

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting: Wednesday, 27th July, 2022
at 2.00 pm. (Committee Room No. 4)

Present: Councillors Brook (Chairman), Roberts (Vice-Chair), Barlow, Biggins, Hamilton (Minute Nos 35 to 41 only), McClure, Maddox, Morgan, Roberts, Shirley and Wall.

Officers Present: Sam Plum (Chief Executive), Steph Cordon (Director of People and Place), Debbie Storr (Head of Legal and Governance) Chris Butler (Financial Services Manager), Les Davies (Head of Asset Management) (Minute Nos 28 to 33 and 41 only), David Joyce (Commercial Estates Manager) (Minute Nos 28 to 39 and 41 only), and Jon Huck (Democratic and Electoral Services Manager).

28 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Burley.

29 The Local Government Act, 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 and Access to Information (Variation) