

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Executive

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Thursday, 26 September 2019

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

Present:

S D T Woodward, Policy and Resources (Executive Leader)
T M Cartwright, MBE, Health and Public Protection (Deputy
Executive Leader)
F Birkett, Housing
Miss S M Bell, Leisure and Community
K D Evans, Planning and Development
S D Martin, Streetscene

Also in attendance:



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies given for this meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 02 September 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Executive Leader announced that he was aware that many councils across the country have declared a climate emergency and a commitment to achieving carbon neutrality earlier than the Government's required date of 2050. The Leader noted however, that very few of them have actually put together a plan of action to achieve that goal and that this is not the approach he would like Fareham to take.

The Leader stated categorically that Fareham Borough Council is absolutely committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 and that he would like work to begin immediately on mitigating the effects of climate change which he sees as two strands of work: measures that can put in almost immediately whilst, for the longer term, a comprehensive plan of action is put together to help the Council achieve this goal. The Leader also stated that he expected the Council to be carbon neutral before 2030; but would prefer not to commit to an exact date until it is certain it can be delivered. He went on to outline the following points:

- In the first instance, we need to establish our baseline in terms of our carbon footprint. It is only by knowing where we are starting from that we can establish a plan that will achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.
- There is a lot we are already doing at the Council and measures were taken some years ago to both reduce the carbon footprint across the Council and indeed across the Borough, both improving energy efficiency and often resulting in cost savings.
- For example, we work in partnership with a number of organisations to protect our Borough, for example the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership.
- More than a third of our waste is recycled and the remaining two thirds of residential waste is incinerated and, through energy recovery, provides electricity for thousands of local homes.
- Where suitable, we have invested in solar panels on a number of our buildings and new developments, for example Fareham Innovation Centre, and our sheltered housing at Stevenson Court.
- For the next steps, we would like a working group to be established that looks at everything we are doing, across the Council, and identifies improvements we could make to help us move closer to a carbon neutral position.
- This group could look at things like reducing our carbon footprint across everyday activities. For example, are the routes our drivers take for collecting waste well-planned to maximise fuel efficiency?

- Do we have stipulations in our procurement policies that ensure our suppliers are as energy efficient as they can be?
- We would then request a detailed action plan to be put in place, complete with deadlines, that shows how we will achieve our goal.

The Executive Leader stated that members would no doubt recall the motion put forward by Councillor S D Martin last year to reduce Single Use Plastic (SUP). This has proved very successful so far. A range of changes have already been made and the Council is well on course to meet its objectives by 2020. With such a good track record already under his belt, Councillor Martin has been asked to lead this new working group. The Leader was happy to confirm that Councillor Martin has agreed.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. PETITIONS

There were no petitions submitted at this meeting.

6. DEPUTATIONS

Here were no deputations made at this meeting.

7. REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel – 23 September 2019

Minute 6 – Design and Costs for Remodelling Ferneham Hall

The Panel received a presentation delivered by the Director of Leisure and Community and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer detailing the proposed concept design and estimated costs for the remodelling of Ferneham Hall.

At the agreement of the Chairman, Councillor R H Price joined in discussions on this item and asked for confirmation that the stage in the main auditorium would be fully accessible to persons with mobility issues. The Director of Leisure and Community confirmed that this important aspect of the design would be investigated further before any plans were finalised.

The Panel all agreed that overall, they were happy with the concept design with the main points of discussion being around; disabled access, energy efficiency and the use of spaces and facilities for the community.

Members of the Panel thanked officers for their hard work on progressing the Ferneham Hall Vision to this stage.

RESOLVED that the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel considered the contents of the presentation and pass to the Executive their comments that the design should: -

- (a) have disabled access throughout;

- (b) ensure carbon neutrality wherever possible; and
- (c) adequate space and facilities for use by the community

Minute 7 – Award of Contract – Operator of Remodelled Entertainment Venue

The Panel received a presentation delivered by the Director of Leisure and Community, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Robin Thompson of RPT Consulting, detailing the procurement process awarding the contract for the operator of the remodelled entertainment venue.

The Chairman asked for confirmation that the Pantomime would continue. The Director of Leisure and Community addressed the Panel and explained that the Pantomime was a non-negotiable aspect of the contract.

RESOLVED that the Panel considered the contents of the presentation with no comments to be passed to the Executive.

8. LEISURE AND COMMUNITY

(1) Concept Design and Budget Costs for remodelling Ferneham Hall

The comments of the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item (see minute 7).

RESOLVED that the Executive approves:

- (a) the concept design of the remodelled Ferneham Hall, as outlined in Appendix A to this report, and that this be submitted as part of a planning application;
- (b) the budget cost of £12.35m;
- (c) the funding of the project through current and future CIL receipts, supplemented by prudential borrowing and external grant funding where available, as set out in the report.
- (d) that congratulations and thanks be extended to officers and members who worked on this project; and
- (e) that gratitude and thanks be extended to all staff working at Ferneham Hall over the years.

(2) Award of Contract - Operator of Remodelled Ferneham Hall

The comments of the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel were taken into account in considering this item (see minute 7).

During the debate of this item, the Executive noted that the use of future CIL would have the effect of limiting the Council's ability to fund other community related projects that would ordinarily utilise CIL.

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees that:

- (a) the tender submitted by the contractor ranked 1st as set out in the confidential Appendix A to the report, being the most advantageous tender received, be accepted and the contract awarded to the company; and
- (b) the 2nd ranked contractor, as set out in the confidential Appendix A, be appointed reserve bidder.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 6.21 pm).