

MINUTES

Executive Committee

Date: Tuesday, 17 October 2023

Venue: Town Hall, St Annes.

Committee Members Councillor Karen Buckley (Chairman)

Present: Councillor Richard Redcliffe (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors Peter Collins, Chris Dixon, Ellie Gaunt, Kelly Farrington, Karen Henshaw

JP, Matthew Lee, Michelle Morris, Ed Nash, Jayne Nixon, Tommy Threlfall

Officers Present:

Allan Oldfield, Mark Evans, Paul O'Donoghue, Charlie Richards, Katharine

McDonnell, Julie Glaister, Eddie Graves and Adam Sugden.

Other Attendees: Four members of the public were also in attendance.

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and any personal or prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

2. Substitute Members

The following substitute was reported under Council procedure rule 23 (c):

Councillor Farrington for Councillor Armit

3. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 19 September 2023 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

Decision Items

4. St Annes Seawall Update Report

Councillor Threlfall, Lead Member for Environment, introduced an update report regarding St Annes Seawall capital scheme following the receipt of costed detailed design work. The report detailed how, following the detailed costings, the scheme would now significantly exceed the available budget set at the Outline Business Case stage.

The recommendation to members was to not proceed to procurement and delivery of the scheme, and instead refocus efforts to deliver elements of the Island Masterplan ahead of replacement of the Seawall by 2033, as identified in the Fylde Council Strategy Appraisal Report which sits within the Shoreline Management Plan for the Fylde coastline.

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Charlie Richards, Head of Regeneration Projects, advised that the project to replace the seawall was highly complex. He further advised that costs had increased for several reasons including stakeholder requirements, inflation and a change in engineering design principles. It was considered that the financial risk to the project was too severe to continue.

Questions were asked regarding the cost of replacing the seawall in 2033, and the stakeholder consultation process which Mr Richards dealt with in turn.

It was RESOLVED to not proceed with procurement and delivery of the St Annes Seawall capital scheme due to significant cost increases identified as part of the detailed design work undertaken to date, and the significant risk of potential business disruption costs exceeding their budget allocation.

5. Planning Peer Review – Proposed Action Plan

Councillor Redcliffe, as Chairman of the Planning Committee, introduced the proposed action plan following the Planning Peer Review. He explained that as part of its continuous review of services, the council had invited the Planning Advisory Service to carry out a peer review of the council's planning service. Feedback on a draft action plan, developed to address the recommendations that emerged from the review, had been considered through the council's scrutiny process to arrive at a final draft of the action plan, which was now before the Executive Committee for consideration.

Mark Evans, Head of Planning, advised that the Action Plan contained some formatting errors that would be corrected and that the average length of time to determine planning applications in 2022/23 was 88 days. He also responded to questions regarding the numbers of appeals won and the scheme of delegation.

The Executive Committee RESOLVED to;

- 1. Accept the amendments to the Planning Peer Review Action Plan recommended by the Internal Affairs Scrutiny Committee;
- 2. Approve and adopt the Planning Peer Review Action Plan;
- 3. Request the Internal Affairs Scrutiny Committee to oversee and monitor delivery of the approved action plan as a standing item on their agenda;
- 4. Invite the Planning Advisory Service back to review progress in spring 2024; and
- 5. Request the Head of Planning to clarify the wording within the monitoring framework regarding percentage of appeals won by the council.

6. <u>Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems Supplementary Planning Document - Adoption</u>

Councillor Buckley, as Lead Member for Corporate and Economic Development, presented the Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

The SPD gave the Council support in its implementation of Policies GD7, CL1 and CL2 of the Local Plan, by providing guidance on flood risk and the location of development, managing and mitigating flood risk, sustainable drainage systems and water quality and pollution control.

Councillor Buckley made reference to the recent all-member briefing on the document, which through the discussions there, the officers had taken the opportunity to strengthen the section of the policy referring to paving of front gardens.

Julie Glaister, Planning Policy Manager, circulated the amended paragraph 5.48 for members consideration. She highlighted the changes which included the advice that planning permission would be required if the paving was impermeable and exceeded 5m² in area.

Miss Glaister also advised that a late representation to the SPD had been received from the Environment Agency (EA) and as such an amendment to the third recommendation was proposed to allow officers to consider the representation and make any necessary updates to the SPD as required. She advised that some of the changes would include an updated map of flood risk zones, updates to web links within the document and the EA also wanted to add further detail to some areas of the SPD.

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Mr Evans, Miss Glaister and Adam Sugden, Principal Engineer, responded to questions on root ingress, communication and publicity regarding the adoption and requirements of the SPD, and liaison between the Lancashire County Council and Fylde Council on household accesses.

The Executive Committee RESOLVED:

- 1. To note the results of the Screening Opinion conducted on the Draft Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems SPD as set out in Appendix 3,
- 2. To note the responses to the consultation on the draft Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems SPD as set out in the Summary of Representations (Appendix 2), and
- 3. That the Flooding Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems SPD be adopted for development management purposes, subject to the Head of Planning considering the additional representations received from the Environment Agency and, following consultation with chairman and vice-chairman of the Executive Committee, making any appropriate amendments to the SPD as a result.

8. <u>Provision of Parking on New Developments Supplementary Planning Document - Adoption</u>

Councillor Buckley introduced the report, as Lead Member for Corporate and Economic Development, regarding the Provision of Parking on New Developments Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

Eddie Graves, Principal Planning Officer, explained that the SPD gave the Council support in its implementation of Policies GD7, T4 and T5 of the Local Plan, by establishing local parking standards for new development sites as set out in Table 2 of the document; setting out detailed requirements for the layout, spacing, design, landscaping and siting of parking within development sites; providing guidance on electric vehicle charging points; and advising on the documentation required to be submitted with planning applications.

Following representations made during consultation, changes, where appropriate, had been made to the draft SPD. The details of the representations and the proposed response from the council were detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

Mr Graves and Mr Evans responded to questions regarding parking requirements at different types of developments, and electrical vehicle charging requirements when provision of such was not possible within the curtilage of a dwelling.

The Executive Committee RESOLVED that:

- 1. The results of the Screening Opinion conducted on the Draft Provision of Parking on New Developments SPD as set out in Appendix 3 be noted;
- 2. The responses to the consultation on the Draft Provision of Parking on New Developments SPD as set out in the Summary of Representations (Appendix 2) be noted; and
- 3. The Provision of Parking on New Developments Supplementary Planning Document (Appendix 1) be adopted for development management purposes.

9. <u>Timetable for Developing Budget Proposals 2024/25</u>

Councillor Gaunt, Lead Member for Finance and Resources, introduced a proposed timetable for budget setting. She explained that the council approved such a timetable each year to comply with the budget and policy framework rules, statutory deadlines, and if possible, to facilitate early billing for Council Tax.

A draft budget timetable for 2024/25 had been circulated with the agenda papers for consideration. Councillor Gaunt proposed an addition to the recommendation to include provision in the timetable for the Internal Affairs Scrutiny Committee to examine the budget proposals at its meeting on 20 February 2024.

The Executive Committee RESOLVED to adopt the timetable as shown at Appendix A for the budget setting process for 2024/25, with the additional date of 20 February 2024 for the Internal Affairs Scrutiny Committee to consider the budget proposals.

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