



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 6th November 2020

At the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 4th November 2020 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

Present:

Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors Cracknell, Fenty, Lindley, Procter, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn.

DN.47 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence for this meeting.

DN.48 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Fenty declared a personal and prejudicial interest in items DN.52 and DN.56 as a Director and shareholder of Grimsby Town Football Club. He left the meeting during the consideration of these items.

DN.49 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 30th September 2020 and the special meeting of Cabinet on the 14th October 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

DN.50 2020/21 QUARTER TWO FINANCE MONITORING REPORT

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources report providing information and analysis of the Council's financial performance during the second quarter of the 2020/21 financial year.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the reported position at Quarter 2, the uncertainties related to the impacts of COVID19 and its potential longer term implications and the various actions being taken to bring spending back in line with budget, be noted.**
- 2. That the Financial Monitoring Report be referred to Scrutiny for consideration.**
- 3. That the revised Capital Programme included at Annex 1 of the report now submitted, be approved.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The report is important in informing Cabinet on the financial position and performance of the Council and highlighting key risks and opportunities.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – Not applicable to this monitoring report.

DN.51 TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION - RIVERHEAD SQUARE PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council presenting the final concept design for the Riverhead Square public realm improvement scheme, including the introduction of a space suitable for events, improved facilities for public transport users, a new footbridge over the Riverhead, and new seating and lighting.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the final concept design for the Riverhead Square public realm improvement scheme at appendix 1 of the report now submitted, be approved.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Interim Director of Economy and Growth, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to:**
 - a. undertake the procurement and award of capital activities required to deliver the programme activity;**
 - b. take all actions necessary to secure the continued implementation and ultimate completion of the scheme including detailed design, bridge design, planning applications and all ancillary issues arising;**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer to execute all documentation arising.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - To approve the concept design and ensure that works can commence in a timely manner and adhere to funding requirements.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Do nothing – this would not accord with the regeneration aspirations for Grimsby and would limit opportunities for investment in the public realm. This would also result in the Council having to abandon funding proposals associated with the Towns Fund and return funds to MHCLG, with associated negative reputational consequences.

The final concept design presented in this report has been developed in accordance with the vision contained within the Grimsby Town Centre Masterplan and Town Investment Plan 2020 and updated following feedback from stakeholder and public engagement. Therefore, it is not considered that there are any other realistic options for delivering this project.

DN.52 PLAYING PITCH PROVISION

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Heritage and Culture seeking approval of the proposed investment into Clee Fields and King George V (KGV) Stadium in accordance with the Playing Pitch Strategy.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the recommended Option 3 in the report now submitted (listed as Option 5 in the associated feasibility study), determined by a thorough consultation and feasibility process resulting in the Clee Fields/KGV Stadium investment proposal set out in this report, be approved.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy and Growth and the Director of Resources and Governance in consultation with both the Leader of the Council and the Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Heritage and Culture to ensure that all necessary actions are carried out in order to commence, conduct and complete any appropriate procurement exercises for implementation of the anticipated scheme of works in order to achieve the necessary planning submissions.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer to complete all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined in the points above.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - This decision is the first part in the realisation of necessary playing pitch improvements at hub sites as set out in the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). This decision determines which

investment option Cabinet agree for officers to progress through to a planning submission and delegates the authority to officers to undertake all the necessary technical and detailed work to that stage.

This decision is required due to the interdependencies associated with the Council's Housing delivery programme. Specifically, that the Council must provide assurance (by way of a detailed planning application) to government agencies including Homes England and Sport England regarding the Council's intention to invest in playing pitch provision.

Without this decision and assurance would likely result in objections from these government agencies to any detailed planning application for either the former Western, Lindsey Lower and Matthew Humberstone development sites.

Furthermore, the Council will risk significant reputation damage in respect to the delivery of the Local Plan and Playing Pitch Strategy and the potential loss of £2.1m accelerated housing grant funding that has already been secured from Homes England to support proposed residential developments, and the work already commenced on the former Western site.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Option 1 – Do Nothing.

