

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting held: 16th January 2019

Present:

Councillor Russell Roberts (Chair)

Councillors Lloyd Bunday, Scott Edwards, David Howes,
Ian Jelley, Mark Rowley and Lesley Thurland

Also Present

The Mayor (Councillor James Burton)
Councillors John Currall, Maggie Don, Ruth Groome, Jim
Hakewill, Anne Lee, Mick Scrimshaw, Shirley Stanton,
Mike Tebbutt and Greg Titcombe

The Mayor was welcomed to the meeting.

18.EX.52 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark Dearing.

18.EX.53 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Lloyd Bunday declared a personal interest in Item No. 11 on the agenda as a Trustee of the Masque Theatre.

18.EX.54 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the
Committee held on 14th November 2018 be
approved and signed as a correct record.

18.EX.55 WORK PROGRAMME

The Council's draft work programme to be published on 17th January 2019 was noted.

18.EX.56 CONSULTATION ON RESIDENTIAL PARKING SCHEMES

A report was submitted which provided members with an update on the proposals to implement further residential parking zones in Kettering and which sought approval to proceed with full consultation for four additional residential parking zones.

Mr Kevin Marchand (Chairman of Headlands Area Residents' Association) addressed the Committee under the Council's Right to Speak policy. He welcomed the consultation and made the following comments:-

- The Council was asked to consider an extension of the proposed area to Headlands south to include Cranleigh Road and The Close to alleviate problems associated with the transfer of parking from the station area to the Headlands area
- The scheme should take into account the interests of businesses and other organisations in the area, possibly by introducing a hybrid scheme
- More general information and briefings should be provided to residents before consultation commenced by the use of social media and creation of frequently asked questions

The Mayor addressed the Committee and welcomed the consultation. He sought clarification as to whether seven areas that did not currently fit the criteria would be looked at again in the future.

Councillor Mick Scrimshaw addressed the Committee and welcomed the change in policy to consider new residents' parking schemes. He queried whether shops would be allocated areas as short stay/20 minute drop-off points and also whether there was any information available on the financial impact of the introduction of new zones. He suggested that some areas might benefit from different timings (6.00 am to 6.00 pm rather than 24-hour) and the possibility of an extension of Zone Q to include Lower Street at the junction of Carlton Street as residents of a few houses opposite this junction had complained about parking issues.

Councillor Scrimshaw also advised the Committee that a number of residents in Bowhill had objected to the consultation on the basis that they believed they had to purchase a permit even though they did not park on the public highway.

Councillor Maggie Don addressed the committee and welcomed the report. She commented on the need to consider the Fire

Station in the Headlands scheme. She concurred with the Headland's Residents' Association's suggestion for extension of the residents' parking area and reiterated the need to make provision for businesses in the vicinity. She also suggested that councillors should have sight of a draft of the briefing pack before it was circulated, which should include information on charges.

In response to speakers' comments outlined above, it was noted that all information suggested would be provided as part of the briefing pack and the final decisions would be based on the results of the consultation. Comments made at the meeting would also be taken into account.

The seven schemes that did not meet the criteria would stay on the list and would be looked at in the future.

Due to time constraints, members would have limited ability to make amendments to the briefing pack, once the contents were finalised.

It was noted that the consultation was due to commence on 1st February for four weeks. 60% of residents responding to the consultation needed to be in favour of the scheme in order for it to be taken forward and brought back to the Executive prior to a final decision being made.

During the debate, in which members of the Executive welcomed the report, it was noted that sixth form students at Bishop Stopford School were not allowed to park in the school's car park. This should be taken into account, as well as parents' dropping off/picking up children.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the proposal to take four proposed residents' parking zones to the next stage of the process as identified in paragraph 2.4 of the report be agreed, subject to the minor amendments to schemes as proposed at the meeting being sense-tested beforehand;
- (ii) the consultation process as set out in Section 3 of the report be proceeded with; and
- (iii) the principle that work to introduce a Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) order take precedence over the introduction of new residents' parking schemes, if there was a clash of timetables, be endorsed.

