



GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council

Date: Tuesday, 28 September 2021

Time: 19:00

Venue: Assembly Room

Address: Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

You have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in a matter to be discussed if it relates to something on your Register of Interests form. You must declare the interest and leave the room while the matter is dealt with.

You have a Personal Interest in a matter to be discussed if it affects

- your well being or financial position
- that of your family or close friends
- that of a club or society in which you have a management role
- that of another public body of which you are a member to a greater extent than others in your ward.

You must declare a personal interest but can speak and vote on the matter.

Whenever you declare an interest you must say why the interest arises, so that it can be included in the minutes.

- 3 **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22**
- 4 **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22**
- 5 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAPLAIN FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22**
- 6 **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- To consider any announcements.
- 7 **ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**
- To consider any items of urgent business.
- 8 **MINUTES** **7 - 20**
- To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 22 July 2021.
- 9 **LIST OF COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2021-22** **21 - 23**
- Council are asked to consider the revised list of Committee Memberships for 2021-22.
- 10 **APPOINTMENT TO WORKING GROUPS** **24 - 26**
- Council are asked to consider the revised Appointments to Working Groups for 2021-22.
- 11 **OUTSIDE BODY REPRESENTATION 2021-22** **27 - 30**
- Council are asked to consider the revised Outside Body representation for 2021-22.

12 CLIMATE CHANGE - OUTSIDE BODY NOMINATION 31 - 32

Council are asked to consider the attached Outside Body Nomination.

13 SERVICE COMMITTEE DECISION LIST FOR THE PERIOD 2 33 - 41
JUNE 2021 TO 27 JULY 2021

Report attached.

14 ROUGH SLEEPING ACCOMODATION PROGRAMME BID - 42 - 47
HOUSING FIRST SCHEME

Report attached.

15 NOTICE OF MOTION

To note that the following notices of motion have been submitted:-

(a) Motion submitted by Councillors Plant, Candon, Flaxman-Taylor, Mogford, Hammond and Wells

Motion: Offshore Wind Benefits to Great Yarmouth and Norfolk

The Council recognises the multiple benefits that offshore wind power, off the Norfolk coast, presents:

- A sustainable and renewable energy source which will assist in meeting the Government's target of delivering 40 gigawatts of offshore wind power by 2030.
- A major contribution to our shared ambition to tackle climate change.
- Significant employment and skills opportunities, especially in areas like Great Yarmouth. Norfolk has the potential to benefit more than any other area in England from growth in offshore wind, that will require a diverse mix of skills, with an additional **6,150 full-time well-paid jobs** forecast to be created by 2032 (New Anglia Energy Recovery and Resilience Plan).

The Council also:

- Recognises the need for some of these projects to make landfall and grid connection in various parts of the county, involving cable routes and new sub-stations.
- Acknowledges the disruption that this may cause to local communities in the short term and therefore supports the need

for a coordinated and integrated approach to connecting the electricity generated from offshore wind farms to the grid.

- Recognises the need for further detailed work to be carried out by National Grid on the implications of the various options, including the:
- Wider onshore environmental implications of any new transmission network
- Economic opportunities for those coastal areas and communities affected
- Opportunities for local communities to be appropriately compensated for any impacts caused by the need for either onshore or offshore infrastructure.
- Would support any offshore transmission infrastructure which reduces the environmental and community impacts that the current approach (radial, point to point) has on the county, subject to there being no anticipated long term impact on the marine environment off the Norfolk Coast.
- Reiterates its ongoing ambition to make Great Yarmouth the energy capital of the Eastern Region.

The Council resolves to continue to work closely with:

- The Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), National Grid; the Office for Gas and Electricity Markets (OFGEM), New Anglia LEP, local councils and energy companies to progress the work needed to secure the long term environmental and economic benefits of offshore wind, whilst minimising its impact on local communities as far as possible.
- BEIS on the Government Offshore Transmission Network Review.
- Major companies, their supply chains and local colleges to develop employment and skills strategies to ensure that the high quality jobs set to be created in the sector over the next 50 years, are accessible to, and promoted to, Norfolk residents.

(b) Motion submitted by Councillors Wainwright, Bernard Williamson, Tony Wright, Colleen Walker, Brian Walker.

That this Council writes to The Rt Hon Therese Coffey MP Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, and The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP Chancellor of the Exchequer to reverse the proposed cut to Universal Credit of £20 per week, £1040 PA.

This cut is being called the biggest overnight Social Security cut since World War 2. Doctors, charities and even some Conservative MPs are calling on the Government to reverse its decision.

The Trussell Trust estimates that nearly a quarter of a million

parents on Universal Credit fear not being able to sufficiently put Dinner on the table for their children when the £20 cut comes into force from October. Many of these parents in Great Yarmouth.

In Great Yarmouth 18.4% of the population was income-deprived in 2019. Of the 316 local authorities in England, Great Yarmouth is ranked 32nd most income-deprived.

Of the 61 Neighbourhoods in Great Yarmouth 21 were amongst the 20% most deprived in England.

In June 2021 there were 14076 people claiming Universal Credit in Great Yarmouth, many of these people in work, and 5511 Children living in poverty.

This cut is creating nervousness, and many residents fear and worry about what is going to happen, and how can they manage when I have £20 less per week, how am I going to put food on the table? How am I going to heat my home in the winter?

I am sure that £20 per week is not a lot of money for some people, but for others it is a matter of survival, and I urge all Members to support this Resolution.

16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider any other business as may be determined by the Chairman of the meeting as being of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

17 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

In the event of the Committee wishing to exclude the public from the meeting, the following resolution will be moved:-

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act."

18 CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX - ROUGH SLEEPING

ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME BID - HOUSING FIRST SCHEME

Details

19 CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE COMMITTEE DECISION LIST FOR THE PERIOD 2 JUNE 2021 TO 27 JULY 2021

Details



Council

Minutes

Thursday, 22 July 2021 at 19:00

PRESENT:-

Mr Deputy Mayor, Councillor Thompson, (in the Chair); Councillors Annison, Bensly, Bird, Cameron, Candon, G Carpenter, P Carpenter, Fairhead, Flaxman-Taylor, Freeman, Galer, Grant, Hanton, D Hammond, P Hammond, Jeal, Lawn, Martin, Mogford, Plant, Price, Robinson-Payne, Smith, Stenhouse, Wainwright, B Walker, C Walker, Wells, A Wright & B Wright.

Ms S Oxtoby (Chief Executive Officer), Ms K Sly (Finance Director), Ms C Whatling (Monitoring Officer), Mrs P Boyce (Strategic Director), Ms K Watts (Strategic Director), Mrs M Burdett (Head of Inward Investment) & Mrs S Wintle (Corporate Services Manager).

LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Leader of the Council asked Council to stand for a minute's silence in memory of the late Shirley Weymouth who was a Councillor between 2000 & 2018 and Mayor of Great Yarmouth for the 2015/16 Municipal Year.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor Sue Hacon and Councillors Cordiner-Achenbach, Borg, Myers, Smith-Clare, Talbot, Waters-Bunn & Williamson.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Fairhead, Freeman & Wells declared a personal interest in item 12, Governance of Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust (GYPT) & Norfolk Conservation Ltd as they were members of the GYPT Board. Councillors Freeman & Wells declared that they would leave the meeting for the determination of the item and would not speak or vote on the item.

Councillor Hanton declared a personal interest in any items relating to treasury matters on the agenda as he was Chairman of Community Safety Great Yarmouth Ltd.

3 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Mr Deputy Mayor, Councillor Thompson, announced that the Civic Service would take place on Sunday, 15 August 2021 at 15:00 at Great Yarmouth Minster.

(ii) The Leader of the Council reported that Covid19 cases were on the rise in the Borough and that mobile testing units had been deployed to Gorleston, Hemsby & Ormesby. In consultation with Public Health England, pop-up tents offering lateral flow tests would be sited at the Bowls Green on Gorleston Promenade and Mill Lane Playing Field, Bradwell at the weekend.

The Leader stressed that all residents should follow the Government guidelines and self-isolate when required. Unfortunately, Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor Sue Hacon, who was self-isolating as a close family member had tested positive for Covid19, had not followed the guidance and had acted irresponsibly by going shopping and had therefore been suspended from the Conservative Group pending an investigation.

4 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

Mr Deputy Mayor, Councillor Thompson, reported that there were no items of urgent business which required discussion.

5 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021 were confirmed.

CARRIED.

(i) Councillor Wainwright reported that he had not been allowed to speak on the item regarding the Election of the Deputy Mayor 2021-22 which went against the Council's Constitution, as two motions were put to Council, one from Councillor Smith and one from himself, but only one motion was voted upon.

The Leader of the Council asked for a point of order as the minutes were only required to be considered for accuracy and not to be debated.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting was for the purpose of accuracy only and should not re-open debate. The nomination of Mayor and Deputy Mayor was considered to be part of the general business to be considered at Annual Council and was covered under Article 31 of the Council's Constitution.

(ii) Councillor Price asked that in regard to item 16, that his surname be amended from Peck to Price.

6 SERVICE COMMITTEE DECISION LIST FOR THE PERIOD 1 MARCH TO 1 JUNE 2021

That the Service Committee Decision List for the period 1 March to 1 June 2021 be approved.

PROPOSER: Councillor Smith
SECONDER: Councillor Plant

CARRIED.

7 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT OUTTURN 2020-21

Council received and considered the report from the HRA Service Accountant.

The Chairman of Housing & Neighbourhoods, Councillor Grant, reported that the Housing Revenue Accounts annual outturn was a deficit of £1.001m, against a budget deficit of £1.446m, resulting in a variance of £445k. The impact of the 2020/21 deficit, meant that the HRA would carry forward £8.558m of reserves into 2021/22.

Councillor Grant reported that the reduced Right to Buy sale completions in 2020/21, together with increased acquisitions and new build dwelling additions being added, meant the overall stock available for let had increased in year to 5,787 dwellings. Due to the impact of Covid19 restrictions on capital improvement works, budget totalling £1,267k was requested to be carried forward to support the 2021/22 programmes.

PROPOSER: Councillor Grant

SECONDER: Councillor D Hammond

That Council approve:-

(i) the outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account for 2020/21 as included in the report and appendices,

(ii) the updated 2021/22 HRA revenue and expenditure budget as detailed at Appendix C; and

(iii) the updated 2021/22 HRA capital programme and associated financing of the as detailed within the report and at Appendix D.

CARRIED.

8 2020-21 TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT

Council received and considered the report from the Finance Director.

The Leader of the Council presented the treasury management activity for the 2020/21 financial year which included:-

(i) The overall treasury position for 2020/21,

(ii) The borrowing requirement and debt for 2020/21; and

(iii) The borrowing outturn for 2020/21.

The Leader of the Council reported that the treasury management strategy for 2020/21 was approved at by Full Council in February 2020 and this report provided the final treasury activity for the 20/21 financial year and

performance against the indicators set within the treasury management strategy.

The Leader of the Council reported that as at 31 March 2021, the Authority had net borrowing of £100m, arising from its revenue and capital income and expenditure. This was made up of firstly £134m of loans, which was an increase of £15m from 31 March 2020, largely due to capital spend. Secondly, investments stood at £34m at the end of 2021 up from £22m from the previous financial year due to the timing of cash received.

The Leader of the Council reported that in line with expectations, significantly lower income was generated from cash and short-dated money market investments, including money market funds in 2020/21, as rates on cash investments are close to zero percent. The investment limit was exceeded within the first month of 2020/21 for the Barclays FIBCA account where the maximum limit of £1.5m was breached as £2.6m was invested, and for the Money Market Fund which had a maximum limit of £12m which was breached at one point when £19m was invested. In both cases, this was due to the unexpected higher retained cash balances due to the timing of receipt of grant monies ahead of paying out, as a result of Covid19. When the strategy was set, such balances could not have been anticipated. The balances were put in these funds to generate a better return on the investments in line with our strategic goals of security, liquidity and return. This was because whilst the Debt Management Office investments level was unlimited, the interest rates were so poor during the year, that at times, they were at a negative interest rate. Therefore the decision was taken to breach the limits and hold these funds in the Money Market Fund & the FIBCA account to generate a better return on the investments in line with our strategic goals of security, liquidity and return.

The Leader of the Council further reported that the impact of a 1% rise in interest rates limit was also breached, as the limit was set based on a lower investment balance and higher loan balances based on the anticipated levels when the Treasury Management Strategy was written. The Council's investment balances have increased by 25% and loan balances have decreased by 33% again due to Government funding received to assist with the pressures relating to the pandemic.

PROPOSER: Councillor Smith
SECONDER: Councillor Plant.

That the Council approve the Treasury Management Outturn Report and Indicators for 2020/21.

9 GENERAL FUND OUTTURN 2020-21

Council received and considered the report from the Finance Director.

The Leader of the Council presented the general fund year end budget monitoring position for the 2020/21 financial year. The outturn position, as reported, would be used to produce the draft statutory accounts that would be subject to external audit later in the year.

The Leader of the Council reported that in respect of the revenue outturn position, there was a reported surplus of £497,250 which the report was recommending be allocated to the Treasury Management Reserve, Insurance Reserve and Special Projects Reserve. The outturn on the capital programme, together with its financing and an updated programme for 2021/22 which reflected the carry forward of capital projects not completed in 2020/21, plus the additions to the capital programme of the Beach Huts, Wellesley Recreation Ground, Crematorium Roof and Marina Centre, as detailed at section 5 of the report. Appendix E had been amended and was included as a separate attachment, reflecting the total programme for 2021/22.

