

MINUTES

Planning Committee

Date:	Wednesday, 11 November 2020
Venue:	Remote Meeting Via Zoom
Committee Members Present:	Councillor Trevor Fiddler (Chairman) Councillor Richard Redcliffe (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Tim Armit, Alan Clayton, Chris Dixon, Kiran Mulholland, Jayne Nixon, Linda Nulty, Liz Oades, David O'Rourke, Ray Thomas, Stan Trudgill.
Other Members Present:	Councillor Karen Buckley.
Officers Present:	Mark Evans, Ian Curtis, Paul Drinnan, 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 4 November 2020 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

3. Substitute Members

The following substitution was reported under Council procedure rule 24:

Councillor Alan Clayton for Councillor Heather Speak.

Decision Items

4. Allocation of Additional Resources to Support Town Centres and the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone

The Vice-Chairman, Councillor Richard Redcliffe introduced this item and in doing so, highlighted the importance attached to the allocation of additional resources to support town centres and the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone.

In the report, reference was made to a number of ambitions and actions contained within the Corporate Plan 2020/24 relating to the economic prosperity of the borough including the development of the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone through the Fylde Coast partnership. Members were advised that to facilitate the delivery of the

Enterprise Zone, it is intended to establish a project management role that will bring forward development, deliver key projects and encourage new investment in the area.

It was further reported that the Town Centres Working Group had been considering several initiatives aimed at supporting the borough's three town centres. Members were reminded that a summary of this work had been presented to the Planning Committee in September when members requested officers to work up several proposals including the appointment of additional staff to help deliver these projects and proposals. Following further discussion with the Budget Working Group and the Town Centres Working Group, the establishment of a Town Centres Manager post and an Economic Development Officer post was proposed.

The report also proposed to top up the existing town centre maintenance budget to improve the quality of the public spaces in St Annes town centre. Further details regarding this matter were set out in the report.

A copy of the proposed Regeneration Team structure was included as an appendix to the report.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman, Councillor Fiddler took the opportunity to thank Councillor Redcliffe and Mr Evans for their support in driving forward the work of the Town Centres Working Group.

Members sought clarification on various aspects of the proposal including, matters associated with the application of the maintenance budget for all town centres; contributions from the town councils; S106 contributions and the role of the Town Centres Manager. These were addressed in turn by Mr Evans.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED:

1. That the Finance & Democracy Committee be requested to approve a revenue funded budget increase (to be split between the years 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25) in the total sum of £45,000, to be funded from the Funding Volatility Reserve, in order to provide the required level of resource for the appointment of an Enterprise Zone Project Manager;
2. That the Finance & Democracy Committee be requested to approve a revenue funded budget increase (to be split between the years 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24) in the total sum of £246,000, to be funded from the Funding Volatility Reserve, in order to provide the required resource for the appointment of a Town Centres Manager and an Economic Development Officer;
3. That the Finance & Democracy Committee be requested to approve a revenue funded budget increase of £5,000 for 2020/21 and £25,000 for 2021/22, to be funded from the Funding Volatility Reserve, in order to provide an enhanced financial resource in respect of the existing St Annes town centre maintenance budget
4. To authorise the proposed expenditure to fund the recruitment of an Enterprise Zone Project Manager for a temporary period of 3 years;
5. To authorise the proposed expenditure to fund the recruitment of a Town Centres Manager and Economic Development Officer, each for a temporary period of 3 years; and
6. To authorise the proposed expenditure in respect of the enhanced St Annes town centre repairs and maintenance budget in the total additional sum of £30,000.
7. That the Town Centres Working Group be requested to review of the maintenance provisions and budgets for Lytham and Kirkham Town Centres.

5. Kirkham and Wesham Station Park and Ride Facility

Mark Evans (Head of Planning and Housing) was invited to introduce the report. In doing so, he reported that further to the decision of the Planning Committee on 12 June 2019, a feasibility study had been commissioned to consider the options available to provide a park and ride car park facility at Kirkham and Wesham Station.

The report set out the options that had been considered and sought the committee's preference for the options identified. In addition, agreement was sought to ring fence Section 106 funds to contribute to the delivery of the car park facility and to authorise officers to explore gap funding options that will allow the project to be delivered. Further details about this matter were set out in the report.

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A copy of the Option Selection Report for a Passenger Car Park at Kirkham and Wesham Station was included as an appendix to the report.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman invited questions. These related to the following areas: the possibility of the rail authority contributing to the scheme; parking restrictions generally; LCC funding options; funding issues/availability generally; the need to incorporate in any agreement the requirement to maintain free car parking at the facility; likely demand for the facility and matters associated with ring fencing of the S106 funds. These were addressed in turn by Mr Evans.

Following consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the findings of the feasibility study and confirm Option C as the council's preferred option.
2. That Section 106 funds identified for improvements to sustainable transport outlined in the report be allocated to the delivery of the proposed park and ride scheme.
3. That officers be requested to explore additional funding sources available to deliver the proposed park and ride facility and present an updated report to the Committee on the position within a 6 to 9-month period.

Information Items

The following information items were received by the Committee.

6. 5 Year Housing Land Supply – Report on Draft Annual Position Statement

The information report provided an update on the 5-Year Housing Land Supply: Draft Annual Position Statement.

In summary, following the Council's submission of the Draft Annual Position Statement for base date 1st April 2020 to the Secretary of State (Planning Inspectorate(PINS)) on 31st July, members were advised that confirmation had been received from the Planning Inspector on 27th October that the Council has a five-year housing land supply for a further year, until 31st October 2021.

It was further reported that the APS had been updated from the draft to reflect the Inspector's recommendations. This provided the final APS for base date 1st April 2020.

A link to the Inspector's report and the final APS document was included in the report.

The Committee's thanks and appreciation were conveyed to Eddie Graves for the work he had undertaken on this matter.

7. White Paper - Planning for the Future 2020 - Final Consultation Response

The information report provided an update on the final consultation response to the White Paper - Planning for the Future 2020.

It was reported that in line with the resolution of the Planning Committee, comments had been submitted to the Government's consultation White Paper -Planning for the Future, which express this council's significant concerns regarding the proposed changes.

Included as an appendix was a copy of the Fylde Council's response to the consultation.

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

The information report provided an update on the General Fund Revenue Budget of the Council as at 30th September 2020 with specific reference to those areas under the remit of the Committee.

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

The information report provided the committee with an update on the Council's approved Capital Programme as at 30th September 2020 with specific reference to those schemes under the remit of the Committee.

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