(Councillor Bunday declared a personal interest in the following item as a Trustee of The Masque Theatre)

18.EX.57 BURTON LATIMER COMMUNITY LEISURE FACILITIES

A report was submitted which sought approval to:-

- (a) Utilise the *Burton Latimer Community Leisure Capital Scheme*, subject to its approval in the 2019/20 budget, to deliver improvements to the community centre and adjacent sports facilities at the King George V recreation ground in Burton Latimer;
- (b) Commission a feasibility study and, subject to a positive outcome, let a design and build contract through a framework agreement to expedite the necessary works for the *Burton Latimer Community Leisure* scheme;
- (c) Make a contribution of up to £158,000 of available Section 106 funding to the Latimer Arts College to enable it to complete an indoor and outdoor sports facility that could be used by the local community outside of school hours.

It was noted that, if the recommendations were endorsed, a feasibility study would be carried out and a build contract entered into. Consultation would be carried out with the town council, key stakeholders and nearby local residents. Flexibility should be maintained in expenditure of the budget.

Kettering Borough Council was keen to see additional provision for indoor sports in the area, as the demand was increasing due to residential developments in the area.

Councillors Ruth Groome and John Currall addressed the committee as ward councilors for Burton Latimer, expressing thanks to officers for work in connection with the proposals which were much appreciated.

During debate, the point was made that Latimer Arts College should enter into an agreement regarding community access to the indoor facilities provided and ensure that it was adhered to in the long term, for example, 25 years.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) Subject to the approval of the Capital Budget set out in Section 5.1 of this report:

- (a) The proposal to use the *Burton Latimer Community Leisure* capital scheme to improve the community sports and leisure facilities available at the Community Centre at the King George V Recreation Ground, Burton Latimer be endorsed;
 - (b) A feasibility study be carried out to consider the most suitable option for the above site and that a public consultation be conducted with service users and local residents, particularly those living in close proximity to the facility;
 - (c) Subject to the outcome of the feasibility study, the Council proceed in letting a design and build contract through a suitable framework agreement in order to effectively expedite the delivery of the scheme;
 - (d) In order to retain flexibility, the option be kept open to include within the scheme other projects that enhanced the community sport and leisure facilities within Burton Latimer.
- (ii) the payment of up to £158,000 of S106 funding to Latimer Arts College be approved, to enable it to secure sufficient funds to construct an indoor sports facility that was able to accommodate four badminton courts. Any provision of funding should, however, be subject to the Council attaining satisfactory binding assurances that the Latimer Arts College would continue to provide reasonable community usage to the indoor sports facility in the long term as set out in section 6.4 of the report.

18.EX.58 FLY TIPPING AND LITTERING ENFORCEMENT

A report was submitted which sought approval for the following matters:

- To agree that authorised officers of the Council could issue Fixed Penalty Notices for certain fly tipping offences as an alternative to prosecution through the Courts.
- To seek delegation to the Heads of Public Services and Environmental Care in respect of The Littering From Vehicles Outside London (Keepers: Civil Penalties) Regulations 2018 which introduced new Fixed Penalty Notices for littering from

vehicles from powers conferred by inserting section 88A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

- To set the Fixed Penalty Notices for fly tipping at £400, which would be reduced to £300 if paid within 14 days.
- To raise the fine levels for littering (direct observation and from vehicles) from £75 to £100.

The Mayor addressed the Committee stressing the importance of enforcement. He stated that some residents were unaware that fly-tipping was an offence for which they could be fined and that it was unacceptable. The Mayor suggested that residents living in the vicinity of hotspots should be advised of how to dispose of rubbish responsibly and asked how many people had been prosecuted for vehicle littering.

