

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES – 6th November 2014

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

(N.B. Councillor Dave Cargill declared a Disclosable Other Interest in the following item of business as he was a member of Warrington Angler's Association which had submitted objections to the proposal.)

EXB83 OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED 'AT ANY TIME' WAITING RESTRICTIONS, HILL TOP ROAD, PRESTON ON THE HILL, PRESTON BROOK

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which reported on objections received to the introduction of proposed 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions on part of Hill Top Road, Preston on the Hill, Preston Brook.

The Board was advised that the proposal, as set out in Appendix A of the report, had been subject to formal public consultation. It was noted that eight individual objections were received, together with objections from Warrington Angler's Association and Preston Brook Parish Council. The main points of each objection were summarised in the report for Members' information.

It was reported that waiting restrictions in the area were initially requested by Cheshire Police; there were now a number of factors which combined to justify the need for a waiting restriction along this length of road, namely the introduction of two new access points adjacent to developments off Hill Top Road, the need to maintain adequate visibility levels, and the width of the carriageway.

RESOLVED: That the Board agrees to the making of the Traffic Regulation Order to implement 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions on Hill Top Road, Preston on the Hill, Preston Brook, as set out in Appendix B attached to the report, and that the objectors be informed accordingly.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES – 20th November 2014

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB97 HOMELESS SERVICES AT GRANGEWAY COURT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on a revised service delivery model for homeless services at Grangeway Court.

The Board was advised that the Council-owned scheme operating at Grangeway Court was used to house homeless families nominated exclusively by the Council's Housing Solutions team. Increasing vacancy levels had led to Your Housing Group (YHG) incurring significant financial losses. It was reported that in order to develop a sustainable solution, YHG and Council Officers had developed a revised service model, with an agreement on a proposal which retained the 24/7 staffing cover, but at a reduced overall cost. The principal changes to current service delivery were detailed in the report.

It was further reported that it was proposed to retain/mothball four additional units as a contingency in the event that demand increased due to continuing uncertainty around the impact of the Government's welfare reform programme. On 16 October 2014, the Board had agreed to extend the present contract to 31 March 2015. YHG had indicated they would be agreeable to extending the contract to 31 March 2016, allowing time to demonstrate the sustainability of the model, prior to commencing a procurement exercise later in 2015/16.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the revised service model set out in the report be agreed;
- 2) acting in accordance with Procurement Standing Order 1.8.3, the Board agrees to the waiver of Procurement Standing Order 4.1, to enable an extension of the current contract and lease with Your Housing Group up to 31 March 2016; and
- 3) the implementation of the previously agreed plans to refurbish the retained accommodation units, and to undertake the layout conversions, be agreed.

Strategic Director
- Communities

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB99 OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS ON PART OF CRONTON LANE, WIDNES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions on part of Cronton Lane, Widnes.

The Board was advised that the proposal, as set out in Appendix B of the report, had been considered by the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board at its meeting on 10 September 2014. It was noted that formal consultation on the proposed TRO had been undertaken and two objections had been received from residents of properties fronting the affected area. Details of both objections were attached at Appendix A.

It was reported that the proposal to introduce further waiting restrictions from the east end of Cronton Lane to Hill View were initially requested by a petition from 18 local residents. Members noted that Cheshire Police would be requested to carry out rigorous enforcement action in order to re-educate highway users not to park on the waiting restriction lines.

RESOLVED: That the Board agree to make a Traffic Regulation Order to implement 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions on Cronton Lane, Widnes as listed in Appendix B attached to the report, and the objectors be informed accordingly.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EXB100 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be

disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and

- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

(N.B. Councillor Jones declared a Disclosable Other Interest in the following item of business as he was a Governor of Fairfield School).

EXB101 PEELHOUSE LANE - NEW WIDNES CEMETERY - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which updated Members on the proposed timetable for the construction of the new Widnes Cemetery at Peelhouse Lane.

The report also sought approval for the invitation of tenders to construct the new cemetery and for the addition of the project to the Council's Capital Programme.

Reason(s) for Decision

A decision was required to enable the project to be added to the Council's Capital Programme and in order for the procurement process to commence in accordance with the overall project timeline.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None identified.

Implementation Date

The tender process would commence in January 2015. Works on site would commence once construction of the access road and roundabout was completed in July 2015.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) note the progress made to date and approve the timeline for the tender and construction process detailed in Appendix A;
- 2) approve the proposal to tender works for the construction of a new cemetery;
- 3) recommend that Council approve the addition of the £2.8m project to the Council's Capital Programme; and
- 4) approve the new name of the cemetery as Peel House Cemetery.

