

CABINET

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 23 February 2021 at the remotely via Zoom at 4.00 pm

Committee

Members Present:

Mrs A Fitch-Tillett
Mr G Hayman
Mr N Lloyd
Mr J Toye

Ms V Gay
Mr R Kershaw
Mr E Seward

Members also attending:

Officers in Attendance:

Chief Executive, Democratic Services Manager, Head of Finance and Asset Management/Section 151 Officer, Democratic Services and Governance Officer (Scrutiny) and Cara Jordan

Also in attendance:

Press and Public

34 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr S Butikofer and Cllr L Shires.

35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

36 PROPERTY ACQUISITION LAND AT NORTH WALSHAM

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth and Sustainability, Cllr R Kershaw, introduced this item. He explained that an opportunity had arisen to acquire land at a key gateway to North Walsham town centre, which would support the North Walsham Heritage Action Zone place-making scheme.

He said that purchase of the land would improve access to the town centre via the adjacent loke. The Council already owned the adjacent site (Bank Loke car park) and this purchase would offer scope for improvement that could enhance the locality and services provided by the Council.

Cllr V Gay said that she was fully supportive of the proposals. One of the key objectives of the HAZ project was to improve the entry ways into the market place and this entrance was currently unattractive and could be improved considerably. She seconded the proposal.

Cllr A Fitch- Tillett said that she supported the proposals but sought reassurance that there would be an opportunity for the Council to get some funds back if possible.

Cllr R Kershaw replied that this proposal was to just for to purchase the land for the Heritage Action Zone scheme and any other proposals would have to come back to Cabinet for consideration.

It was proposed by Cllr R Kershaw, seconded by Cllr V Gay and

RESOLVED

To acquire the land, and instruct the Director for Resources to do so at his discretion, in consultation with the NWHS AZ Working Party, subject to all reasonable due diligence and legal advice.

Reasons for the decision:

To augment the High Street HAZ place making project in North Walsham

37 USE OF S106 COMMUTED SUMS TO SUPPORT DELIVERY OF AFFORDABLE HOMES IN NORTH NORFOLK

The Portfolio Holder for Housing & Benefits, Cllr G Hayman, introduced this item. He said that this was an exciting proposal to allocate £900k of existing Section 106 commuted sums for the provision of enabling grants to registered providers to deliver new affordable homes in North Norfolk. It was anticipated that the funding would help deliver five housing schemes providing approximately 181 affordable homes. He explained that the Section 106 monies held could only be used to fund the delivery of affordable homes. He concluded by saying that the proposals helped deliver the Corporate Plan objective 'Local Homes for Local Need'.

The Housing Strategy & Delivery Manager drew members' attention to the potential 'Extra Care' housing scheme in North Walsham. Almost £690k of the s106 receipts had been generated by a recent development in North Walsham and by supporting the extra care scheme, the housing would not only be delivered near to the site which had generated the funds but would also support the Corporate Plan objective to support the delivery of 500 units of 'Housing with care' units.

The Chairman said that he welcomed the proposals. He added that there were some outstanding planning issues regarding some of the proposals and it was important to ensure that these were addressed before the projects progressed too much further.

Cllr R Kershaw said that he supported the proposals. As local member for Warham, he said that the scheme was welcomed by residents of the village.

It was proposed by Cllr G Hayman, seconded by Cllr J Toye and

RESOLVED to

Allocate £900k of the existing s106 monies held to support Registered Provider deliver new affordable housing schemes. Provision to be made in the capital programme for five specific housing schemes within the S106 Enabling Budget with £450k allocated in 2021/22, £275k in 2022/23 and £175k in 2023/24.

Reasons for the decision:

To provide authority for expenditure over £100,000 (key decision threshold)

38 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

39 PRIVATE BUSINESS

The meeting ended at 16.16pm.

Chairman