

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 13 January 2021 at 6.00 pm

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Liam Curran and Councillor James Walsh.

413. Declaration of Interests

None were made.

414. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on December 9 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

415. Matters Raised by Scrutiny and other Constitutional Bodies

No new matters had been raised by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The Cabinet did agree a response to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on questions they had raised in November 2020.

Having considered an open officer report, the Mayor and Cabinet:

RESOLVED that the response to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be approved for submission.

416. Future of PLACE Ladywell (part 1)

The reports were presented by Councillor Paul Bell who explained the rationale behind the proposed use of the Ladywell sites.

The Cabinet was addressed by Councillor Walsh, speaking on behalf of some of his constituents who were parents at the nursery. He highlighted the secondary impact of the proposals and believed a consultation with parents beginning on January 5 was not adequate. Councillors Bell and Barnham acknowledged a January 5 date was not acceptable and indicated they would investigate further with the nursery owner with the aim of securing the well being of the children by working on the identification of new premises.

Having considered an open and a confidential officer report, and presentations by Councillor Walsh and the Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning, Councillor Paul Bell, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report, by a vote of 9-0;

RESOLVED that:

(1) the phasing of the comprehensive redevelopment of the former Leisure Centre site by developing the rear of the site as a first phase and retaining the PLACE/Ladywell building to be developed as a second phase in the future, as set out, be approved;

(2) the proposed baseline tenure mix for the new dwellings as set out be approved;

(3) the inclusion of the additional area (Lammas Green Nursery) as outlined in red on the plan at Appendix E to the development site be approved;

(4) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration & Environment in consultation with the Executive Director for Corporate Resources and Director of Law, Governance & HR to procure and appoint consultants and contractors or extend existing contracts to design the land to the rear of PLACE/Ladywell and the nursery site, together with public realm treatment around the PLACE/Ladywell building;

(5) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration & Environment in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Director of Law, Governance & HR to procure and appoint consultants and contractors to carry out the refurbishment works to the PLACE/Ladywell building; and

(6) the stated budget expenditure to refurbish the PLACE/Ladywell building.

417. Schools Minor Works Programme 2021 - 2025 (part 1)

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, by a vote of 10-0;

RESOLVED that:

(1) the procurement of contractors to deliver the SMWP 2021/2022 as set out be approved;

(2) the extension of the current School Minor Works Programme consultant contract to include the construction phase of this year's scheme, as set out be approved;

(3) the procurement of a new set of school condition surveys to inform the Schools Minor Works Programmes from 2022 to 2025, as set out be approved;

(4) the procurement of consultant services for the School Minor Works Programmes from 2022 to 2025, as set out be approved;

(5) 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 finalise the list of works and commence the procurement for the School Minor Capital Works Programme for 2021; and

(6) 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 and enter into contracts to deliver the Schools Minor Capital Works Programme 2021.

418. Extension of Resurfacing and Footways Contracts

The report was presented by Councillor Sophie McGeevor who said advice received from Legal Services had confirmed this was not a key decision.

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, by a vote of 10-0;

RESOLVED that a 1 year extension of the Highways Resurfacing Works Contract, at an approximate cost of £1.5m, and the Highways Footways Works Contract, at an approximate cost of £1m, both be approved with the extensions commencing 1 April 2021 and terminating 31 March 2022.

419. Upgrade of CCTV cameras and control room equipment (part 1)

Having considered an open and a confidential officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, Councillor Brenda Dacres, the Mayor and Cabinet for the reasons set out in the report, by a vote of 10-0;

RESOLVED that the appointment of Eurovia Infrastructure Limited to commencement of the upgrade the CCTV cameras, transmission and CCTV control room equipment, based on their tender, for a period of 12 to 13 months be approved at an agreed cost of £984,876.31

420. Broadway Theatre Works (part 1)

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the jobshare Cabinet Member for Culture, Jobs & Skills, Councillor Andre Bourne, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0,

RESOLVED that

(1) an open procurement exercise be approved to find a suitable Principal Contractor for the proposed works to the Broadway Theatre, at the

approximate value set out in section one of the Part 2 report, and using the process set out in section six of the open report; and

(2) officers be authorised to continue to utilise the services of Purcell as Lead Consultant for RIBA stages 3-7 via direct call-off from the Fusion 21 Framework and to award a further contract to Purcell at a cost of £607,605.