Councillor Mick Scrimshaw addressed the Committee, commenting that everyone was affected by a few perpetrators of littering and fly-tipping. In welcoming the report, he reiterated that enforcement was key to reducing incidents of littering and fly-tipping. He added that some residents had offered the use of their personal CCTV to help in any prosecutions.

The number of prosecutions issued for littering was noted. Officers were aware of hotspots and worked closely with colleagues in Environmental Care. If evidence was available then action was always pursued. The Council did publicise successful prosecutions, but there were cases where householders had engaged businesses to dispose of waste, and the Council had to prosecute the householder if waste was subsequently improperly disposed of.

Members were advised that the Council used cameras in hotspots and some success had been achieved. It also offered a collection service for recycling or disposal of bulky items.

Members were asked to contact the Head of Public Services if any fly-tipping hotspots were identified in their wards so that cameras could be deployed. It was noted that occasionally fly-tipped waste was not collected on the same day, as notes may be attached to items advising of imminent prosecution if the waste was not removed. Some success had been achieved in these instances and the waste removed by the perpetrator. Covert surveillance was not an option due to RIPA responsibilities, although notices could be put up advising people that surveillance was taking place.

The Portfolio Holder for Rural advised the Committee that the Council had been praised for its speed in clearing fly-tipped

waste from rural areas. The Head of Public Services agreed to follow-up any rural hotspots with cameras and notices upon receipt of information.

It was noted that new vehicles and equipment included in-cab technology, with which it was possible to feed information directly into the offices while refuse crews were out on rounds.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) authority be delegated to the Head of Public Services and the Head of Environmental Care to authorise the appropriate officers to offer a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) for fly tipping as permitted under the Unauthorised Deposit of Waste (Fixed Penalties) Regulations 2016;
- (ii) authority be delegated to the Head of Public Services and the Head of Environmental Care to authorise the appropriate officers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) under The Littering From Vehicles Outside London (Keepers: Civil Penalties) Regulations 2018; and
- (iii) FPN levels to be set as below:
 - Fly tipping cases - £400 FPN, reduced to £300 if paid within 14 days
 - Littering - £100 FPN, reduced to £80 if paid within 14 days.

18.EX.59 REVIEW OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

A report was submitted which sought approval of the reviewed and updated Anti-social Behaviour Policy which set out the Council's response to anti-social behaviour within its housing stock.

It was noted that the updated policy was supported by the Tenants' Forum and related to local authorities and housing associations only.

RESOLVED that the Anti-social Behaviour Policy be adopted.

18.EX.60 **DRAFT BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2019/20 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

A report was submitted which:

- Reminded members of the context (and background) to the current budget setting process.
- Outlined the draft budget figures for the Council's three main accounts for 2019/20 and started the formal budget consultation process.
- Considered the main issues that were likely to impact on the Council's budgets in the medium term.
- Provided an illustration of the Council's medium term financial projections.

It was noted that the Council's Budget Consultation meeting would take place on 24th January 2019.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance, in introducing the report, outlined some of the issues and challenges facing the Council, including homelessness, recycling and local government reform in Northamptonshire. However, the draft budget was sustainable and lay down foundations for the future as well as increasing the Council's asset base. Members were urged to share constructive suggestions during the consultation period, which would be considered and costed.

Officers were thanked for preparation of the budget proposals, the associated report and for identifying savings.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the draft budgets for 2019/20 (as contained in the separate budget booklet appended to the report) be referred to Scrutiny for comment in accordance with the Council's Constitution;
- (ii) the current budget position for 2018/19 be noted;
- (iii) it be recognised that the task of balancing the budget in future years was becoming increasingly difficult especially in the light of increasing service pressures, a national review of the Business Rates Retention Scheme and the Government review of the Fair Funding Formula; and

(iv) it be noted that the budget consultation period would run from 16th January 2019 to 27th February 2019. The budgets and level of Council Tax for 2019/20 would be set at a meeting of Full Council on 27th February 2019.

(The meeting started at 6.30pm and ended at 7.32 pm)

Signed
Chair

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