

POLICY AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

6 FEBRUARY 2018

Present: Councillor R I Jackson, Chair

Councillors: M Brown (substitute)
S J Carr
M J Crow
D A Elliott
J C Goold
A Harper
G Marshall
J W McGrath
M E Plackett
M Radulovic MBE
P D Simpson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Easom and E Kerry.

58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

59. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2017 were confirmed and signed.

60. FUTURE OF THE TOWN HALL, BEESTON – CONSULTATION

An online public consultation regarding the future of the Town Hall was launched on 12 December 2017 and closed on 16 January 2018. Members were informed that the consultation was promoted through the Council's website, social media, internal and external e-mail services and the Beeston and District Civic Society. It was also reported in the Evening Post and on regional TV news bulletins.

The Committee noted the consultation responses and the further investigations being undertaken in response to them. The following comments were amongst those made:

- No decision had yet been made on the subject and groups would have time to make bids and bring them to the Council.
- The clear response of the consultation was to retain the Town Hall.
- There was a feeling amongst residents that the Town Hall was a heritage asset.

- Further investigation into the issue was positive.
- Many residents of the Borough did not have a connection to Beeston and any decision should benefit the whole of the Borough.
- Working practices had changed and it was necessary for the Council to use buildings that were fit for purpose.
- It was important to have commercially costed proposals for alternative uses.

The Committee was informed that no final decision had been made on the future of the Town Hall and that community groups with business plans for its use would be invited to submit their bids. It was proposed by Councillor R I Jackson and seconded by Councillor M J Crow that further investigation be undertaken in response to the consultation.

RESOLVED that further investigation in to the alternative uses for Beeston Town Hall be undertaken.

(Councillor G Marshall requested that the minute state that he considered the vote to be procedurally incorrect as the original recommendation did not request a resolution.)

61. BEESTON TOWN CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

The Committee was updated on progress of the redevelopment of Beeston Town Centre. It was requested that an amendment be made to the Project Board terms of reference to include membership of the Leader of the Opposition or a nominated substitute in addition to consultation with the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group.

RESOLVED that:

1. **The Project Board terms of reference be approved subject to the amendment above.**
2. **The delegations to the Interim Deputy Chief Executive for the finalisation of the heads of terms and the financing of the necessary items outlined in appendix 3 be approved.**

62. HOUSING SITE DISPOSAL OPTIONS

The Council's Housing Strategy 2015-2020 stated that the Council would review all garage sites to assess the need and suitability for use as residential land. A review was completed in 2015 and the Garage Strategy 2015-2020 was produced and considered by the Housing Performance Group which included a strategic action to consider the demolition and redevelopment of sites.

Ten sites had been identified for disposal and each of the sites had previously been approved for this purpose by the Council's Finance and Resources Committee. The Committee was informed that any redevelopment would also require planning permission and consideration was given to the number of

garages still in use at the sites. It was noted that very few of the garages were used for cars.

The difference between affordable and social housing was discussed with particular reference to need in the Borough. There was also a discussion about making the site viable for development by small builders and self-build schemes. It was noted that the specifics of the sale would be brought to a future meeting and it was requested that full costings be provided for the following three options for schemes: a hybrid of affordable and social housing, all social housing and social housing with an element of self-build.

It was proposed by Councillor Richard Jackson and seconded by Councillor M J Crow that hybrid of options one and two be approved, with the sale of a site, or sites, funding the building of affordable housing on the remaining sites. On being put to the meeting the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that a hybrid of options one and two be approved, with the sale of a site or sites funding the building of affordable housing on the remaining sites.

63. WATER SAFETY REVIEW

Following the tragic drowning of 13 year-old Josh Boothman in the River Erewash at Stapleford on 24 September 2016, it was decided that officers should initiate a systematic programme of water safety risk assessments on Broxtowe-owned or maintained watercourses. The tragic drowning of 12 year-old Owen Jenkins at Beeston Weir on 10 July 2017 further emphasised the importance of the task. The Committee considered the Water Safety Review, including the suggestion of site visits for all interested parties.

RECOMMENDED to the Finance and Resources Committee that £33,700 allocated in the 2018/19 capital programme for remedial measures to enhance the safety of watercourses that the Council has a responsibility for.

64. STAPLEFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Committee noted the update on work towards the creation of a 'fit for purpose' community centre in Stapleford. It was also noted that members would be consulted when options had been identified. There would then be a consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, including all groups who use the existing centres. Assurances were given that Stapleford members would be involved in the design phase so that they could shape proposals. A formal update was requested.

65. MEMBER SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDANCE

Social media advice and training had previously been offered to members but it was considered that new guidance would help set out more clearly what was, and was not, acceptable use of these channels and how they could be used in a way that protected members and the reputation of the Council. Consideration was given to the new Social Media Guidance for members. It was noted that this guidance should be read in conjunction with the Members' Code of Conduct.

RESOLVED that the Social Media Guidance for Elected Members be adopted.

66. WORK PROGRAMME

The second round of the Beeston Town Hall consultations was also added to the work programme.

RESOLVED that the Work Programme, as amended, be approved.

67. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

68. BEESTON TOWN CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT – APPENDIX 4

The Committee noted appendix four of the report.

69. TERMINATION OF SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT

RESOLVED that:

1. **The Director of Legal and Planning revert to his substantive role salary with immediate effect.**
2. **The termination of a shared services agreement should be treated akin to a secondment for the purposes of the Policy and Procedures for the Evaluation and Re-Evaluation of Posts and that accordingly, pay protection provisions do not apply, nor is there a need for a further job evaluation to be carried out.**

70. EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

RESOLVED that the decisions regarding the termination of the Director of Legal and Planning Services' employment contract on 7 February 2018 and the related payments in paragraph 3 be postponed.