

## **EXECUTIVE**

**5 MARCH 2019**

Present:

Councillors Christophers (Leader), Clemens (Deputy Leader), Bullivant, Barker, Golder, Goodey, Lake and Russell

Members in Attendance:

Councillors Clarence, Dennis, Haines, G Hook and Wrigley

Officers in Attendance:

Phil Shears, Managing Director

Amanda Pujol, Interim Head of Service Delivery and Improvement

Donna Best, Estates & Development Manager

Estelle Skinner, Green Infrastructure Officer,

James Toler, Housing Strategy Officer

Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Manager (Exeter City Council)

Roger North, Senior Engineer, Engineering Design Group, Devon County Council

### **13. MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting on 7 February 2019 were confirmed and approved and signed as correct record.

### **14. MATTERS OF URGENCY/MATTERS OF REPORT BROUGHT FORWARD WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The Leader reminded Members of the need to ensure that they read all the Committee reports prior to attending meetings and conducted themselves in a respectful manner.

### **15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **16. TO NOTE ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS AS SET OUT IN PART III OF THE AGENDA (IF ANY)**

**RESOLVED** that the delegated decisions be noted.

**17. TENANCY STRATEGY - REVIEW**

The Housing Strategy Officer presented the report to secure Members' endorsement of Teignbridge Council's Tenancy Strategy. Members were advised that under Section 150 of the Localism Act 2011 Councils have a duty to prepare and publish a tenancy strategy.

The Portfolio Holder for Planning & Housing proposed the recommendation, this was seconded by the Leader.

**RESOLVED** the Teignbridge District Council's Tenancy Strategy be approved.

**18. RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR ENGLAND - LOCAL ACTION 2015-2020**

The Portfolio Holder for Economy Skills & Tourism presented the report to update Members on the Council's involvement in two parallel economic development schemes - the South Devon Coastal Local Action Group and the Greater Dartmoor Local Economic Action Fund (SDC LAG and GD LEAF). The Council had contributed £16,400 per annum (2015-20) towards the schemes which had offered European derived funding for small and medium companies to invest, expand and create new employment within the District. The report was for noting.

The Portfolio Holder for Economy Skills & Tourism proposed the recommendation, this was seconded by the Leader.

**RESOLVED** that the progress of the South Devon Coastal Local Action Group and the Greater Dartmoor Local Economic Action Fund 2015-2020 be noted.

**19. MOVING FORWARD WITH THE TEIGN ESTUARY TRAIL**

The Green Infrastructure Officer presented the report on the proposals to agree a contribution to Devon County Council towards the costs of preparing a planning application for the section of Teign Estuary Trail between Passage House, Kingsteignton and Teignmouth urban edge. This would be funded through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts.

Members welcomed this cycle route, in partnership with Devon County Council, which would not only be a tourist trail but also a safe commuter trail from Teignmouth to Newton Abbot. They acknowledged that this had been a challenging route to deliver and acknowledged Roger North for his efforts.

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing proposed the recommendation, this was seconded by the Portfolio Holder for Health & Wellbeing.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- 1) funding of a £200,000 contribution towards the preparation of a planning application for the Teign Estuary trail be approved; and
- 2) the Business Manager Strategic Place and the Solicitor to the Council be given delegated authority to complete an associated funding agreement with Devon County Council.

**20. BRUNSWICK STREET, TEIGNMOUTH**

The Portfolio Holder for Economy & Tourism presented the report to update Members on the Brunswick Street project and to seek the approvals required to further the scheme. He advised that the regeneration of the area would provide a much needed hotel and the possibility of a health and well-being centre for Teignmouth.

The Portfolio Holder for Economy & Tourism proposed recommendations 1 and 2 as per the circulated report with amendments to recommendation 3 and an additional recommendation as follows:-

- 3) The Council's freehold interest in 1 Northumberland Place is marketed for sale and the capital receipt invested into the Brunswick Street project; and
- 4) That Teignmouth Arts Advisory Group (TAAG) are offered first refusal to purchase 4/5 Northumberland Place, at an open market purchase price, subject to completion within six months and, that the capital receipt be reinvested into the Brunswick Street project.

This was seconded by the Portfolio Holder for Health & Wellbeing.

Members welcomed the opportunity being given to TAAG to purchase 4/5 Northumberland Place.

The Leader commented that this project would regenerate the site by facilitating a hotel in Teignmouth, give TAAG the opportunity to realise their ambition of purchasing 4/5 Northumberland Place and the potential, subject to consultation by the NHS, for a new town centre medical centre.

**RESOLVED** that the following be approved:-

- 1) £85,000 be committed to acquire specialist work required to prepare the business case to advance the hotel scheme;
- 2) Subject to planning permission, demolish derelict buildings at Brunswick Street and clear the site in preparation for development on an estimated contract value of £130,000;
- 3) The Council's freehold interest in 1 Northumberland Place is marketed for sale and the capital receipt invested into the Brunswick Street project; and

- 4) That Teignmouth Arts Advisory Group (TAAG) are offered first refusal to purchase 4/5 Northumberland Place, at an open market purchase price, subject to completion within six months and, that the capital receipt be reinvested into the Brunswick Street project.

## **21. SUPPORTING THE FORMATION OF SOUTH WEST MUTUAL**

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services presented the report to agree support for the formation of the South West Mutual Bank and provide funding to take the proposal to next stage of the process. He commented that with banks closing branches there was a need for provision for residents who did not have bank accounts or access to internet banking. The bank would also support small businesses in the district.

The Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services proposed the recommendation, this was seconded by the Leader.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- 1) The grant £49,995 funded from capital receipts to support the formation of South West Mutual Bank be approved; and
- 2) That the Chief Finance Officer be delegated responsibility to conclude the acquisition of 3,333 shares in South West Mutual.

## **22. COUNCILLORS COMMUNITY FUND**

The Portfolio Holder for Community Neighbourhoods presented the report on changes to the Councillors Community Fund in the new financial year. A survey had been undertaken of Councillors and 23 responses received. Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments of 4 March 2019 were noted in particular the reference to the streamlining of the application process and the involvement of the Councillors at the first stage of the application.

The Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee stated that further work was required on the streamlining process and that the Committee had agreed that Councillors should be involved at the outset of any application received.

The Portfolio Holder for Community Neighbourhoods proposed the recommendation from Overview and Scrutiny Committee as circulated, this was seconded by the Portfolio Holder for Recreation & Leisure.

**RESOLVED** that the following amendments to the Councillor Community fund Scheme be approved:-

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- 1) That carry forward of funds into the next financial year in Election years cease with immediate effect;
- 2) That any underspend on grants within the current financial year 2018-2019 could be allocated to the Crowdfunding initiative; this would allow community groups to access any residual funds;
- 3) Fund administration: a more streamlined method of submitting requests be sought. For example, an application could be submitted automatically to the grant co-ordinator, with a copy to the ward councillor, who could then sanction the application by email. This will reduce paperwork and speed up response; and
- 4) An up to date spreadsheet of allowances remaining be available on the website.

### **23. CONSTITUTION REVIEW**

The Leader stated that it was important that Group Leaders nominate Members to undertake this important piece of work to review the constitution which would govern the way forward for the Council and support the standards and behaviour of Councillors.

The Leader proposed the recommendation, this was seconded by the Portfolio Holder for Community Neighbourhoods.

**RESOLVED** that a Constitution Working Group (as outlined in the report) be established.

### **24. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN**

The Portfolio Holder for Economy Skills & Tourism clarified that a report on a policy for Electric Vehicles would be add to Executive 2 July 2019.

**RESOLVED** that the Forward Plan be noted.

Chairman