

NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Strategy and Resources Committee held at Barum Room - Brynsworthy on Monday, 2nd September, 2019 at 10.00 am

PRESENT: Members:

Councillor Worden (Chairman)

Councillors Lane, Leaver, Patrinos, Pearson, Prowse, L. Spear, Wilkinson and Yabsley

Officers:

Chief Executive, CCTV, Town Centre and Pannier Market Manager, Accountancy Services Manager, Project and Procurement Officer, Senior Solicitor/Monitoring Officer, Customer and Corporate Services Manager and Planning Officer

Also Present:

Councillors D. Spear, Tucker and York

32. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barker and Lofthouse.

33. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5TH AUGUST (ATTACHED).

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 5th August 2019 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

In response to a question, the Chief Executive confirmed that it was anticipated that a report on the options for the waste and recycling service would be presented to the Committee at its meeting on 7th October 2019. However, this would be confirmed following discussions with the Head of Operational Services.

34. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

There were no declarations of interest received.

35. APPROVAL AND RELEASE OF SECTION 106 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE FUNDS - CHULMLEIGH AND ILFRACOMBE

The Committee considered a report by the Project, Procurement and Open Space Officer (circulated previously) regarding the allocation of section 106 public open space funds towards a project in Chulmleigh and in Ilfracombe.

The Project, Procurement and Open Space Officer highlighted the following:

- Details of the adventure playground at Chulmleigh and southern slopes open space illuminations projects as detailed in paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 in the report.
- Total project cost for the Chulmleigh adventure play area as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report.
- Total project cost for the southern slopes open space illuminations project at Ilfracombe as detailed in paragraph 5.2 of the report.

In response to a question, the Project, Procurement and Open Space Officer advised that the new lamps used for the Southern Slopes open spaces illumination project would be LED and would not be kept illuminated during the night.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That £26,183 be allocated to Chulmleigh Parish Council towards Chulmleigh adventure play ground;
- (b) That £17,525 towards Southern Slopes open space illumination scheme (NDC led project);

RECOMMENDED:

- (c) That Council vary the capital programme by £43,708 and that funds be released, subject to a Funding Agreement upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed by the Senior Solicitor, for external projects.

**36. CONSULTATION RESPONSE - BISHOPS TAWTON
ROUNABOUT IMPROVEMENTS**

The Committee considered a joint report by the Chief Executive and Head of Place (circulated previously) regarding the provision of a consultation response to Devon County Council (DCC) in relation to the proposed improvements to the Bishops Tawton roundabout.

Councillor Yabsley declared a personal interest as a Member of DCC's Development Management Committee.

The Chief Executive highlighted the following:

- DCC, as highway authority, had applied for permission for the alteration of the roundabout at Bishops Tawton including the construction of an underpass under the A361. DCC would determine the application, but North Devon Council had been requested to give its views as a consultee.
- The application had been called in for determination by the Planning Committee at its meeting on 11th September 2019.
- The Design and Access Statement was attached as an appendix to the report.

The Senior Planning Officer highlighted the following and provided a strategic overview of the planning application that had been received:

- The Joint Local Plan identified the importance of the A361/A39 connection to the rest of the country and that improvements were required.
- A consultation response was provided on 30th November 2018 regarding the importance of the Filleigh cutting to the Portmore junction.
- Section 106 financial contributions had been sought from the Roundswell development towards improvements at the Bishop's Tawton roundabout and that contributions would also be sought from the Larkbeare development.
- Outlined the proposals to widen the approaches to provide an additional lane and the construction of an underpass which was compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act. The Police Designing out officer had raised no objections to the planning application.
- The scheme was part of strategic improvements to the A361/A39 and took into account proposed planning developments up until 2031.
- DCC had been advised that consideration of a consultation response would be presented to this Committee and the Planning Committee on 11th September 2019. It was understood that DCC's Development Management Committee would determine the scheme at its meeting on 16th October 2019.

