COVID-19 Special Grants Programme.

The Council has made a commitment to becoming carbon neutral in its operations by 2030.

2019/20 is used as the baseline year for measuring our carbon footprint and the Council's total emissions of greenhouse gases that year were equivalent to 3,661 tonnes of carbon dioxide. Of those, 219 tonnes were from our 10 community centres.

Any significant carbon reduction measures would require external funding. However, there is an opportunity to fund £30,000 worth of appropriate smaller measures e.g. radiator reflectors, LED lightbulbs and carbon literacy training.

The improvements would be funded via the remaining £26,750 previously ringfenced for the COVID-19 Special Grants Programme. An additional £3,250 would round the fund up to £30,000 in total.

Options Considered:

Councillor S D Martin declared a personal interest in this item as he is a Council appointed representative on the Management Committee of Priory Park Community Association.

Councillor Mrs S M Walker declared a personal interest in this item as she is a Council appointed representative on Portchester Community Centre Ltd.

Councillor Miss J Bull declared a personal interest in this item as she is a Trustee of Whiteley Community Association, a Council appointed Trustee at Burrige Community Association and a Council appointed representative on the Louisa Seymour Charity Management Committee.

Councillor I J Bastable declared a personal interest in this item as he is a Council appointed representative on the Management Committee of Priory Park Community Association.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves the establishment of a £30,000 community centre carbon reduction fund;
- (b) agrees that the remaining £26,750 previously ringfenced for the COVID-19 Special Grants Programme be used to help fund the programme; and
- (c) agrees that awards of funding to Community Centres under this scheme be made by the Director of Leisure and Community following consultation with the Executive Member for Leisure and Community.

Reason:

To help reduce the Council's carbon footprint whilst also encouraging wider carbon emissions across the Borough.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor S D Martin (Deputy Executive Leader)

Monday, 16 May 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2022/23
Decision No.
2363

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 16 May 2022

Portfolio	Health and Public Protection
Subject:	Introducing marked parking bays at Meon Shore Car Park
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Strong, safe, inclusive and healthy communities

Purpose:

To present a proposal to introduce marked bays at Meon Shore Car Park to improve the availability of spaces and aid enforcement at the site.

The introduction of hourly charging at coastal car parks and the principle of annual season tickets were both approved by the Executive on 07 September 2020. However, a proposal to introduce the clear marking of parking bays at Meon Shore was rejected, following representations at the meeting.

Following the introduction of coastal charging in August 2021, there have been ongoing issues with larger vans and motorhomes blocking parking access to other vehicles as well as instances of inconsiderate parking on the gravel section of Meon Shore car park.

This report proposes the introduction of marked bays at the site to improve the availability of spaces and to allow Parking Enforcement Officers to issue Penalty Charge Notices to inconsiderate parkers.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves works to provide marked parking bays at Meon Shore car park at a cost of £16,500.

Reason:

To improve the availability of parking spaces at Meon Shore Car Park and to help Parking Enforcement Officers manage the site more effectively.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor S D Martin (Deputy Executive Leader)

Monday, 16 May 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2022/23
Decision No.
2364

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 16 May 2022

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Regeneration of Fareham town centre, including Fareham Live and Osborn Road Multi-Storey car park
Report of:	Director of Leisure and Community
Corporate Priority:	Leisure opportunities for health and fun; Maintain and extend prosperity; Providing housing choices

Purpose:

The future shape of Fareham town centre is starting to take form. Two major projects in the Civic Quarter, with an agreed combined budget allocation of £19.075million, have been analysed in detail and are now ready to progress at a total cost of £18.65 million. This will result in a new surface car park to replace the decaying multi-storey at Osborn Road, sitting alongside Fareham Live, an exciting new arts and entertainment venue.

The report provides background information on the opportunities ahead and presents proposals to prepare a Fareham Town Centre Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), appoint a construction contractor for the Fareham Live project and provide a 120 space surface car park to replace Osborn Road Multi-Storey with the aim of transforming the town centre and kick starting its regeneration.

The Council's current Corporate Strategy 2017-23 commits to starting the regeneration of the town centre and the creation of a new arts and entertainment venue.

The development of plans for the future of Fareham town centre as a whole and both Fareham Live and Osborn Road Multi-Storey Car Park have evolved over a number of years.

Fareham Town Centre Regeneration

A budget of £275,000 was approved by the Executive on 9 July 2018, to fund the development and delivery of master-planning work in the Civic Quarter.

As would be expected of initiatives of this size, the Fareham Live and Osborn Road Car Park projects have taken up the majority of the available officer resource during the last few years, meaning that only £22,000 of the master-planning budget has so

far been spent.

Changing retail patterns, the loss of key retailers and the COVID-19 pandemic have had a significant impact on Fareham town centre and there is a clear need to progress and deliver regeneration proposals for the town centre. The Local Plan 2037 identifies a central area of the town centre that could accommodate around 620 new homes with a mixture of retail, commercial, food and leisure uses alongside the new Fareham Live venue.

