

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

15th September 2020

(Meeting held virtually)

Present:-

Councillor Russell Roberts (Chair)
Councillors Lloyd Bunday, Mark Dearing, Scott Edwards,
David Howes, Ian Jelley, Mark Rowley and Lesley
Thurland

20.EX.01 APOLOGIES

None

20.EX.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

20.EX.03 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 8th July 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20.EX.04 URGENT BUSINESS

None.

20.EX.05 ISSUES REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

None.

20.EX.06 ISSUES REFERRED FROM FORUMS

None.

21.EX.07 ISSUES REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

None.

20.EX.08 THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME

The draft Work Programme to be published on 23rd September 2020 was noted, having been previously circulated by email.

20.EX.09 KBC BUDGET UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 2020

A report was submitted which:

- (a) provided an update to the budget monitoring figures that were presented to the Executive Committee last month;
- (b) provided an update on the government grants scheme for small businesses, businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors and grants paid to businesses via the Discretionary Grants scheme.
- (c) Provided an update on Government Funding for 2021/22.

Members were told that total range of budget pressures was shown to be between £1.5m and £4m. At this stage it is too early to tell what the final figures will be. This is because of the levels of uncertainty across the sector as a whole – especially those relating to income and cash flow. The figures will also be impacted by the recovery phase of the Pandemic.

The Government had to date provided three tranches of additional funding for local authorities to help them respond and to recover from the COVID-19 pressures across all the services they deliver. After taking account of Government funding that has been received of £1.240m the potential COVID 19 pressures could range between £0.3m and £2.8m.

RESOLVED that that the Executive noted:-

- (i) The budget position for 2020/21 and the potential financial challenges in 2021/22.
- (ii) The financial support provided by this Council to Businesses through the government grant schemes for small businesses and businesses in the retail, hospitality.
- (iii) The uncertainty around Government Funding levels for 2021/22.

(Voting: Unanimous)

20.EX.10 GYPSY AND TRAVELLER PROVISION

A report was submitted which sought to set out the Council's approach to providing Gypsy and Traveller accommodation within the Borough in appropriate locations and maintaining a 5 year supply of pitches.

Members noted that The Council was producing a Gypsy and Traveller Site Accommodation Policy which was to form part of the Development Plan for the local area. This was at an early stage of production. This was to set out whatever allocations are necessary to meet the needs of Gypsy and Traveller community within the Borough over the plan period. In July 2017 the Planning Policy Committee decided to remove this matter from the Site-Specific Part 2 Local Plan, and prepare for this topic to be considered through a standalone Development Plan Document.

RESOLVED That Members:-

- i) Supported the continued development by officer of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Policy and note the Council's stated 5 year land supply of pitches.
- ii) Noted the potential use of compulsory purchase powers to bring forward a stalled site
- iii) Noted the work to consider intensification or extensions to existing sites, if necessary, which would have formed part of the evidence base for the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Policy and supported on-going work to identify pitches with non-defined Gypsy and Traveller residents and to offer them alternative accommodation.
- iv) Supported the on-going Environmental Protection work of licencing 'protected sites' through the Mobile Homes Act
- v) Endorsed initial discussions with officers of partner authorities in the new Unitary Authority on early considerations of a Gypsy and Traveller Strategy for North Northamptonshire.

(Voting: Unanimous)

20.EX.11

**LAND TO SOUTH EAST OF STOKE ALBANY ROAD, DESBOROUGH
– COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER**

A report was submitted which Committee approval for an 'in principle' decision to promote a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to facilitate the acquisition and then development of a gypsy & traveller site at Stoke Albany Road, Desborough.

It was heard that The use of CPO powers required that the Council be satisfied that there was a compelling case in the public interest for their use which requires, amongst other things, that the Council is able to demonstrate that:

- the land to be acquired fitted in with the adopted Local Plan;
- the proposed scheme contributed to the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the area;
- there was no other means by which the Council's objective in promoting the CPO could be achieved;
- the development arising from the use of the CPO powers was viable and the development of the land as a travellers' site comprising 10 pitches would have taken place;
- it had taken reasonable steps to acquire the land for the scheme, by agreement, and that the exercise of CPO powers is by way of a last resort;
- it had taken into account the human rights of those with an interest in the land the subject of the CPO; and
- it had a clear idea of how the land will be used and can demonstrate that it has the resources necessary to deliver the scheme.