The Leader of the Council reported that the outturn position reflected the impact of Covid19 on the revenue position for the year. Government funding of £3.5m had been received in the year for the emergency support and new burdens, mainly in relation to the administration of the many grant schemes, and also the sales, fees and charges funding which had covered 75% of the reduced income, compared to the budget. Reduced income not covered by the fees and charges scheme had been mitigated by the general tranche funding.

The Leader of the Council reported that the detail within the report and appendices provided commentary on the more significant variances compared to the budget. Most significant variances included an addition to the bad debt provision in the year which had been reviewed to reflect the impact of the last 12 months and debt recovery, reduced income from demand led services for example, car parking income and also more favourable variances from reduced interest payable and additional turnover in the year. The outturn position allowed for the roll forward of some unspent service budgets which had been earmarked for ongoing commitments in 2021/22.

PROPOSER: Councillor Smith

SECONDER: Councillor Plant

That Council agree:-

(i) the outturn position for the general fund for 2020/21 as included in the report and appendices;

(ii) the transfers to and from reserves as detailed within the report and Appendix A together with an updated reserves statement (Appendix C);

(iii) transfer the surplus to the earmarked reserves as detailed within the report;

(iv) the financing of the 2020/21 capital programme as detailed within the report and appendices; and

(v) the updated capital programme for 2021/22 as included in the report (section 5) and Appendix E.

CARRIED.

10 TOWN DEAL HEADS OF TERMS, PRIORITISATION EXERCISE AND MONITORING & EVALUATION UPDATE

Council received and considered the report from the Chief Executive Officer.

The Leader of the Council reported that at the Town Deal Board on the 16 March 2021, the Heads of Terms, (HoT), for a Town Deal of up to £20.1 million to deliver ten Immediate Investment Priorities set out in the Town Investment Plan was agreed. The HoT offered for a Town Deal of up to £20,100,000 against an original ask of £24,780,390. This report confirmed the Board prioritised interventions that were made in line with the value of the funding award and provided an update regarding the subsequent monitoring & evaluation, (M&E), that has taken place.

Councillor Plant referred to pages 79 and 80 of the agenda report which detailed the extensive regeneration works underway in the Borough and reported that he was most grateful to all the officers who had worked tirelessly to secure funding of £280 million to ensure that our town was a good place to live, work and raise a family coming out of the pandemic.

Councillor Wainwright asked that thanks were recorded in the minutes for the work of the Town Deal Board members and officers alike.

PROPOSER: Councillor Smith
SECONDER: Councillor Plant.

That Council:-

(i) acknowledge MHCLG receipt of the said agreed interventions;

(ii) note that the subsequent Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) submission for addressing key conditions by 24 May 2021 have been addressed, including financial information;

(iii) acknowledge that preparatory work on the delivery of Stage 2 Business case is underway; and

(iv) note the M&E reporting schedule for the Town Deal as per agreed Heads of Terms.

CARRIED.

11 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL - REVIEW OF MEMBERS' SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES

Council received and considered the report from the Corporate Services Manager.

The Leader of the Council reported that the purpose of this report was to inform Members of the need to convene the Independent Remuneration Panel to undertake a full review of the Great Yarmouth Borough Council Members' Scheme of Allowances, including all Special Responsibility allowances in accordance with the requirements of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 2003. Great Yarmouth Borough Council Members' Scheme of Allowances had become due for review in 2020, however due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the review on the allowances was put on hold. Some preliminary work was undertaken in March 2021 which allowed the Panel to understand the changes that had occurred in the way Members were undertaking their roles during the pandemic.

PROPOSER: Councillor Smith

SECONDER: Councillor Wainwright

That Council approve:-

- (i) the commencement of a full review of the Members' scheme of allowances;
- (ii) note the statutory Terms of Reference for the Independent Remuneration Panel;
- (iii) agree that the Independent Remuneration Panel report its review for consideration by Council at its meeting in November 2021;
- (iv) agree to the Independent Remuneration Panel Members receiving payment of £100 per meeting; and
- (v) delegate to the Chief Executive Officer, Monitoring Officer and Corporate Services Manager following discussion with Group Leaders the appointment of the individual Members to the Independent Remuneration Panel.

CARRIED.

12 GOVERNANCE OF GREAT YARMOUTH PRESERVATION TRUST AND NORFOLK CONSERVATION LIMITED - THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (COMPANIES) ORDER 1995

Councillors Freeman & Wells hereby left the meeting during the determination of this item.

The Monitoring Officer gave a point of correction in regard to paragraph 2.6, the job title should read Project Director and not Project Manager. The Monitoring Officer reported an update from the Chairman of the Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust (GYPT) regarding paragraph 3, Norfolk Conservation Ltd, that Darren Barker had stepped down as a Director but this had not yet been recorded at Companies House.

The Leader of the Council reported that a review of governance had identified an issue with appointments to GYPT which needed to be rectified. The unusual concept around the appointment of members from which directors were then selected, did not seem ever to have been observed. This meant that GYPT had long been non-compliant with its own rules. It was not openly understood or acknowledged that GYPT had become (with a change in legislation) a local authority regulated company. The creation of Norfolk Conservation Ltd did not appear to have been led by the Council and the company had accordingly, not been acknowledged as a local authority controlled company. These issues could now be addressed, and the recommendations of this report seek to regularise the position with regard to appointments, allowing GYPT to move forward with the modernisation of its Articles. The steps necessary to make the changes to the appointments and articles were set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

Councillor Wainwright reported that it was a complex report and it would have been helpful to Members if a briefing had been arranged on this item. Councillor Wainwright reported that GYPT was a highly respected organisation and had operated well over the years under the chairmanship of Barry Coleman and Bernard Williamson. However, as he was not an expert in such governance matters, he would abstain from voting.

Councillor Wainwright asked what would happen if the changes to the Articles were made and then not agreed by GYPT members at the meeting in September and whether making Kate Blakemore a Director, would be a conflict of interest in her two roles representing both the Council and the Trust.

The Chief Executive Officer clarified the reason behind the report coming to Council for approval.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the new articles had been put forward by GYPT as a result of work undertaken by an independent consultant, Julian Lomas, and that Kate Blakemore had taken advice in regard to the trusteeship and was aware that her first duty was to protect the interests of GYPT.

Councillor Wainwright asked for further clarification as to what would happen if GYPT did not agree to accept the new Articles and how Norfolk Conservation Ltd fitted in to the matter.

The Leader of the Council reported that Norfolk Conservation Ltd had been formed in 2014 when Councillor Wainwright had been Leader of the Council.

The Monitoring Officer reported that it was the Trust's decision to change its Articles on the advice of Julian Lomas and if the changes were not agreed, then a further report would be brought to Council. The formation of Norfolk Conservation Ltd had been authorised by the CEO at the time and Section 151 Officer and had not been reported to Council. She suggested that Councillor Wainwright should speak to Councillor Williamson, who was a Director of Norfolk Conservation Ltd, in regard to this matter.

