

## CABINET

10 OCTOBER 2016

Present: Councillors Chowney (Chair), Forward, Cartwright, Davies, Poole, Fitzgerald, Lee and Patmore

### 36. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2016

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2016 be approved and signed by the chair as a correct record

**RESOLVED** the Chair advised of an amendment to the recommendation contained in the Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment's report on Sustainable Housing in Inclusive Neighbourhoods (SHINE) updated bid, to read that delegated authority was given to the Director of Operational Services, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Housing, Communications and Equalities Portfolio Holder, to enter into a partnership agreement to support the EU funded SHINE (Sustainable Houses in Inclusive Neighbourhoods) project and deliver the associated outcomes. The Chair called over the items on the agenda, under rule 13.3 the recommendations set out in minute numbers 37, 38 and 39 were agreed without being called for discussion.

### 37. SUSTAINABLE HOUSING IN INCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS (SHINE) UPDATED BID

The Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment, submitted a report which sought delegated authority for the Director of Operational Services, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Housing, Communication and Equalities portfolio holder, to enter into a partnership agreement to support the EU funded SHINE (Sustainable Houses in Inclusive Neighbourhoods) project.

There were currently two approved EU-funded projects in Hastings, SHINE and CAN (Climate Active Neighbourhood), which aimed to tackle fuel poverty and reduce the town's carbon emissions by piloting CO2 reduction and low carbon technologies. SHINE activities will take place across a number of deprived neighbourhoods in St Leonards, while CAN will focus on the Ore, Baird and Tressell wards of Hastings. Cabinet had been kept up to date with progress on both of these initiatives.

SHINE was a 4 year project, commencing in September 2016, and involving 15 partners from across the UK, Belgium, Netherlands and France. Hastings Borough Council intendeds to lead the activity of the UK partners; AmicusHorizon, Energise Sussex Coast (ESC) and Brighton and Hove City Council.

The report noted the risks associated with the SHINE and CAN (Climate Active Neighbourhood) projects following the recent referendum decision to leave the European Union (EU). The current advice from the DCLG and European partners is to proceed with the bid. The risk of disruption by the Brexit negotiations will be mitigated by keeping the projects under constant review and taking appropriate action

## CABINET

10 OCTOBER 2016

to end the project as quickly as possible if funding comes to an end earlier than expected.

### **RESOLVED that:**

- 1. Delegated authority be given to the Director of Operational Services, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Housing, Communications and Equalities Portfolio Holder, to enter into a partnership agreement on the EU funded SHINE cooperation project and deliver the associated outcomes, and;**
- 2. To continue to participate in the SHINE and CAN programmes as detailed in the partnership agreements but regularly review the situation, taking into account the negotiations over Brexit and minimise the financial risk to the council**

### The reason for this decision was:

1. HBC's involvement in the SHINE project will see a total investment of £1.77m (Euro 2.11m) to the town. The funding application has been revised several times on the advice of assessors and this report confirms the final stage of the scheme and the funding approved.
2. The CAN project was approved by Cabinet in November 2015 and will see total investment of £845k in North East Hastings.
3. Funding for both projects will help reduce carbon emissions from properties and improve the housing conditions of residents living in some of the worst properties in the town. The initiatives will also help alleviate fuel poverty.
4. With the UK planning to leave the EU, the current advice is that the UK remains a full member and entitled to participate in EU funded projects, until such time of a withdrawal date. Once the Brexit negotiations are final and / or become clearer, actions may have to be taken when their impact on the projects has been assessed.

## **38. LAND ON CHURCHFIELDS ESTATE**

The Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues, submitted a report which sought approval to purchase land on the Churchfields Estate.

The plot, which was the largest undeveloped site on Churchfields Industrial Estate, adjoined two plots which were already in the council's ownership. The council was also in the process of acquiring the long leasehold interest on a further nearby plot.

The site was allocated in the Development Management Plan for employment use and acquiring the additional land would provide improved flexibility for potential development. Once developed, the land could provide opportunities for employment and economic development in the town, as well as enhancing the council's income stream in the long term.

## CABINET

10 OCTOBER 2016

The current owners had agreed terms for the purchase in principle, as set out in an accompanying part II report. The price agreed was in accordance with the valuation obtained from the property services arm of the Valuation Office Agency.

### **RESOLVED to purchase the land on terms set out in the Part 2 report**

The reason for this decision was:

The land is allocated for employment use in the Development Management Plan (DMP) and adjoins vacant plots in the council's ownership so offers opportunities for development.

The council is seeking income generation opportunities in the future but most importantly looking to ensure economic development opportunities continue within Hastings.

### **39. MINUTES OF THE CHARITY COMMITTEE MEETING AND THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE FORESHORE TRUST HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2016**

The minutes of the Charity Committee meeting and the Annual Public Meeting of the Foreshore Trust held on 26 September 2016 were submitted.

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the Charity Committee and the Annual Public Meeting of the Foreshore Trust held on 26 September 2016 be received**

### **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Councillor Cartwright proposed a motion for the exclusion of the public from the meeting, which was seconded by Councillor Patmore.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the items of business listed below because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 referred to in the relevant report**

### **40. LAND ON CHURCHFIELDS ESTATE**

The Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues, presented a report which set out the financial implications of the purchase of land on the Churchfields Estate.

Councillor Chowney proposed approval of the recommendation to the Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues report, which was seconded by Councillor Cartwright.

## CABINET

10 OCTOBER 2016

**RESOLVED (unanimously) to purchase the freehold of the land for the amount set out in the Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues, report (plus stamp duty land tax and registration fees)**

The reason for this decision was:

The land is allocated for employment use in the Development Management Plan (DMP) and adjoins vacant plots in the council's ownership so offers opportunities for development.

### **41. JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The Assistant Director, Environment and Place, presented a report which updated Cabinet on significant developments between the East Sussex Joint Waste Partnership and Kier Services Limited. The report sought approval for the recommendations of the East Sussex Joint Waste Committee on a proposed way forward.

Councillor Davies proposed approval of the recommendations to the Assistant Director, Environment and Place's report, which was seconded by Councillor Fitzgerald.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that:**

- 1. The Joint Waste Partnership proceed with Option B and the Lead Director for the Partnership (in discussion with the Hastings Borough Council Director of Operational Services) be authorised to conclude without prejudice negotiations and finalise legal terms for agreement, and;**
- 2. Cabinet expresses its thanks to the Lead Director for the Partnership (Dr Anthony Leonard of Rother District Council) and the Partnership Manager Madeleine Gorman, for the commitment and energy shown in dealing with this crucial and sensitive issue**

The reason for this decision was:

On 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016 the East Sussex Joint Waste Committee met to consider the developments set out in the appendix to this report. The committee resolved that Option B be recommended to each partner council for approval.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 6.35 pm)