



GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

Minutes

Monday, 05 June 2023 at 14:00

PRESENT:-

Councillor Smith (Leader & Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Major Projects) (in the Chair), Councillors Bensly (Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Culture & Coastal), Candon (Portfolio Holder for Economic Development & Growth), Flaxman-Taylor (Portfolio Holder for Housing, Health & Communities), Plant (Deputy Leader & Portfolio Holder for Operational Property and Asset Management) & Wells (Portfolio Holder for Environment & Sustainability, Waste and Licensing).

Councillor Wainwright & Williamson attended as observers.

Ms S Oxtoby (Chief Executive Officer), Ms C Whatling (Monitoring Officer), Ms K Sly (Executive Director-Resources), Mrs P Boyce (Executive Director-People), Iain Robertson (Executive Director - Major Projects), Chris Furlong (Executive Director-Housing Assets), Mr J Wedon (Information Governance Lead & Data Protection Officer), Mrs S Wintle (Corporate Services Manager) & Mrs C Webb (Democratic Services Officer).

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence given at the meeting.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Wells declared a personal interest in Item 5, as he was the Council's representative on the Climate Change Partnership Board.

Councillor Flaxman-Taylor & Chris Furlong, Executive Director-Housing Assets declared a pecuniary interest in Item 8, as they were Board Members of GYN and would leave the meeting during the determination of this item and would therefore not speak or vote on the item.

3 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman reported that there were no items of urgent business.

4 2022-23 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN END OF YEAR UPDATE REPORT

The Leader reported that the Council's 2022/23 Annual Action Plan was approved by Policy & Resources Committee on 22nd March 2022, this plan detailed the individual activities that would be progressed through the year which would combine to achieve the Council's strategic vision and priorities.

The approved plan was highly ambitious with seventy-six individual actions aligned to the Council's four strategic priorities.

Appendix 1 provided a final update on each of the actions detailed within the Council's 2022/23 Annual Action Plan:-

55 of the actions 2022/23 actions were completed,

19 of the planned 2022/23 action were completed, with further/ follow on work is scheduled in 2023/24 Annual Action Plan; and

2 were not completed within the year.

Councillor Plant thanked officers for all their hard work in respect of the Annual Action Plan.

Councillor Wainwright requested an update on the construction of the beach huts, toilets and associated hardstanding situated on Great Yarmouth seafront. The Executive Director - Major Projects informed Cabinet that all infrastructure works had been completed and it was just the beach huts which had not been delivered. The delay had been caused by difficulties encountered by the contractor when applying to HMRC to become VAT registered.

Councillor Wainwright raised the issue of illegal planting in front of the planters situated along Marine Parade, Gorleston. Councillors Flaxman-Taylor & Wells were also aware of this issue. Councillor Wells had requested that a meeting of the Gorleston Seafront Masterplan Working Group be set up to discuss this issue and find a resolution.

Councillor Plant reported that with his County Councillor hat on, that he had not received any complaints, however, he was meeting with Paul Sellick from NCC next week, and would take him to the area in question to investigate. In the meantime, any enforcement action required should be reported to Miranda Lee, Head of Customer Services.

RESOLVED:-

That Cabinet review and approve the report.

5 INNOVATE UK FUNDING AWARD NET ZERO LIVING

Councillor Wells reported that the Council (GYBC) was one of 13 constituent public sector organisations in Norfolk making-up the Norfolk Climate Change Partnership (NCCP). On behalf of the NCCP, GYBC applied and has been successful in securing £300,000 for a 2-year Net Zero project for Norfolk from the Government's sponsored 'Net Zero Living' programme managed by Innovate UK, the UK's national innovation agency.

Innovate UK's 'Net Zero Living – Fast Followers Programme' was a £6 million fund for local authorities aimed at building skills and capabilities to accelerate local progress towards Net Zero.

This report sought approval to be the Accountable Body for this 2-year funded project working with NCCP partners, sharing learning across Norfolk and with other Fast Followers 'Places' nationally.

Councillor Wells personally thanked Paula Boyce Executive Director-People for her hard work, passion and dedication to secure this funding which was also an excellent example of partnership working at its best.

RESOLVED:-

That Cabinet:-

(a) Agree the grant offer of £300,000 and in doing so, agree that Great Yarmouth Borough Council becomes the Accountable Body for 'Net Zero Living – Fast Followers Programme' on behalf of the Norfolk Climate Change Partnership; and

(b) Delegates authority to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Sustainability working with the Executive Director – People, to agree the location of the pilot Net Zero Community in the borough of Great Yarmouth working as part of the Norfolk Climate Change Partnership.

6 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present at the meeting to warrant the exclusion of the public clause to be enacted.