

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 10 March 2021 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Damien Egan (Mayor), Councillors Chris Best, Chris Barnham, Paul Bell, Kevin Bonavia, Andre Bourne, Brenda Dacres, Sophie McGeevor, Joani Reid, Amanda De Ryk and Jonathan Slater.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Patrick Codd and Councillor Bill Brown

440. Declaration of Interests

None were made.

441. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on February 3 & February 10 2021 be confirmed and signed as correct records.

442. Matters Raised by Scrutiny and other Constitutional Bodies

Councillor Bill Brown presented the views of the Business Panel which had raised four issues in respect of Covid Vaccines which called on the Department of Health and Social Care to-

- 1) Guarantee a firewall that prevents any information governed by the NHS being used for Test & Trace being used for immigration enforcement
- 2) End all hostile environment measures in the NHS, including charging for migrants, to combat the fear and mistrust these policies have created
- 3) Provide specific support for all GP surgeries to register everyone including under-documented and undocumented migrants and those without secure accomodation and ensure that all other routes to vaccination are accessible to everyone.
- 4) Fund a public information campaign to ensure that communities impacted by their hostile enviroment are aware of their rights and access to the vaccine.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel, Councillor Bill Brown, the Mayor and Cabinet:

RESOLVED that the Executive Director for Community Services be asked to prepare a response for consideration by the Cabinet.

443. Lewisham's Climate Emergency Action Plan

The report was presented by Councillor Sophie McGeevor who reported that considerable progress had been made in addressing the declared Climate Emergency.

Councillor Paul Bell urged the adoption of a plant based diet as a measure that could assist in efforts to halt climate change. He further raised the issue of Solar Panels and Solar Tiles and asked that greater clarity be offered on the website. Councillor McGeevor gave an undertaking to examine further both issues that had been raised.

Councillor Liam Curran, the Chair of the Sustainable Development Select Committee, addressed the Cabinet and praised the creation of a special Climate Emergency page on the Council's website.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, Councillor Sophie McGeevor, and the Chair of the Sustainable Development Select Committee, Councillor Liam Curran, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the update on progress and future plans for delivery on Lewisham's Climate Emergency Action Plan be noted; and
- (2) the proposed response to the 3 February 2021 referral from the Sustainable Development Select Committee set out in Section 6 be approved.

444. Main Grants Extension

The Mayor expressed his full support for the proposals and was delighted that decades long relationships in some cases could be extended.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Community Sector, Councillor Jonathan Slater, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0;

RESOLVED that a sum of £155,815 be granted to eight organisations to extend their delivery period under the current Main Grants programme to 31 March 2022 to allow all organisations that have been granted funding under the Main Grants programme to continue delivery of crucial Covid-19 recovery-related services to Lewisham residents and also ensure that all organisations are enabled to continue delivery of essential community activities and work towards sustainability in light of previous disruptions resulting from the Covid-19 crisis, until the start of the new Main Grants programme in April 2022.

445. Small Sites Study Supplementary Planning Document

Councillor Liam Curran, the Chair of the Sustainable Development Select Committee, presented the written comments of his Committee. In response, Councillor Pau Bell successfully proposed that all of their views be accepted and officers be asked to incorporate them in the Supplementary Planning Document.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, and the Chair of the Sustainable Development Select Committee, Councillor Liam Curran, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0;

RESOLVED

(1) the comments received from the meeting of Sustainable Development Select Committee held on 3 March 2021 be accepted in their entirety and officers be delegated to incorporate the comments into the Small Sites Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

(2) the content of the draft Small Sites SPD be approved for public consultation in accordance with the Council's original Statement of Community Involvement consultation process.

446. Building for Lewisham Programme Requirements Part 1

Having considered an open and a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and having considered the confidential information in Part 2 of the meeting:

RESOLVED that:

(1) Having considered the responses to the consultation carried out on Elderton Road under s105 of the Housing Act 1985 between 25 January 2021 and 15 February 2021, the proposal to build new homes on Elderton Road be continued subject to planning permission being granted, and the budget to proceed with the enabling works for the Elderton Road site be approved;

(2) the budget to proceed with enabling works for the Endwell Road site be approved;

(3) subject to the consent of the Secretary of State being obtained under Schedule 1 of the Academies Act 2010, the appropriation of the Fairlawm Nursery Annex (as shown in the red outline on an attached plan from Education Use (General Fund) to Housing Use (Housing Revenue Account) under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 be approved;

(4) the making of an application to the Secretary of State for Education under Schedule 1 of the Academies Act 2010 be approved;

(5) the removal of the Eddystone Tower conversion project from the Building for Lewisham programme be approved and the abortive costs be noted;

(6) a redesign of the Mayfield scheme, submission of a revised planning application, tender for works and an associated budget be approved.

