



MINUTES

Environment, Health and Housing Committee

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| Date: | Tuesday, 3 November 2020 |
| Venue: | Remote meeting via Zoom |
| Committee Members Present: | Councillor Tommy Threlfall (Chairman) Councillor Jayne Nixon (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Ben Aitken, Frank Andrews, Paula Brearley, Noreen Griffiths, Peter Hardy, Will Harris, Karen Henshaw JP, Roger Lloyd, Michelle Morris, Bobby Rigby. |
| Other Councillors Present: | Councillor Karen Buckley |
| Officers Present: | Tracy Manning, Paul Walker, Darren Bell, Tim Dixon, Ian Curtis, Kirstine Riding, Adam Sugden, Katharine McDonnell. |
| Other Attendees: | None |

Public Platform

There were no speakers on this occasion.

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. Councillor Henshaw declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2020/21, as she was a member of the Blackpool Road North Playing Fields Friends Group.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee meeting held on 1 September 2020 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

3. Substitute Members

There were no substitutions on this occasion.

Decision Items

4. Request for Section 106 Funding for Buy Backs from Progress Housing Association of Stock Sold Under the Right to Buy

Kirstine Riding, Housing Services Manager, presented the report detailing the application for section 106 funding from Progress Housing to buy back two properties previously sold under Right to Buy. The proposal for the purchase of both units would give Progress Housing Association greater control in the management of the housing stock in each area. Property 1 (P1), 1 Preesall Close in St Annes has an agreed purchase price of £85,000. Property 2 (P2), 5 Everest Court in Wesham has an agreed purchase price of £82,200. These purchases were from

private sellers who had contacted Progress Housing Association directly. The properties would be subject to the Right to Acquire scheme.

An approval from committee would be for 36% of the purchase cost of P1 and 33% P2 (totalling £57,500) and inclusion to the Capital Programme in 2020/21 to be fully funded from a portion of the balance of S106 developer contributions for affordable housing currently held by the Council for this purpose.

In response to questions Miss Riding advised that any renovation costs would have been factored into the negotiations between Progress Housing and the vendors.

The Committee unanimously RESOLVED to:

1. Recommend to the Finance and Democracy Committee approval of a fully funded addition to the Capital Programme for 2020/21 in the sum of £57,500 in respect of the 'Progress Housing Buy Backs' scheme as set out in this report, to be met from a portion of S106 developer contributions for affordable housing currently held by the Council for this purpose (schemes: P1, 1 Preesall Close, St Annes, £30,500 to be met from Agreement ref: 03/157, St Marys School, St Annes and P2, 5 Everest Court, Wesham, £27,000 to be met from Agreement ref: 13/0386 Land South of Cartford Lane, Little Eccleston); and
2. Subject to approval of 1, above, to authorise the required expenditure for the capital grant payment in 2020/21 to Progress Housing Association, totalling £57,500 after regard and consideration of the compliance with the financial regulations covered within the body of the report.

5. Review of Flooding/Surface Water Management in Fylde

Paul Walker, Director of Development Services and Darren Bell, Head of Technical Services, together with Adam Sugden, Technical Services Officer, introduced a report setting out the current situation with regard to flooding/surface water management in Fylde and outlining the Council's partner organisations and their roles and responsibilities in managing flood risk. The report also highlighted some notable recent flooding events.

Mr Bell advised that the report recommended the establishment of a member working group to review the current situation and to develop a comprehensive set of recommendations and proposals to improve the way surface water management in Fylde was undertaken to reduce flooding in the future and to ensure that arrangements for dealing/responding to emergency flood incidents in Fylde were robust and effective to provide reassurance to members, residents and landowners.

Following a brief debate touching issues such as new developments, SUDS and the importance of including a member from the Planning Committee on the working group, it was RESOLVED that a member working group be established, made up of Councillors Threlfall, Lloyd, Singleton, Dixon, Anthony and Mulholland, to review flood risk and surface water management.

6. Adult Weight Management Funding

Tim Dixon, Tourism and Cultural Services Manager, introduced a report detailing funding allocated from Lancashire County Council to deliver a Health and Weight Management Programme as part of a pan-Lancashire initiative. The funding allocated to Fylde Council by Lancashire County Council to deliver the initiative was £69,000 over 3 years. Fylde planned to recruit an officer for a three-year period to deliver a Tier 2 Weight Management Service.

Following a brief discussion, it was RESOLVED to recommend to the Finance & Democracy Committee approval of a fully-funded revenue budget increase in the sum of £69,000 (split between the years 2021/22 £25,106, 2022/23 £27,271 & 2023/24 £16,623) to be met in full from the Lancashire County Council funding relating to this post.

Information Items

The following information items were received and noted by the committee.

7. Empty Residential Homes Position Statement

The Committee received an update regarding the Empty Residential Homes Position statement. Miss Riding advised there had been an increase in the number of long-term empty homes. She advised that work was

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underway with the Revenues team to understand if the notification process could be improved, and what was the cause of the increase in the numbers of long-term empty properties. A report would be brought to a future meeting of the committee, to consider if improvements could be made.

8. General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21 – Position as at 30th September 2020

The Committee received the quarter two position statement. It was noted that it was a particularly volatile year in terms of revenue and expenditure due to the impact of the pandemic.

9. Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2020/21 – Position as at 30th September 2020

The Committee received the quarter two position statement. It was advised there would be some adjustments to the programme due to the impact of the pandemic. It was advised there was a small waiting list regarding Disabled Facilities Grant due to restrictions imposed by the first lockdown, but the team were confident of clearing the waiting list by the end of the year.

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