PROPOSER: Councillor Smith

SECONDER: Councillor Plant

That Council:-

(i) appoint the existing appointed directors of Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust (GYPT) (Councillors Williamson, Fairhead, Freeman, Hacon and Wells) as “members” of GYPT (note that they will remain directors);

(ii) approve the new form of Articles of Association then to be adopted by GYPT, set out at Appendix 3;

(iii) appoint Iain Robertson, the Council’s Major Projects & Development Director, and Sheila Oxtoby, the Chief Executive, as additional members of GYPT until such time as the new Articles of Association are formally adopted;

(iv) and appoint Kate Blakemore, the Council’s Strategic Director, as an additional member of GYPT, to remain a member after the new Articles of Association are formally adopted, at which time she will also become a director of GYPT.

CARRIED.

13 WINTER GARDENS - NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND ACCEPTANCE

Council received and considered the report from the Head of Inward Investment.

The Leader of the Council reported that on 19th May 2020, the Policy and Resources Committee agreed to further work being undertaken to complete a stage 1 application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Heritage Horizons Programme for the Great Yarmouth Winter Gardens. In February 2021, Council submitted a next stage application seeking the £9.9M match funding from the NLHF to fully restore and bring back into use the Winter Gardens. As a result of this bid, the Council has been offered the full £9,977M of National Lottery Heritage Funding (NLHF) as requested under the Heritage Horizons programme, subject to the completion of the development application.

The Leader of the Council reported that in considering the detail of this report, Members were asked to receive an update of the project and accept the Grant Notification Letter received from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and progress the development application, based on the proposal that the Winter Gardens is restored, celebrated and animated, providing a co-designed complementary mixed use offer, including community outreach and activities, visitor services and interpretation and food/beverage provision.

The Leader of the Council congratulated the officers concerned for all their hard work in securing the funding to restore the Wintergardens to its former glory.

PROPOSER: Councillor Smith
SECONDER: Councillor Grant

That Council approve:-

- (i) the acceptance of the development grant of £420,800 and the Terms of the Grant and include a project budget of £810,800 to deliver the development stage of the projects; and
- (ii) that the capital programme is updated to reflect the delivery of the Wintergardens project totalling £16 million along with the financing of the project as detailed in the report.

CARRIED.

14 NOTICE OF MOTION

Council considered the following motion from Councillors Smith, Plant, P Carpenter, P Hammond, Wells and Flaxman-Taylor which was presented by the Leader of the Council.

We as Elected Members of Great Yarmouth Borough Council request that

Council agree to holding an Extraordinary meeting of Council to consider the granting of Freedom of the Borough to Michael Thomas Jeal.

Councillors Wainwright, P Carpenter, B Walker, A Wright, Robinson-Payne and Plant congratulated Councillor Jeal on his nomination to receive the Freedom of the Borough which was a fitting honour to a much respected, long serving and staunch supporter Councillor for the Nelson Ward.

The Leader of the Council was hopeful that Councillor Jeal and HMS Dauntless could be made Freeman of the Borough at the same time, as during Councillor Jeal's first term as Mayor of the Borough of Great Yarmouth, he had sailed on HMS Dauntless from Scotland to Great Yarmouth as part of his civic duties.

Councillor Jeal reported that he was overwhelmed by the kindness of his fellow Councillors at being bestowed this honour both for himself and his family.

PROPOSER: Councillor Smith

SECONDER: Councillor Wainwright

That Council agree to holding an Extraordinary meeting of Council to consider the granting of Freedom of the Borough to Michael Thomas Jeal.

CARRIED.

15 NOTICE OF MOTION

Council considered the following motion received from Councillors Waters-Bunn, Wainwright, Robinson-Payne, A Wright, Williamson and Cordiner-Achenbach which was presented by Councillor Robinson-Payne.

Fireworks are used by people throughout the year to mark different events. While they can bring much enjoyment to some people, they can cause significant problems and fear for other people and animals.

There are many vulnerable members of our community that are petrified by the loud noises fireworks make, such as the elderly, those who live alone, those that suffer from PTSD and mental health disorders as well as some children and adults with learning difficulties. These people can be very distressed by the noise and many have to suffer in silence on their own.

Fireworks can be a source of fear and distress for many animals (including pet

animals, farm livestock and wildlife). Animals affected not only suffer psychological distress but can also cause themselves injuries - sometimes very serious ones - as they attempt to run away or hide from the noise.

I therefore call upon GYBC, to only allow noise free/low noise fireworks to be used in any organised firework displays held on its land, from July 2021 onwards. These events will still be enjoyed by the masses that enjoy firework displays, and will also give the opportunity for those who do not like the loud bangs to enjoy them too.

When advertising these events we can publicise why we have changed also. I also call upon GYBC to write to all outlets that sell fireworks to suggest that from today onwards, they only sell noise free / low noise fireworks in their establishment.

Councillors Candon and Price spoke against this motion and reported that they were unable to support it.

Councillors Wainwright, A Wright & B Wright echoed the sentiments of Councillor Robinson-Payne and that the welfare and protection of the vulnerable, elderly and animals of the Borough should be of the utmost concern to all Councillors.

PROPOSER: Councillor Robinson-Payne

SECONDER: Councillor Wainwright.

MOTION LOST.

16 NOTICE OF MOTION

Council considered the following Motion from Councillors A Wright, B Wright, Fairhead, Borg, Williamson, B Walker and C Walker which was presented by Councillor A Wright.

Great Yarmouth Borough Council believes planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes; and therefore calls on the Government to protect the right of communities to object to individual planning applications.

PROPOSER: Councillor A Wright

SECONDER: Councillor Robinson-Payne.

MOTION LOST.

17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Deputy Mayor, Councillor Thompson, reported that there was no other business being of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration at the meeting.

The meeting ended at: 20:36

LIST OF COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2021/22

POLICY AND RESOURCES (13) (7-4-1-1)

P Carpenter
Flaxman-Taylor
Grant
P Hammond
Hacon
Myers
Plant
Smith
Wainwright
B Walker
Wells
Williamson
T Wright

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Groups.

ENVIRONMENT (13) (7-4-1-1)

Annison
Bensly
Bird
Cameron
P Carpenter
Fairhead
D Hammond
Robinson – Payne
Talbot
Thompson
Waters – Bunn
Wells
B Wright

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Groups.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (13) (7-5-1)

Candon
Cordiner Achenbach
Freeman
P Hammond
Lawn
Mogford
Myers
Plant
Price
Wainwright
B Walker
C Walker
T Wright

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Groups.

HOUSING AND NEIGHBOURHOODS (13) (7-5-1)

Candon
Cameron
Flaxman – Taylor
Galer
Grant
D Hammond
Jeal
Martin
Price
Talbot
Smith-Clare
Wainwright
Williamson

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Groups.