The report proposes that the remaining master-planning budget be used to fund the preparation of a Fareham Town Centre Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to provide greater clarity on development proposals and guide investment.

Fareham Live

The cost of raw materials and building resources for construction projects have inevitably rapidly increased since the start of the pandemic. This resulted in the construction costs rising from £12.57m in late 2020 to £13.35m when the Executive approved the restarting of the project following a 10-month pause on the 30 September 2021.

Following the resumption of the project, tenders were sought from the building contractors shortlisted for the project prior to the pause in 2020.

Completed tenders were returned on 30 January 2022, with refinements following further clarification questions. Each submission was higher than the £13.35m estimated by the project's cost consultants in September 2020.

The preferred bidder scored equal lowest on the tendered sum and highest in terms of quality and is presented for approval at confidential Appendix A to the report. The overall project budget has increased to £16.69m when the non-construction related costs, such as contingencies, consultant fees and furniture, fittings and equipment purchases are included.

Following the award of contract, the Council would enter into a period of negotiation with the contractor and their supply chain to identify value engineering opportunities to reduce the contract sum, and therefore the budget shortfall, before the formal award of tender.

Osborn Road Car Park

On 10 September 2020 the Executive approved, in principle, proposals for the refurbishment of Osborn Road Car Park at a cost of £5.5m. Around 500 modern sized spaces would be provided with the structural supports extending the facility's life by an estimated 15 years.

Levels of use in most town centre car parks have been slow to recover after the pandemic with Osborn Road at an average of 20% capacity in May 2022.

Technical feasibility works have shown that this refurbishment option was more complex and more extensive than anticipated, with the works now estimated to be £8m at 2021 prices. Therefore, it is no longer considered financially viable.

A surface car park costing £1.96m with around 120 spaces, including 8 disabled bays, is now proposed at the Osborn Road site. This would result in 1,077 spaces being within a 5 minute walk of the 800 seat capacity Fareham Live and still meet the medium needs of the town centre.

Options Considered:

At the Invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Mrs K K Trott addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves:

- (a) the preparation of a Fareham Town Centre Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) using the remaining £253,000 allocated for the Civic Quarter masterplan;
- (b) the appointment of the preferred bidder for the construction of Fareham Live outlined in confidential Appendix A to the report;
- (c) a revised budget of £16.69m for the Fareham Live project to be funded through current and future CIL receipts; and
- (d) the replacement of Osborn Road Multi Storey car park, with a 120-space surface car park at a cost of £1.96m

Reason:

To plan for the regeneration of Fareham town centre using the construction of the new arts and entertainment venue, Fareham Live and the provision of a 120-space surface car park on the Osborn road site as key drivers of development and investment.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor S D Martin (Deputy Executive Leader)

Monday, 16 May 2022

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2022/23
Decision No.
2365

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 16 May 2022

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Energy Rebate Discretionary Policy
Report of:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Priority:	Dynamic, prudent and progressive Council; Maintain and extend prosperity

Purpose:

The report seeks to set the principles to be used for the development of an Energy Rebate Discretionary Policy and requests delegated authority be given to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Executive Member for Policy and Resources, to finalise the detail in the Policy and approve any subsequent amendments that are needed.

The Government has tasked local councils with distributing energy rebates of £150 to council tax payers in the local area. Fareham Borough Council has received £5,367,000 from the Government to administer the mandatory scheme for council tax payers in Council Tax Bands A-D plus those in Band E who receive Disabled Relief.

Fareham Borough Council has also received £122,400 to support households not eligible for the mandatory scheme, such as council tax payers in Council Tax Bands E-H. The Council is required to set a Discretionary Policy on how this latter funding will be used across the Borough. Energy rebates using this discretionary funding must all be made by the end of November 2022.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees that:

- (a) the key principles to be followed when designing the Energy Rebate Discretionary Policy, as outlined in paragraph 12, are approved for adoption in Fareham;
- (b) authority is delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, following consultation with the Executive Member for Policy and Resources, to approve the detail of the Policy and any subsequent amendments that are needed; and
- (c) this delegation extends to any further government schemes designed to assist households with the rising cost of living, which the government requests the Council to deliver by a stated deadline, and which have a discretionary element as to who are the recipients of that support.

Where the Deputy Chief Executive Officer considers it in the best interests of the local residents to deviate significantly from the government guidance on their preferences as to who are the recipients of that support, and what support they receive, the proposed scheme will first be reported to the Executive for decision.

Reason:

The principles have been drawn up to help develop a Policy which maximises the benefit that can be provided to residents sooner, rather than later, whilst still following the spirit of the government guidance.

As the number of eligible households is likely to exceed funding available, it is proposed to stagger the design and implementation of different elements making up the Policy to gain an understanding of the impact of the level of take up on the funding available. However, it is still intended to roll these out at a quickened pace so that the Government deadline can be met which may be hampered if full Executive approval is sought each time.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor S D Martin (Deputy Executive Leader)

Monday, 16 May 2022