



MINUTES

Planning Committee

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| Date: | Wednesday, 16 September 2020 |
| Venue: | Remote Meeting Via Zoom |
| Committee Members Present: | Councillor Trevor Fiddler (Chairman) Councillor Richard Redcliffe (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Tim Armit, Chris Dixon, Kiran Mulholland, Jayne Nixon, Linda Nulty, Liz Oades, David O'Rourke, Heather Speak, Ray Thomas, Stan Trudgill. |
| Other Members Present: | Councillor Karen Buckley. |
| Officers Present: | Mark Evans, Ian Curtis, Paul Drinnan, Julie Glaister, Eddie Graves, Andrew Stell, Lyndsey Lacey-Simone. |
| Members of the Public: | No members of the public attended the meeting. |

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.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 2 September 2020 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

3. Substitute Members

There were no substitute members.

Decision Items

4. Town Centres Working Group Update and Proposals to Support the Regeneration of St Annes Town Centre

By way of introduction, Mark Evans (Head of Planning and Housing) provided an overview of the work of the Town Centres Working Group (TCWG) to date, including an assessment of perceived issues. In doing so, he further expanded on the recommendations outlined in the report.

Mr Evans reported that with the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic, the working group was initially tasked with considering several interventions to assist in the safe reopening of the high street. As customers and business owners have become accustomed to the new way of life that the continuing situation requires to be observed, the working group has been able to consider a number of longer term projects that will benefit the three town centres and assist in maintaining and improving their economic prosperity.

Within the report it was highlighted that Members had previously made a commitment to the regeneration and revitalisation of St Annes town centre, with this being a priority for the Council's Funding Volatility Reserve. The report sought to confirm with the committee those projects that members wish to proceed with.

Mr Evans went on to further outline at the meeting various potential projects that could be taken forward regarding St Annes. He explained that these had been developed through discussion with the Working Group and fell into a number of general categories as detailed below:

Evidence Base and policy: Town Centre Health Check; Town Centre Vision/Strategy/Masterplan; Analysis of traffic and pedestrian movement; car parking review.

Promotion and quality of place: Branding and promotion, including developing the "Classic Resort" concept; treatments for vacant shop fronts; digital information boards; improved maintenance of public realm.

Significant Public Realm Works: Considering the repurposing of open spaces and pedestrianisation of side roads; Pier Link revisions; Improving the 'back streets' of St Annes.

Staffing: Town Centre Manager; Additional Economic Development Officer.

Wider matters: Historic places and spaces of Lytham St Annes; redevelopment of the Island site; improvement to the sea front.

The Committee was invited to consider the suggestions with a view to determining whether the projects highlighted are the type of projects or investments that the Planning Committee would like them to work up in further detail ahead of reporting back to a future meeting of the Committee.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chair of the Town Centres Working Group, (Councillor Redcliffe) went on to further report on the matter and expand on key areas within the report. In doing so, he thanked members of the TCWG for their ongoing dedication, enthusiasm and determination in their work. He also thanked key officers for their outstanding, professional contribution in supporting the TCWG.

The Chairman, Councillor Fiddler took the opportunity to also thank Councillor Redcliffe for his excellent stewardship of the TCWG.

Members sought clarification on various aspects of the projects including matters associated with the option of dealing with the regeneration of St Annes town centre in isolation; the wider St Annes project; the ring fencing of the £9.5m bid funding for Kirkham and operational matters relating to the design of the lamp posts in Lytham. These were addressed in turn by Mr Evans and Mr Drinnan.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the work of the Town Centres Working Group in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.
2. To note the submission of the bid for Future High Street Funding for Kirkham Town Centre in line with the details presented to Planning Committee on 3 June 2020.
3. To authorise officers to work with the Town Centres Working Group, in consultation with ward members and other key stakeholders, to develop proposals for Lytham Town Centre identified as part of the council's capital programme.
4. To recommend that the Finance & Democracy Committee approve a revenue funded budget increase for 2020/21 in the sum of £150,000, to be funded from the Funding Volatility Reserve, to provide for the commissioning of a vision/strategy for St Annes Town Centre, such vision to include a town centre health check and be informed by the survey results and working group proposals for St Annes.
5. To consider the projects for St Annes that have been identified by the Town Centres Working Group and prioritise those schemes that they wish officers to develop for further consideration and approval by committee.

5. Appointment to Outside Bodies/Working Groups

The Committee was invited to recommend nominations to the various outside bodies/working Groups (within the remit of the committee) for consideration at Full Council on 19 October.

Following consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED:

1. To recommend the following nominations to the outside bodies within the remit of the Planning Committee for consideration by Council:
 - Duty to Cooperate - Chairman and Vice Chairman of Planning Committee.
 - Planning Education Liaison Group - Councillors Richard Redcliffe and Linda Nulty.
 - Highways and Transportation Group - Councillors Liz Oades, Chris Dixon and Stan Trudgill.
2. To confirm the membership of the following working groups that relate to the terms of reference of the Planning Committee:
 - Local Listings Project Board comprising: Councillors Richard Redcliffe, Julie Brickles, Heather Speak and Ray Thomas.
 - SHLAA Steering Group comprising: Work completed - Group disbanded.
 - Arboriculture & Landscaping Strategy Working Group comprising: Councillors Chris Dixon, Jayne Nixon and Ray Thomas (plus 3 reps from EH & H Cttee)
 - A585 Skip pool to Windy Harbour Relief Road comprising: Work completed - Group disbanded
 - Town Centres Working Group comprising: Councillors Richard Redcliffe, Liz Oades, David O'Rourke, Stan Trudgill, Michael Sayward, Roger Small and Michael Withers
 - Carbon Neutral Working Group comprising: Councillors Tim Armit and Michael Sayward (plus 2 reps from Op Mgt and 3 reps from EH&H cttees)

Information Items

The following information items were received by the Committee.

6. 5 Year Housing Land Supply - Draft Annual Position Statement

The information report provided an update on the 5-Year Housing Land Supply: Draft Annual Position Statement. It was reported that following public consultation, amendments had been made and a revised draft produced, which had been despatched to the Secretary of State by the 31st July 2020 due date.

A link to the draft document (as submitted) was included in the report. It stated that the Council has 5.67 years' supply of deliverable housing sites.

The Committee was advised that the Secretary of State's determination was expected to be received by October.

7. Planning for the Future White Paper - August 2020

The information report provided an overview of the Planning for the Future, a White Paper which was published for consultation by the Government on the 6th August 2020. The Committee was advised that the consultation will run for 12 weeks until 29th October 2020.

A link to the document was included in the report.

It was highlighted in the report that although responses to consultations are normally considered under authority delegated to the Director of Development Services, given the significance of this particular consultation, it is proposed that the Council's draft response will be presented to a Special Planning Committee on 14 October 2020 for consideration.

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