**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL
(13) (7-5-1)**

Annison
G Carpenter
Fairhead
Freeman
Flaxman – Taylor
P Hammond
Hanton
Jeal
Mogford
Myers
Williamson
A Wright
B Wright

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Groups.

**LICENSING
(13) (7-5-1)**

Bensly
Bird
Borg
G Carpenter
Cordiner-Achenbach
Galer
Hacon
Hanton
Jeal
Lawn
Robinson – Payne
Stenhouse
B Walker

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Groups.

**STANDARDS
(5) (3-2)**

Bird
Freeman
Robinson – Payne
Price
Smith-Clare

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Groups.

**AUDIT AND RISK
(5) (3-2)**

Flaxman – Taylor
Freeman
Galer
Wainwright
T Wright

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Groups.

**APPEALS
(Combined Housing Appeals and Appeals)
(7) (4-2-1)**

Bensly
Hanton
D Hammond
Lawn
Robinson-Payne
Waters-Bunn
Thompson

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Group

**EMPLOYMENT
(5) (3-2)**

P Carpenter
Plant
Smith
Wainwright
Waters-Bunn

Named Subs :
Any two Members from the Group

LIST OF WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIPS 2021/22

Civic Working Group (5 Members)

Bird
Lawn
Fairhead
Flaxman-Taylor
Martin

Constitution Working Party (10 Members)

P Carpenter
Freeman
Hanton
Myers
Plant
Smith
Wainwright
B Walker
C Walker
Williamson

Great Yarmouth Area Museums (8 Members)

Bird
Cordiner-Acenbach
Freeman
Jeal
Lawn
Mogford
Robinson-Payne
Price

Local Plan Working Party (11 Members)

Annison
G Carpenter
Freeman
Fairhead
P Hammond
Hanton
Mogford
Talbot
Wainwright
Williamson
T Wright

LIST OF WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIPS 2021/22

Great Yarmouth Town Centre Masterplan (9 Members)

Bird
P Hammond
Jeal
Plant
Smith
Stenhouse
Wainwright
B Walker
Williamson

Joint Consultative Working Group (5 Members)

P Carpenter
Lawn
Stenhouse
B Walker
Waters-Bunn

Marina Centre Members Working Group (7 Members)

Flaxman-Taylor
Jeal
Plant
Smith
Wainwright
Williamson

Middlegate Estate Regen Working Group (5 Members)

Flaxman-Taylor
Grant
D Hammond
Jeal
Robinson-Payne

Wellesley Recreation Working Group (5 Members)

Bird
Flaxman-Taylor
Grant
Smith-Clare
Williamson

Wintergardens Working Group (7 Members)

Candon
Cordiner-Achenbach
P Hammond
Jeal
Plant
Smith
Wainwright

LIST OF WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIPS 2021/22

Great Yarmouth Seafront Working Group (5 Members)

Bird
D Hammond
Robinson-Payne
Smith
T Wright

Gorleston Seafront Working Group (5 Members)

Flaxman-Taylor
Plant
Wainwright
B Wright
Wells

OUTSIDE BODIES REPRESENTATION 2021/22

Ref.	List of Outside Body	Number of Members	2021/22 Member Representations
1	A47 Alliance	1	Plant
2	Bowls Tournament Working Party	2	Fairhead Lawn
3	Broads Authority	1	Mogford
4	Broads Internal Drainage Board	6	Bird Fairhead Freeman Galer Lawn Mogford
5	Chamber of Commerce - Norfolk (Great Yarmouth Committee) Chamber Council	2	Plant T Wright
6	Coastal Partnership East	2	Bensly P Carpenter
7	Community Rail Partnership	1	Mogford
8	Community Safety (Great Yarmouth) Ltd (CCTV Co)	1	G Carpenter
9	East of England LGA	1	Smith
10	Gorleston Poor Land Trustees	2	Flaxman - Taylor B Wright
11	Great Yarmouth and Rambouillet Twinning Association	3	D Hammond Fairhead P Hammond
12	Great Yarmouth Municipal Charities * 4 Year Appointment *	4	Cordiner-Achenbach D Hammond Jeal Robinson-Payne
13	Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust	5	Fairhead Freeman Price

OUTSIDE BODIES REPRESENTATION 2021/22

Ref.	List of Outside Body	Number of Members	2021/22 Member Representations
			Wells Williamson
14	Great Yarmouth Racecourse	2	Hammond Bensly
15	Great Yarmouth Seafarers Centre	1	Borg
16	Great Yarmouth Transport & Infrastructure Steering Group (formerly Car Parking Strategy Steering Group)	3	Hanton Plant T Wright
17	Greater Yarmouth Tourism & Business Improvement Area Ltd/Interim Board of Directors	4	Bensly T Wright P Hammond Plant
18	GY Norse Company Board	1	Grant
19	GY Norse Liaison Board	3**	P Carpenter Grant Wainwright
20	GYB Services Company Board	1	Chair of Environment Committee
21	GYB Services Liaison Board	2**	Vice - Chair of Environment Committee
22	High School Foundation	1	Grant
23	James Paget Healthcare NHS Trust (Governors' Council)	1	Flaxman – Taylor
24	Local Government Association - Coastal Issues	1	Bensly
25	Local Government Association - General Assembly	1	Smith
26	Merchant Navy Welfare Board	1	A Wright
27	Neighbourhood Management Board - MESH (Gorleston)	2	Flaxman – Taylor B Walker

OUTSIDE BODIES REPRESENTATION 2021/22

Ref.	List of Outside Body	Number of Members	2021/22 Member Representations
28	Neighbourhood Management Boards - Make It Happen (Southtown, Cobholm and Halfway House)	2	Cordiner – Achenbach Williamson
29	Neighbourhood Management Boards - Yarmouth	2	Jeal Robinson-Payne
30	Norfolk Coast Partnership (Joint Advisory Panel)	1	Bensly
31	Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership	1	P Carpenter
32	Norfolk County Joint Museums Committee	1	Freeman
33	Norfolk Health & Wellbeing Board	1	E Flaxman-Taylor D Hammond (Sub)
34	Norfolk Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee	1	Candon
35	Norfolk Parking Partnership Joint Committee	1	Plant
36	Norfolk Rail Group	1	Mogford
37	Norfolk Records Committee	1	Wainwright
38	Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework	1	Plant Annison (Sub)
39	Norfolk Waste Partnership	1	Cameron
40	Nplaw Board	1	G Carpenter
41	Older Peoples Partnership	1	D Hammond
42	Police and Crime Panel	1	Smith-Clare Martin (Sub)
43	SeaChange Board	1	Flaxman-Taylor
44	Great Yarmouth Town Centre Partnership Company (Great Yarmouth) Ltd	1	Smith
45	Waveney, Lower Yare and Lothingland Internal Drainage Board	3	Annison Cameron

OUTSIDE BODIES REPRESENTATION 2021/22

Ref.	List of Outside Body	Number of Members	2021/22 Member Representations
			Fairhead
46	Youth Advisory Board	1	Galer

* Leaders of political parties invited

** Includes Member on Company Board

Subject: Outside Body Nomination - Norfolk Elected Members Climate Change Partnership Board

Report to: Full Council, Tuesday 28th September 2021

Report by: Kate Blakemore, Strategic Director

SUBJECT MATTER

Outside Body nomination to the Norfolk Elected Members Climate Change Partnership Board

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

appoint Councillor Paul Wells as the elected Member to represent Great Yarmouth Borough Council on this newly formed outside body.