Members of the committee heard that officers were confident that the Council was able to demonstrate that there was a compelling case in the public interest to both make and secure the confirmation of a CPO.

Members noted efforts by the Council to acquire the land by agreement had been ongoing for a number of years and had proven to have been unsuccessful as the site owners refuse to enter negotiations to sell the site to the Council on reasonable terms.

RESOLVED that the Executive Committee:-

- i. Approve 'in principle authority' of the use by the Council of its compulsory purchase order making powers pursuant to section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to acquire the land within the area described in the officers report
- ii. Delegate Authority to any member of the Strategic Management Team (SMT) to begin preparatory work to utilise the compulsory purchase power, including serving requisitions on any party with an interest in the land, and the preparation of CPO schedule along all other necessary documentation..

(Voting: Unanimous)

20.EX.12 LOCAL CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS (LCWIP)

A report was submitted which sought agreement for :-

- i. the preparation of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP);
- ii. the scope of the LCWIP; and
- iii. a funding contribution towards its preparation.

Councillor Lee addressed the Committee under the Right to Speak Policy.

Members welcomed the report and initiative as part of The Council's Climate Emergency Plan.

RESOLVED that:-

That Members agreed to the preparation of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Kettering; agreed the scope for that Plan as detailed at paragraphs 2.5 to 2.9 of the officers report; and agreed up to £30,000 of funding to be used in appointing consultants to the project.

(Voting: Unanimous)

20.EX.13 COUNTYWIDE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY

A report was submitted which sought approval to adopt the Countywide strategy to tackle anti-social behaviour

In discussion, members welcomed the proposed strategy in order to understand and resolve local anti-social behaviour problems

Following discussions it was:-

RESOLVED that:-

The Countywide Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy be adopted by Kettering Borough Council

21.EX.14 ALFRED EAST ART GALLERY, LIBRARY AND MANOR HOUSE MUSEUM – GLaM

A report was submitted which sought to update members on the progress of the GLaM project, and which outlined the anticipated funding for the programme and confirmed the next steps and governance process required

In discussion, members welcomed the project as an initiative to allow more investment into Kettering Town Centre in complimenting the already progressing Heritage Action Zone.

Following discussions it was:-

RESOLVED that the Executive:-

- (i) Noted the project and approach;
- (ii) Endorsed, the indicative funding; and
- (iii) Recommend the additional Capital budget of £3,740,000 to Full Council for approval.

20.EX.14 HOUSING NEW BUILD PROGRAMME - APPOINTMENT OF CONTRACTORS AND REVISED BUDGET FORECASTS FOR SCOTT ROAD AND ALBERT STREET & APPOINTMENT OF CONTRACTORS FOR REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS

A report was submitted which sought committee approval for the acceptance of tenders for the Scott Road and Albert Street new build schemes (subject to Full Council approval) and to request that the Executive Committee recommended to Full Council an increase in the approved budget for the Scott Road and Albert Street projects following the conclusion of the tender process.

The report also sought approval for the acceptance of a tender for the next phase of the Homes for the Future project which forms part of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme for 2020/21

Following discussions it was:-

RESOLVED that the Executive:-

- a) accepted the tender from contractor A in the sum of £2,529,791.39 to undertake the construction of 22 flats and houses at Scott Road, Kettering, subject to Council approval of the additional budget.
- b) accepted the tender from contractor A in the sum of £716,736 to undertake the construction of six bungalows at Albert Street, Kettering, subject to Council approval of the additional budget.
- c) delegated authority to the Chief Legal Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Head of Housing to conclude and sign the contracts with the successful contractor for each project.
- d) recommended that Full Council approve the additional capital budget of £398,000 for the Scott Road project.
- e) recommended that Full Council approve the additional capital budget of £253,000 for the Albert Street project
- f) accepted the tender from contractor A in the sum of £779,180.74 to refurbish 12 properties in Desborough and Rothwell under the Homes for the Future programme.
- g) delegated authority to the Chief Legal Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Head of Housing to conclude and sign the contract with the successful contractor.

(Voting: Unanimous)

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.15 pm)

Signed
Chair

CG