The Council, in partnership with other stakeholders, have considered the “Do Nothing” option before presenting this proposal for approval. This option limits the Council in achieving its objectives under the Local Plan and PPS.

Option 2 – Other Sites Developed.

The existing number of other sites owned by the Council does not meet the current and expected demand in line with projected Housing growth. This is despite the sites identified by the Council as those for potential Housing developments. There has been no consideration of acquiring additional land for playing pitch provision. However, as part of the PPS Action Plan, all Council sites have been assessed by the project team on a case by case basis in terms of their condition and necessary investment opportunities.

The FA and Football Foundation's Local Football Facilities Plan (as the other major investor/stakeholder) has also concluded that they would prefer to invest in the hub sites proposed in the PPS rather than other sites at this time.

Option 3 – Preferred - Develop the site as proposed.

The scheme outlined represent the best opportunity from a through feasibility exercise of reducing a long list of options to proceed with creating high quality self-sustaining community accessible sporting facilities in the Borough, delivering the Local Plan commitments and the

Playing Pitch Strategy and freeing up other unused sites for Housing development.

DN.53 TRANSITION (EU EXIT)

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council confirming the current position in respect of border control and the proposed staffing measures being put in place to ensure we can manage the anticipated impact of the EU exit.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the report and request for a further update early in 2021, be noted.**
- 2. That the adoption of the course of action identified as the “preferred option” as set out in Section 5 of Appendix 1 (Closed) of the report now submitted, be approved.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy and Growth in consultation with the Director of Resources and Governance to implement the proposed staffing changes to enable the Council to meet its statutory responsibilities in respect of import and export controls.**
- 4. That authority be delegated to the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer to execute and complete all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The costs of the changes to the Council's staffing establishment exceed the key decision threshold.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – A full range of options were considered, as set out in Appendix 1 (Full Business Case) of the report now submitted.

DN.54 URGENT BUSINESS – FREE SCHOOL MEALS OCTOBER 2020

Cabinet considered an item of urgent business from the Portfolio Holder of Children, Education and Young People outlining the Council's pledge in respect of providing support to those vulnerable young people and families who have a current entitlement to Free School Meals (FSM), over the October half term period.

This item was considered under the Special Urgency requirements as set out in the Council's Constitution, and with the agreement of the

Chair of the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel. It is therefore not subject to the call-in procedure. This matter was considered urgent due to the tight time constraints and in order to collectively support our most vulnerable families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the pledge to families which will provide all young people who have a current entitlement to Free School Meals, with financial support of a one-off financial commitment of £10.00 each over the October half term period, be supported.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Director of Children and Family Services, in consultation with the Director of Resources and Governance, to ensure that the Council's commitment to our most vulnerable young people is progressed.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Director for Children and Family Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People and the Director of Resources and Governance to explore and implement any further support packages throughout the current academic year.**

REASONS FOR DECISION –

- 1) We are in unprecedented times and so many families have been impacted by COVID-19. As a Local Authority we are seeking to collectively support our most vulnerable families, the recommendations in this report offer that support.
- 2) In the current climate, more families have fallen below the threshold which enables them to claim FSM. This is evident in the current School Census return, which shows an increase in cases of FSM, and subsequently the potential for hardship.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – No other options were identified.

DN. 55 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That the press and public be requested to leave on the grounds that discussion of the following business was likely to disclose exempt information within paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

DN.56 PLAYING PITCH PROVISION

Cabinet considered an appendix to the report from the Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Heritage and Culture referred to at DN.52 above.

RESOLVED – That appendix to the report, pursuant to the decision at DN.52 above, be noted.

REASONS FOR DECISION – As per DN.52

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – As per DN.52

DN.57 TRANSITION (EU EXIT)

Cabinet considered an appendix to the report from the Leader of the Council referred to at DN.53 above.

RESOLVED – That appendix to the report, pursuant to the decision at DN.53 above, be noted.

REASONS FOR DECISION – As per DN.53

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – As per DN.53