1. Background

- 1.1 Membership of an outside body can take various forms, from committee attendance to a director or trustee role. Appointments to outside bodies are made by Full Council.

2. Introduction

- 2.1. Members of the Environment Committee received a report on Carbon Reduction – the pathway to net zero on the 9th June 2021. As part of this report information was provided to these Members about the Norfolk Climate Change Partnership which was established in January 2020.
- 2.2. This partnership comprises of officer representatives from Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Norfolk County Council, New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership and the Environment Agency. The Partnership has a common shared interest in supporting Norfolk's communities, public, voluntary & community organisations, businesses and residents to reduce carbon emissions, realise the economic benefits of reducing utilities consumption and adapt to the future impacts of climate change. Its aim is for Norfolk to become *'an exemplar in tackling climate change and protecting and enhancing its natural environment.'*
- 2.3 To further support this Partnership, it has been agreed by the Norfolk Leaders Group that a Member board will be established to provide political leadership for this group. Members from the Environment Committee were therefore asked to nominate a representative to sit on the Norfolk Elected Members Climate Change Partnership Board.

3. Nominated Representative

- 3.1 The representative that was nominated by the Environment Committee to sit on this board was Councillor Paul Wells. Council are therefore asked to appoint Councillor Paul Wells to sit on this newly formed outside body.

Service Committee Decision List from 2 June 2021 to 27 July 2021

	Details of Decision	Officer Lead
1	<p>Economic Development Committee – 7 June 2021</p> <p>BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <p>That the Committee reviewed and commented on the content of the Business Engagement Plan.</p>	Michelle Burdett
2	<p>Economic Development Committee – 7 June 2021</p> <p>KICKSTART PROGRAMME - PROGRESS UPDATE</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <p>That the Committee have reviewed the progress on the delivery of the Kickstart Scheme by Council officers to date.</p>	Victoria Mallender
3	<p>Environment Committee– 9 June 2021</p> <p>CARBON REDUCTION – THE PATHWAY TO NET ZERO</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To confirm ongoing support for the finalisation of the carbon footprint mapping work for the Council, to be completed by September 2021, alongside the development of an action plan to reduce the Council's carbon footprint. 2. Recommend to Full Council that the Chair of Environment Committee be appointed to sit on the Norfolk Elected Members Climate Change Partnership Board. 3. To allocate £30,000 from the special projects reserve to develop an Environmental Sustainability Strategy and action plans to detail our pathway to Net Zero. 	Kate Blakemore

4	<p>Environment Committee– 9 June 2021</p> <p>STREET CLEANSING IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <p>That the Committee noted the findings and updates on Street Cleansing Improvement Plan</p>	Chris Silverwood
5	<p>Environment Committee– 9 June 2021</p> <p>RESOURCES AND WASTE STRATEGY CONSULTATIONS</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Committee note the details of the consultations and officer comments. 2. That Members note that an officer working group to look at the implications and prepare the Council for these proposed changes is being set up and will feedback to Environment Committee. 	Paula Boyce
6	<p>Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee – 10 June 2021</p> <p>COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS - COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECT</p> <p>RESOLVED :</p> <p>That the Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the research and stakeholder engagement undertaken by the Norfolk Community Foundation (NCF) in partnership with the Borough Council, and statutory partners including representatives from the CCG and Primary Care Networks. 2. Supports the recommendation that Shrublands Youth and Adult Centre Charitable Trust (SYACCT) and The Salvation Army Great Yarmouth Corps (TSAGYC) are the most suitable Voluntary Community & Social Enterprise (VCSE) operators for the proposed Community Food Stores located on the Shrublands site in Gorleston and in Great Yarmouth respectively. 3. Invites the SYACCT and TSAGYC to submit grant applications to the Council accompanied by sustainable business plans developed in association with the NCF, as preferred lead VCSE organisations to establish sustainable VCSE-operated community- based food stores. 4. Delegate authority to the Strategic Director to award grants, subject to satisfactory proposals from the applicants, to run the two food stores on a community supermarket operating model, provided also that necessary permissions, consents and operational business plans are in place. 	Paula Boyce

7	<p>Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee – 10 June 2021</p> <p>HOUSING STRATEGY UPDATE</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <p>That the Committee:-</p> <p>That the Committee noted the progress to date and request a further update report in 12 months time</p>	Christine Spooner
8	<p>Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee – 10 June 2021</p> <p>COUNCIL ADAPTATION POLICY</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <p>That the Committee note the report and nominate five members to participate in the Development Standard Task & Finish Group.</p>	Nicola Turner
9	<p>Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee – 10 June 2021</p> <p>COMMUNITY HOUSING FUND</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <p>The Committee noted the update report.</p>	Sue Bolan

9	<p>Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee – 10 June 2021</p> <p>ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020-21</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee noted the update report.</p>	Nicola Turner
10	<p>Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee – 10 June 2021</p> <p>COUNCIL HOMES PROGRAMME</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the report and progress to date 2. Approved the drawdown of the expenditure to be incurred in the development of the Beach Coach Station development as set out in the Confidential Appendix 3. Approved, subject to the Council's conditional offer set out in the Confidential Appendix being accepted, the drawdown of the expenditure required to acquire the three affordable homes at St Nicholas Drive, Caister via a Section 106 Agreement. 4. Delegated expenditure in relation to recommendations 2 and 3 above to the Housing Director 	Nicola Turner
11	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 13 July 2021</p> <p>POSITIONING THE BOROUGH AS A VISITOR DESTINATION</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Note the content of this report and the proposed new operating model for the provision of visitor/tourism information, b) Support the principles contained in this report to move to online and telephony visitor information services supplemented by COVID Marshals in the interim whilst in a pandemic, and longer term via a blend of seasonal 'Hosts', Heritage Guides and Street Wardens, 	Clare Dyble

	<p>c) Confirm the continued closure of the Tourist Information Centre and request the Head of Property Services brings forward an options appraisal to re-purpose the building in a manner that will support the local leisure or hospitality sectors; and</p> <p>d) Endorse that a shared information hub be provided at Great Yarmouth seafront.</p>	
12	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 13 July 2021</p> <p>GYPT ANNUAL REVIEW</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee note the contents of the report and receive the Annual Review of the Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust.</p>	Michelle Burdett
13	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 13 July 2021</p> <p>2020/21 TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee recommend to Full Council the Treasury Management Outturn Report and Indicators for 2020/21.</p>	Karen Sly

