

CABINET

6.00 P.M.

6TH SEPTEMBER 2016

PRESENT:- Councillors Eileen Blamire (Chairman), Janice Hanson (Vice-Chairman), Margaret Pattison and Anne Whitehead

Apologies for Absence:-

Councillor Darren Clifford, James Leyshon and Karen Leytham

Officers in attendance:-

Susan Parsonage	Chief Executive
Nadine Muschamp	Chief Officer (Resources) and Section 151 Officer
Mark Davies	Chief Officer (Environment)
Andrew Dobson	Chief Officer (Regeneration and Planning)
Suzanne Lodge	Chief Officer (Health and Housing)
Anne Marie Harrison	Economic Development Manager
Paul Rogers	Senior Regeneration Officer
Liz Bateson	Principal Democratic Support Officer

10 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28 June 2016 were approved as a correct record.

11 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE LEADER

The Chairman advised that there were no items of urgent business.

12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made at this point.

13 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Members were advised that there had been no requests to speak at the meeting in accordance with Cabinet's agreed procedure.

14 CORPORATE FINANCIAL MONITORING QUARTER 1 2016/17

(Cabinet Members with Special Responsibility Councillors Blamire & Whitehead)

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Officer (Resources) which provided an overview of the Council's financial position for Quarter 1 of the 2016/17 monitoring cycle and the supporting actions underway.

The report was for comments and noting.

Councillor Whitehead proposed, seconded by Councillor Blamire:-

“That the recommendation, as set out in the report, be noted and that an updated version of Appendix A, General Fund – 2016/17 Approved Savings and Growth Monitoring, be provided for each Cabinet meeting.”

Councillors then voted:-

Resolved unanimously:

That the Corporate Financial Monitoring report and appendices be noted and that an updated version of Appendix A, General Fund – 2016/17 Approved Savings and Growth Monitoring, be provided for each Cabinet meeting.

Officer responsible for effecting the decision:

Chief Officer (Resources)

Reasons for making the decision:

The City Council’s Performance Management Framework requires the regular reporting of operational, as well as financial performance.

15 COASTAL COMMUNITIES TEAMS

(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Hanson)

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Officer (Regeneration & Planning) to obtain agreement for the City Council to bid for Coastal Communities Team (CCT) status for an area based around the central areas of Morecambe and Heysham, and to act as accountable body for funds in the event of a successful bid. Members were also asked to support Morecambe Bay Partnership’s proposal for a Morecambe Bay CCT for the smaller settlements along the coastline.

The options, options analysis, including risk assessment and officer preferred option, were set out in the report as follows:

	Option 1: Do nothing – decline to submit a CCT bid.	Option 2: Agree to submit a bid for CCT status and act as accountable body.
Advantages	No officer resources required to administer and support a partnership forum.	Consistent with the council’s and partner’s regeneration and economic development objectives for Morecambe. Complementary to delivery of Morecambe Area Action Plan. An advantage in terms of Government’s view of the area as a place in which to deliver policy attention and resources,

		<p>particularly around future external funding opportunities such as Coastal Communities Fund.</p> <p>Availability of £10K resources to put towards investigations into economic development priorities.</p>
Disadvantages	<p>A potential disadvantage in terms of Government's view of the area as a place in which to deliver policy attention, resources and funding</p> <p>Lost opportunity to develop a cohesive local economic plan for the area</p>	<p>Commits the council to supporting a local partner forum and meeting the community consultation and reporting requirements of a CCT.</p> <p>Definition of geographical area of interest needs careful consideration.</p> <p>Potential of partnership 'fatigue'.</p>
Risks	<p>The risks are mainly around Government's view of the area as a place to engage with, if there is no CCT.</p>	<p>The risks are mainly around the governance and management of a new partnership forum, in the context of the council's accountable body role, seeking the relevant strategic stakeholders and ensuring appropriate terms of reference which add value.</p>

The preferred option is Option 2: Agree to submit a bid for CCT status and act as accountable body. The implications of declining to bid for CCT status are mainly around the potentially negative view of the area's ability to engage with Government. Progress with other CCTs has clearly made an impact on DCLG who see them as critical in providing support to build strong coastal economies.

Under Option 2 there is a danger of partnership fatigue in the area and potentially a range of overlapping policy plans. Morecambe Town Team's focus is still finishing off and winding up Portas Pilot funding (including their street art initiative which has been hampered by poor weather). The Town Team has not expressed a formal view on whether or not they want to continue but it is clear they see the Morecambe Business Improvement District body as the substantive legacy body arising out of the Portas initiative.