In response to questions, the Chief Executive advised that as some Members of the Committee were also Members of the Planning Committee, there was a need for those Members to not pre-determine the planning application. The Planning Committee would consider the planning merits of the application and the Strategy and Resources Committee would consider the strategic benefits and dis-benefits. The Council had supported DCC in its funding applications and in its ambition to make improvements to the Link Road. The District Council had acknowledged that if the District was to attract investment into the area and the provision of additional housing, its connections to other parts of the country have to be improved. If the Committee was concerned regarding the impact the proposal would have on communities in Bishops Tawton and South Street, then this concern could be raised.

In response to questions, the Planning Officer confirmed that the proposal would not generate any additional traffic into South Street as the approach to the roundabout would be widened to enable traffic to go straight across the roundabout and also turn right into South Street. The Planning Statement that accompanied the planning application set out the options and the reasons why they have been discounted i.e. alternative footbridge, signalised crossings. The report to the Planning Committee on 11th September 2019 addressed concerns of Ward Members and other issues raised.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the objectives of the Bishop's Tawton roundabout improvement scheme be supported in principle subject to:
 - (i) Consideration being given to measures that could be

introduced to reduce through traffic to South Street e.g. width restriction;

- (ii) Consideration being given to measures that could be introduced to encourage traffic to use more appropriate accesses to the east of Barnstaple;
 - (iii) Consideration of whether the provision of an underpass was necessary or whether there were other measures that could provide the same level of cycle and pedestrian safety;
- (b) That as a result of the consultation and reviewing the concerns raised, the Council was most concerned and requested that a full strategic review of traffic movements and access issues in Barnstaple was undertaken and also expressed concern regarding the funding reductions for park and ride schemes.

37. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS AND RESTRICTION OF DOCUMENTS

RESOLVED:

- (a) That, under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended from time to time), namely information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
- (b) That all documents and reports relating to the item be confirmed as "Not for Publication".

38. CCTV SERVICE

The Committee considered a report by the Barnstaple Town Centre, Pannier Market and CCTV Manager (circulated previously) regarding the future provision of the CCTV service.

The Barnstaple Town Centre, Pannier Market and CCTV Manager highlighted the following:

- Outcomes of the reviews that had been previously undertaken of the CCTV service.
- In addition to the objective of providing a CCTV service as set out in the Council's CCTV code of practice, the service also supported the Council's responsibilities for safeguarding and its statutory duty to promote the welfare of children as well as several other NDC services such as out of hours' standby service, car parks, asset management, severe weather provision for rough sleepers and event management on Council land.

- The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) published the Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2020 ‘Safe, resilient and connected communities’ which set out a commitment to support local authorities that wish to invest in CCTV systems. The plan stated clearly that the PCC’s approach would be to provide a contribution to capital investments costs (not revenue) and that the focus would be on supporting the creation of interconnected, high quality and sustainable systems. The OPCC committed to providing up to £200,000 (for the whole of Devon and Cornwall) over the lifetime of the plan. Following discussions with the OPCC an ‘Expression of Interest’ and bid had been submitted to create a Northern Devon ‘hub’ based on the Tolvaddon model.
- The three viable options for the future of the service and the pros and cons for each option as detailed in the report which were to:
 - Option 1: Discontinue all CCTV provision
 - Option 2: Upgrade CCTV infrastructure and control room to provide onsite monitoring and hub potential
 - Option 3: Upgrade CCTV infrastructure (not including control room) with monitoring service to be outsourced to another control room.
- Capital and revenue costs as detailed in the report.

In response to questions, the Barnstaple Town Centre, Pannier Market and CCTV Manager advised that monitoring of CCTV cameras would be made available to all Towns and Parishes. If the Committee approved option 2, all Parish and Town Councils would be contacted to advise them of funding available from the OPCC. It was hoped that the income generated would be higher than forecast.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That option 2 to upgrade the CCTV infrastructure and control room to provide onsite monitoring and Northern Devon hub potential be approved;

RECOMMENDED:

- (b) That Council vary the capital programme by £115,000 and that funds be released.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 11.35 am

NOTE: These minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of the Committee.