421. Leisure management arrangements

Having considered an officer report, and presentations by two members of the public and by the jobshare Cabinet Member for Culture, Jobs & Skills, Councillor Andre Bourne, the Mayor and Cabinet, for the reasons set out in the report and by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) Officers proceed with the approach to delivery of leisure facilities in the borough during the next period including phased approach to the centres as set out in the report namely:

- Downham Health and Leisure Centre returns to full operating capacity as soon as COVID restrictions allow.
- Glass Mill Leisure Centre returns to full operating capacity as soon as COVID restrictions allow.
- Forest Hill Pools returns to full operating capacity as soon as COVID restrictions allow.
- Wavelengths Leisure Centre returns to full operating capacity as soon as COVID restrictions allow apart from the leisure pool whose opening is reviewed in Spring 2021.
- The Bellingham Leisure and Lifestyle Centre (Bellingham) returns to full operating capacity as soon as COVID restrictions allow but given that a significant part of the centre's provision will be prohibited even under Tier 3, the centre will only reopen fully once restrictions in London are at below this level at least.
- The Bridge Leisure Centre remains closed for a period.

(2) Officers proceed with an Expression of Interest process to gauge the appetite amongst third parties to take on a lease for Ladywell Arena and to operate the site as a publicly accessible facility.

(3) Officers work with the local community to develop a sustainable operating model for the Lewisham Indoor Bowls Centre while wider consideration of the Bridge Leisure Centre is ongoing.

(4) Officers undertake proactive work with schools and other institutions to

increase community access to sports hall facilities and neighbouring leisure facilities to meet demand displaced from the Bridge Leisure Centre; and

(5) Officers return to Mayor and Cabinet in mid 2021/22 with an update and proposals for the wider leisure facility offer in the borough and further consideration of The Bridge Leisure Centre.

422. Council Tax Base

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Councillor Amanda De Ryk, the Mayor and Cabinet agreed, for the reasons set out in the report, in a recorded vote of 10-0 made as follows:

In favour 10

Mayor Egan, Councillors Barnham, Bell, Best, Bonavia, Dacres, Dromey, McGeevor, De Ryk and Slater.

Against

none

Abstention

none

RESOLVED that:

(1) the Council Tax Base calculation for 2021/22, as set out in the annual Council Tax Base government return, attached at Appendix A;

(2) Council be recommended to agree a Council Tax Base of 88,614.3 Band D equivalent properties for 2021/22;

(3) Council be recommended to agree a budgeted Council Tax collection rate of 95.0%;

(4) Council be recommended to agree no changes be made to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) for 2021/22, that eligible claimants make a minimum contribution of 25% towards their council tax;

(5) Council be recommended to approve the continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount of 100% for care leavers up to the age of 25, as set out in section five;

(6) Council be recommended to agree that the existing policy of a 0% discount for second homes for 2020/21 be continued for 2021/22, as set out in section five;

(7) Council be recommended to agree that the existing policy of a 0%

discount for empty homes Class A (an empty property undergoing structural alteration or major repair to make it habitable) be continued, as set out in section five of this report;

(8) Council be recommended to agree that the existing policy of a 100% discount awarded for a period of four weeks and then a 0% discount thereafter, for empty homes – Class C (a substantially empty and unfurnished property) be continued, as set out in section five;

(9) Council be recommended to agree that the existing Long Term Empty Property homes premium of 100% for properties empty between 2 and 5 years, and 200% for those empty for over five years with further incremental increases in future years be continued, as set out in section five;

(10) the proposed 2021/22 National Non Domestic Rate (NNDR) estimated net yield of £65m, based on current information available and excluding any potential additional Covid reliefs or rateable value changes, be noted; and

(11) Council be asked to delegate the approval of the final 2021/22 NNDR1 form to the Executive Director for Corporate Resources for submission by the deadline of 31 January 2021.

423. Exclusion of Press and Public

The resolution was not moved as all reports were considered in conjunction with their Part 1 equivalents.

424. Future of PLACE Ladywell (part 2)

Considered in conjunction with the Part 1 report.

425. Schools Minor Works Programme 2021 - 2025 (part 2)

Having considered 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, by a vote of 10-0:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the overall budget and funding for the programme as set out in section 10 be approved;

(2) the use of the anticipated School Condition Allocation for the completion of a new set of school condition surveys to inform the Schools Minor Works Programmes from 2022 to 2025, as set out in section 8 be approved;

(3) the extension of the current School Minor Works Programme consultant contract to include the construction phase of this year's scheme, as set out, be approved

(4) the procurement of a new set of school condition surveys to inform the Schools Minor Works Programmes from 2022 to 2025, as set out, be approved; and

(5) the procurement of consultant services for the School Minor Works Programmes from 2022 to 2025, as set out, be approved.

426. Upgrade of CCTV cameras and control room equipment (part 2)

Considered in conjunction with the Part 1 report.

427. Broadway Theatre Works (part 2)

Considered in conjunction with the Part 1 report.

The meeting closed at 7.02pm.