Morecambe Town Council have also undertaken initial investigations into the development of a Neighbourhood Plan – although under the statutory definition this is meant to add value and complement the councils' current approved planning policy framework (the Local Plan and Morecambe Area Action Plan - which covers much the

same area and issues). The West End Millions Partnership have also undertaken significant capacity building and prioritising in that area of Morecambe. Heysham currently has a Neighbourhood Council that would be well placed to act as a partner within a CCT for Morecambe and Heysham.

In terms of the Council taking on the accountable body role for the CCT, the Council has significant experience in this area and given the initial funds involved, risks are very small. That said, there will be the need to establish sound governance arrangements for the future operation of the Team, including decision-making and future-proofing to cater for any subsequent funding opportunities.

A CCT, with the right Terms of Reference, membership and sound overall governance, would create a productive partnership in terms of facing towards Government policy/funding. It would also sit well with and add value to Morecambe Bay destination branding/marketing activity, regeneration efforts in Central Morecambe and Heysham.

A successful CCT application would formalise arrangements being discussed to take forward and assist strategic MAAP implementation and add value to the ambitions of Heysham's local stakeholders. It is also clear that, while not compulsory, having CCT status would be an advantage in future access to Government funding and ministerial attention.

Councillor Hanson proposed, seconded by Councillor Whitehead:-

"That the recommendations, as set out in the report, be approved."

Councillors then voted:-

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) That approval be given to the City Council bidding for Coastal Communities Team status for central Morecambe and Heysham and to act as the accountable body for the £10K resources should the application be successful.
- (2) That the revenue budget be updated accordingly in the event that the application for Coastal Communities status is successful.
- (3) That the City Council formally supports Morecambe Bay Partnership's proposal for a Morecambe Bay CCT for the smaller settlements along the coastline, subject to confirmation that relevant local partners in these areas support this approach.

Officers responsible for effecting the decision:

Chief Officer (Regeneration & Planning)

Chief Officer (Resources)

Reasons for making the decision:

The decision is consistent with the Council's 2016-20 Corporate Plan which refers to the Council's Vision for Morecambe and Heysham as 'a confident community with a

regenerated living, working and leisure environment, acting as a focal point on Morecambe Bay to enjoy and interact with the wider landscape.' Regenerating Morecambe is a long-standing corporate priority, and contributes to the Council's Health and Well-being and economic growth aspirations.

16 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was moved by Councillor Pattison and seconded by Councillor Whitehead:-

"That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act."

Members then voted as follows:-

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

17 BOLD STREET HOUSING REGENERATION - PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT PARTNER

(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Hanson)

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Officer (Regeneration & Planning) to consider the outcome of the developer tender exercises for the Bold Street site, the preferred development scenario and delivery partner.

The options, options analysis, including risk assessment and officer preferred option, were set out in a report exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3, of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Councillor Hanson proposed, seconded by Councillor Pattison:-

"That the recommendations as set out in the exempt report, be approved."

Councillors then voted:-

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) That PlaceFirstbe approved as the Council's preferred developer for the Bold Street site to secure a scheme for new homes for market rent, subject to:
 - the satisfactory completion of due diligence and any appropriate negotiations, to help ensure deliverability, suitability and financial viability of the proposed scheme;
 - no further site assembly/clearance costs falling on the Council.

- (2) That subject to a satisfactory outcome of (1) above:
- the site as shown in Appendix 1 to the exempt report be disposed of to PlaceFirst (as set out in recommendation (2) of the report), recognising that this action is in support of improving the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the area given the scheme benefits to be gained (as set out in section 6.7 of the exempt report);
 - Officers be authorised to conclude and complete all contractual matters for the scheme, to protect the Council's interests and to secure timely development of the site.
- (3) That in the event that (1) above cannot be achieved, then a further report be brought back to Cabinet for due consideration.

Officer responsible for effecting the decision:

Chief Officer (Regeneration & Planning)

Reasons for making the decision:

The decision is consistent with the Council's 2016-20 Corporate Plan which states that the Council's Vision for Morecambe and Heysham is: a confident community with a regenerated living, working and leisure environment, acting as a focal point on Morecambe Bay to enjoy and interact with the wider landscape. Regenerating the West End of Morecambe is a long-standing corporate priority and the proposal will also have local community safety benefits by removing derelict properties which are susceptible to illegal and anti-social activities.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 6.20 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Liz Bateson, Democratic Services - telephone (01524) 582047 or email
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MINUTES PUBLISHED ON MONDAY 12 SEPTEMBER, 2016.

**EFFECTIVE DATE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS CONTAINED IN THESE MINUTES:
TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER, 2016.**