14	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 13 July 2021</p> <p>GENERAL FUND OUTTURN 2020-21</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee agree and recommend to Full Council:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The outturn position for the general fund for 2020/21 as included in the report and appendices; (ii) The transfers to and from reserves as detailed within the report and Appendix A along with an updated reserves statement (Appendix C); (iii) Transfer the surplus to the earmarked reserves as detailed within the report; (iv) The financing of the 2020/21 capital programme as detailed within the report and appendices; and (v) The updated capital programme for 2021/22 as included in the report (section 5) and Appendix E. 	Karen Sly
15	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 13 July 2021</p> <p>TOWN DEAL HEADS OF TERMS, PRIORITISATION EXERCISE AND MONITORING & EVALUATION UPDATE</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee recommend to Full Council:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To acknowledge MHCLG receipt of the said agreed interventions, (ii) Note that the subsequent Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) submission for addressing key conditions by 24 May 2021 have been addressed, including financial information, (iii) To acknowledge that preparatory work on the delivery of Stage 2 Business case is underway; and (iv) Note the Monitoring & Evaluation reporting schedule for the Town Deal as per agreed Heads of Terms. 	Sheila Oxtoby

16	<p>Economic Development Committee – 19 July 2021</p> <p>OFFSHORE WIND COMPETIVENESS PROJECT - GENERATE BRAND UPDATE</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <p>That the Committee:-</p> <p>(i) Review and comment upon the content of the report, noting the process to date; and</p> <p>(ii) Endorse the launch and strategy of the new brand allowing officers to begin to focus on individual energy projects.</p>	David Glason
17	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 27 July 2021</p> <p>ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2021-22</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee consider the Annual Action Plan 2021-22 and the suite of Performance Indicators detailed in Appendix 1, of the report.</p>	James Wedon
18	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 27 July 2021</p> <p>AGILE WORKING POLICY</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee agree the new Agile Working Policy</p>	Sarah Tate

19	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 27 July 2021</p> <p>HERITAGE ACTION ZONE - SHOPFRONT DESIGN GUIDE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee approve the first draft Shopfront Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (appendix 1) for consultation</p>	Kate Blakemore
20	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 27 July 2021</p> <p>LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT – PERMISSION</p> <p>TO CONSULT ON 2022 SCHEME</p> <p>RESOLVED :</p> <p>That the Committee grant permission to consult on retaining the current scheme for 2022 as set out in section 4.1 of the report.</p>	Miranda Lee
21	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 27 July 2021</p> <p>ANNUAL DEBT RECOVERY REPORT 2020/21</p> <p>RESOLVED :</p> <p>That the Committee approve the annual report giving details of the Council's write-offs in accordance with the Council's Recovery Guidelines and performance in relation to revenues collection.</p>	Miranda Lee

22	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 27 July 2021</p> <p>NOTICE OF ADJUSTMENT TO SUNDRY DEBTOR WRITE OFF WITHIN REVENUE WRITE OFF REPORT</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee note the update as provided.</p>	Miranda Lee
23	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 27 July 2021</p> <p>PUBLIC EVENTS POLICY</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee agree to:-</p> <p>a) Formalise the partnership between Great Yarmouth Borough Council, the Town Centre Partnership and Great Yarmouth Tourism and Business Improvement District,</p> <p>b) Approve the Events policy with a view to it being further developed with the above partners,</p> <p>c) Note the forthcoming public events & festival programme for the next twelve months to July 2022; and</p> <p>d) Work with the above partners to develop the events programme and invite partners to a future Policy and Resources Committee to present their collective proposals for events for the next 3 years with an aim to support the bid for City of Culture 2025.</p>	Clare Dyble
24	<p>Policy and Resources Committee – 27 July 2021</p> <p>COVID-19 PATHWAY TO RECOVERY – UPDATE</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>(a) Note and approve the updated Action Plan for the Great Yarmouth's 'Pathway to Recovery Plan' in Appendix 1; and</p> <p>(b) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to sign the Partnership Agreement with Norfolk County Council in regards to the Local Outbreak Management Plan.</p>	Sheila Oxtoby

CONFIDENTIALITY

The contents of the appendix to this report qualifies as exempt information under section 100(A)(4) and paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as it is “*information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person* (including the authority holding that information)”

and

2) In relation to the “exempt” information, it has been determined that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because disclosure would adversely affect the authority’s ability to manage its commercial financial and business affairs. Accordingly, it is proposed that the appendix shall remain exempt.



URN: 21-131

Subject: Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme Bid – Housing First Scheme

Report to:	ELT	8 September 2021
	Housing and Neighbourhoods Committee	23 September 2021
	Council	28 September 2021

Report by: Nicola Turner, Housing Director

SUBJECT MATTER/RECOMMENDATIONS

This report seeks approval to purchase and repair five homes to provide a self-contained home with dedicated support for a period of up to two years for a cohort of entrenched rough sleepers with high needs in order to deliver a significant reduction in rough sleeping.

Recommendations:

Housing and Neighbourhoods Committee recommend that Full Council:

- 1 . Approve the purchase and renovation of five properties to be used to meet the needs of rough sleepers with high support needs within the parameters of the project as set out in this report and the Confidential Appendix.
- 2 . Approve, subject to a successful application for grant funding, the expenditure and the borrowing set out in the report at paragraph 3.1. i.e. the purchase, repair and renovation and furnishing of the properties.
- 3 . Delegate decisions in relation to the purchase of the properties and the completion of the required renovation works to the Head of Property and Asset Management and the Section 151 Officer in accordance with the Property Acquisitions and Disposals Policy.
- 4 . Approve the procurement of a third-party support provider to deliver the support and manage the five homes.
- 5 . Accept the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme grant funding and conditions.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Covid pandemic highlighted the scale of rough sleeping and the number of individuals in insecure housing at risk of rough sleeping across the borough. The Rough Sleeping Strategy and Action Plan 2020 produced in response and adopted by Full Council in July 2020 identified the need for a clear pathway approach which ensures that rough sleeper's accommodation and support needs are assessed to ensure they can access accommodation which meets their needs. In considering this pathway approach it has become clear that there is a gap in the existing provision for rough sleepers with high or complex needs within existing or planned provision.