Strategic Director
- Communities

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB102 HBC FIELD - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive, on the progress in relation to HBC Field and to make recommendations for its development as part of the 3MG Masterplan. The report set out details for Members' consideration.

Reason(s) for Decision

The Council to enter into a Development Agreement with the preferred developer for the development of the HBC Field.

The Council to enter into an Easement Agreement with Network Rail for the delivery of the 3MG Rail connection.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

The various mechanisms had been reviewed to bring forward the development of HBC Field and the Development Agreement was the option recommended as it protected the Council interests far more than a straightforward disposal. The Council had considered alternative ways of progressing HBC Field. The Easement Agreement with Network Rail was unavoidable. The Council had taken legal advice to fix the position.

Implementation Date

Both agreements would be implemented as soon as practicable and before August 2015.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Council enters into a Development Agreement with IDI Gazeley for the development of HBC Field;
- 2) the Council enters into lease agreements for the disposal of HBC Field to IDI Gazeley;
- 3) the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio holder for Physical Environment, be authorised to take such action as he judges necessary to give effect to the above; and
- 4) the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, be authorised to enter into such agreements and take such other actions concerned with legal and administrative processes as may be necessary to give effect to the above.

Chief Executive

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO AND RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

EXB103 WARRINGTON ROAD TRAVELLER SITE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which provided an update on the delivery of the new permanent Traveller site at

Warrington Road.

The Board was advised that the site was needed to meet imposed national targets for the provision of Traveller pitches. It was reported that the site was critical to the future active management of Traveller accommodation and the control of unauthorised development.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the revised scheme costings, set out in Section 5 of the report be agreed, subject to formally agreeing the required additional funding contributions from the Homes and Communities Agency, and a developer's planning obligation (S106) contribution;
- 2) Council be recommended to increase the estimated amount of the new permanent Warrington Road site within the Council's Capital Programme, in line with the final estimated cost identified following the value engineering process; and
- 3) the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, be granted delegated authority, in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Physical Environment, to consider how any residual gap in funding might be met.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EXECUTIVE BOARD – 11th December 2014

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB108 TOWN CENTRES POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise, which set out details of proposed Policies and Guidelines for Town Centres.

The Board was advised that earlier in the year, Town Centre 'walk arounds' took place which identified a number of 'Street Activity' issues. It was reported that 'street activity' was currently controlled and managed by several Council departments, and an audit of such activities and issues had been undertaken. A framework for the effective management of town centre issues had been prepared.

It was noted that staff needed clear guidance on powers available to them, so as to ensure the right staff

dealt with the right issues. In addition, it was proposed that consideration be given to PCSO's fulfilling additional enforcement duties relating to the management of relevant Town Centres' legislation and/or policies.

The report set out details of policies and guidelines for Members' consideration on the following issues:-

- the management of Highway 'A' Boards;
- the management of the Sale/Display of Goods and Services on the Highway;
- the monitoring and control of pedlar activity and busking in the town centres; and
- the arrangements for organising retail-led events such as craft fairs and Christmas markets.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the updated Highway 'A' Boards Policy be approved;
- 2) an updated policy which includes the Sale/Display of Goods and Services on the Highway and arrangements for al fresco dining be approved;
- 3) the development of further work with Cheshire Police be agreed, to enable PCSO's to enforce additional legislation and policies pertaining to:-

- Highway 'A' Boards;
- Sale/Display of Goods on the Highway;
- Al fresco dining;
- Pedlar activity; and
- Busking.

- 4) the arrangements for the monitoring and control of pedlar activity and busking in the Town Centres be noted; and
- 5) the arrangements for dealing with requests for retail-led events be noted.

Strategic Director
- Children and
Enterprise

EXB109 ORCHARD HOUSE HOUSING SUPPORT SERVICE AND SERVICE USER INVOLVEMENT SERVICE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which sought approval to decommission two services currently funded by the Council's Supporting People budget.

The report set out the details of two housing support services that were proposed for decommissioning. It was reported that currently, these services were provided by the independent sector and funded by the Council's Supporting

People Grant. They were Orchard House, a six bed supported housing scheme for single homeless young people, and Service User Involvement – a service to empower vulnerable Service Users and promote engagement at all levels.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the decommissioning of the Orchard House Service when the current contract expires on 31 March 2015 be agreed;
- 2) acting in accordance with Procurement Standing Order 1.8.3, Procurement Standing Order 4.1 be waived and delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Director, Communities, to extend the current Orchard House contract for up to two months in the event that the opening of the new Albert Road hostel is delayed;
- 3) the decommissioning of the Service User Involvement Service be agreed; and
- 4) acting in accordance with Procurement Standing Order 1.8.3, Procurement Standing Order 4.1 be waived to extend the current Service User Involvement Contract to 30 June 2015.

Strategic Director
- Communities