447. Top up of the NCIL Borough Wide Pot and additional Borough wide priority

Having considered an open and a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) a top up of the existing borough wide fund by a further £396,161 be approved which was collected through CIL receipts during the period of April 2018 – March 2020 bringing the available funding available through the borough wide pot to £977,094; and

(2) the additional priority addressing projects that aim to assist in Lewisham's Covid-19 recovery that will benefit Lewisham's communities at a borough wide level be approved.

448. Statement of Community Involvement [ceasing temporary Covid changes to the scheme of delegation]

Having considered an open officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the intention to cease the temporary changes to the Council's scheme of delegation be noted;

(2) temporary modifications to the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) be authorised for a further 18 month period to enable the following:

(a) Invitations to planning committee meetings and other communications and information (including publication of agendas) relating to planning committee meetings be carried out electronically wherever possible

(b) Make it explicit that people wishing to speak at planning committee will need to register to speak in advance of the meeting and will need to submit written copies of their speeches in advance of the meeting

(c) Local Meetings to be able to be held remotely

(d) Make any necessary amendments regarding the publication of planning applications, agendas and decisions

449. Acceptance of Football Foundation Capital Grant - Riverside Youth Club Part 1

Having considered an open and a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance, Councillor Chris Barnham, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and having considered the financial information in the Part 2 report, by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the application for external funding from the Football Foundation be approved;

(2) the procurement of a works contractor to deliver the Riverside redevelopment be approved;

(3) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Children & Young People, on the advice of the Executive Director for Corporate Resources and Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration & Environment to award a works contract to deliver the Riverside Youth Club redevelopment Programme; and

(4) the construction budget set out in Part 2 be approved.

450. Governing Body Proposal - future of St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School

The report was introduced by Councillor Chris Barnham who stressed that while the Council was the statutory decision maker, the closure proposal was being promoted by the Governing Body and the Archdiocese of Southwark. He said there would be a thorough consultation process and should closure occur, all children would be offered an alternative placement.

Councillor Barnham's outline was confirmed by Dr Simon Hughes, the Diocesan Schools Commissioner and Director of Education for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark. He said the proposals were being advanced with a heavy heart and great sadness. He said the Governors believed there were being forced to take the decision given the financial pressures.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and School Performance, Councillor Chris Barnham, the Mayor and Cabinet for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that officers work with the Governing Body and Archdiocese to ensure that the statutory process is followed.

451. Learning Disability Framework - request to procure a contract for Supported Living Part 1

Having considered an open and a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Chris Best, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and having considered the financial information in Part 2, by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that the initiation of the procurement of a 4 year supported living contract via a mini-competition under Lot 1: Supported Living of the Framework Agreement for Adults with Learning Disabilities 2019-2023 be approved.

452. Contract Extension - Parks and Open Spaces Management

Councillor McGeevor confirmed that in-sourcing was not a current option given the strain arising from the Covid pandemic.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, Councillor Sophie McGeevor, the Mayor and Cabinet for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that a further extension of 24 months to the Green Space Contract with Glendale Grounds Management be approved from 1st November 2021 until 31st October 2023 at a cost of £ £5.2m.

453. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that in accordance with Regulation 4(2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012 and under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

15. Learning Disability Framework - request to procure a contract for Supported Living

16. Building for Lewisham Programme requirements.

17. Acceptance of Football Foundation Capital Grant - Riverside Youth Club

454. Building for Lewisham Programme requirements Part 2

All recommendations were agreed in the open part of the agenda.

455. Learning Disability Framework - request to procure a contract for Supported Living Part 2

All recommendations were agreed in the open part of the agenda.

456. Acceptance of Football Foundation Capital Grant - Riverside Youth Club Part 2

All recommendations were agreed in the open part of the agenda.

The meeting closed at 7.06pm.