2. A Housing First Approach

- 2.1 To meet the needs of rough sleepers with high/complex needs a new Housing First model scheme has been developed to provide five self-contained properties where rough sleepers will be able to be accommodated for up to two years. The homes will be for people with histories of repeat/entrenched rough sleeping, high and/or multiple/complex needs spanning mental health, drugs or alcohol and offending who will often have no remaining housing options available to allow them to move off the street. Integral to the provision of a property will be the provision of a personalised, flexible support offer will give them the best chance of moving towards recovery, realising their wishes and developing a more settled future life to support a planned move to appropriate accommodation in the future. The level of support provided will be intensive recognising the needs of the residents of the scheme.
- 2.2 The five properties will be acquired from the open market and renovated to ensure they provide high quality accommodation. All properties will be held in the General Fund as the Council will use the homes to discharge its homelessness duties under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996. The properties will be furnished reflecting the needs of the residents. The support service will be provided via a third party who have a track record in delivering support to rough sleepers. It is expected that all properties would be available for occupation during spring/early summer 2022.
- 2.3 The Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP) is a dedicated grant programme which provides capital and revenue funding to meet the needs of rough sleepers and provide a lasting legacy from the "Everyone In" initiative. A bid for capital and revenue funding for the Housing First scheme has been submitted to the RSAP programme, with an announcement expected at the end of September/early October 2021. Capital funding is available within 2021/22 and 2022/23 and revenue funding for the period 2021/22 to 2023/24.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The Confidential Appendix provides full information on the capital and revenue costs of the scheme; the headline figures are summarised in the table below:

Total Capital Cost	£655,475
Capital Grant bid	£314,628
Borrowing	£340,847

3.2 The cost of borrowing will be met from rents, which will be a capped Affordable Rent of £105 per week inclusive of service charges. The appraisal shows the cost of borrowing and ongoing repairs and maintenance can be sustained from the rental income, although there is no allowance for supervision and management costs reflecting the provision of a dedicated support worker who will support the residents of the five homes.

3.3 The revenue funding sought will fund a dedicated support worker, with funding available in 2021/22 (reflecting a start in January 2022 for this post), 2022/23 and 2023/24. There is no ongoing revenue funding for the scheme after 31 March 2024, but the grant conditions will require its use after this time. There are a number of mitigations for this risk:

- Identification of additional funding streams for support from April 2024 – such as the Rough Sleepers Initiative or use of the Council’s homelessness prevention grant. Conversion to a social rent would allow an Enhanced Housing Management charge to fund the required support but this would create a call on the General Fund to subsidise the scheme as a lower rent will meet less of the debt servicing costs and repairs and maintenance expenditure. The potential for cost savings by linking the support service for this scheme and the Transitional Housing Scheme would be considered.
- Sale of the homes to the Housing Revenue Account to become general needs homes.
- Retention within the General Fund as temporary accommodation – the grant would then be ring fenced and used to deliver other affordable housing through a Replacement Agreement subject to agreement with Homes England.

4. Risk Implications

4.1 The RSAP submission assumes the purchase of a mixture of one- and two-bedroom homes (although all homes would only be used as one-bedroom properties) reflecting the lack of properties which are likely to be suitable for the Housing First scheme. Rightmove information has been used to identify likely prices for the properties. It is assumed all properties will require capital works to ensure the properties meet the requirement of the RSAP that homes will be available for 30 years. If, however, the Council is unable to acquire all homes within the available budget for acquisition or the costs of works exceeds the available budget, the additional cost will have to be met from further borrowing. To mitigate the financial risks the Council will look to

secure all purchases as soon as possible (so costs are known and to minimise any house price increases) and will undertake surveys prior to purchase to ensure works can be met from within the available budget which includes a 10% contingency.

All properties will be acquired in accordance with the requirements of the Property Acquisitions and Disposal Policy.

- 4.2 The RSAP grant funding requirements are based on milestones for completing the acquisition of the homes, starting works on the homes (Start on Site) and all works being complete allowing occupation (Practical Completion). Realistic timescales allowing for potential delays have been allowed for within the submitted timescales which are:

Acquisition: 31 January 2022

Start on Site: 1 March 2022

Practical Completion: 2 August 2022

If these dates are missed and an extension cannot be agreed there is a risk that the Council will not be able to claim some or all of any approved grant funding. To mitigate this the programme of acquisitions and works will be carefully monitored to ensure remedial action can be taken to address any actual or expected programme slippages. In addition, as set out above, the intention is to identify and make offers on suitable properties within a month of confirmation that the Council's bid has been successful.

- 4.2 It is proposed that a third party will be contracted to provide the support and manage the five homes within the Housing First scheme. This will provide the required expertise as well as provide resilience and allow for cover of absence. If, however, a suitable third party cannot be secured to deliver the support service, this will be delivered in house through recruiting to a dedicated support worker post utilising the revenue grant funding.
- 4.5 Homes England are responsible for the grant funding provided through the RSAP and require the completion of a funding agreement between grant recipients and Homes England before any grant funding can be paid. The grant agreement includes specific conditions in relation to the use of the funds and the requirements for repayment of funds that are not used as required. Only one funding agreement is required irrespective of the number of schemes funded through the RSAP. This report seeks authority to accept RSAP grant funding and conditions as set out in the prospectus and funding agreement. In accepting the Homes England grant, the Council will monitor compliance and ensure it is able to evidence compliance with the funding requirements of the grant funding received.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Council is able to acquire properties to hold in the General Fund. The Council can also enter into a management agreement with a third party to manage the homes, but the Council retains legal management responsibility. The Council will issue non-secure tenancies to residents to occupy the homes within the Housing First scheme.
- 5.2 As set out at 4.5 above, to draw down the RSAP funding, the Council will need to complete a funding agreement with Homes England.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1 The delivery of a Housing First scheme will form part of the Council's response to significantly reduce the level of rough sleeping across the borough. The need for a Housing First scheme has been identified reflecting a gap in provision to meet the needs of rough sleepers who have high/complex needs for whom there is no other suitable housing option. The Housing First scheme will provide five self-contained homes with a dedicated support worker who will work with residents to support them to successfully manage their occupation and make a successful transition to their next home. This report seeks approval of the require expenditure and borrowing to deliver the scheme subject to the Council's bid for capital and revenue funding through the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme being successful.

7. Background Papers

Rough Sleeping Strategy and Action Plan 2020 – Policy and Resources Committee 28 July 2020

Property Acquisitions and Disposals Policy - Council 23 February 2021

Areas of consideration: e.g. does this report raise any of the following issues and if so how have these been considered/mitigated against?

Area for consideration	Comment
Monitoring Officer Consultation:	Via ELT
Section 151 Officer Consultation:	Via ELT
Existing Council Policies:	Corporate Plan
Financial Implications (including VAT and tax):	Discussed in report
Legal Implications (including human rights):	Discussed in report

Risk Implications:	Discussed in report
Equality Issues/EQIA assessment:	The provision of the Housing First scheme will meet the needs of individuals who have no other housing options to ensure they are able to make a successful transition to settled accommodation. This will have a positive impact on their physical and mental health and wellbeing.
Crime & Disorder:	Not applicable
Every Child Matters:	Not applicable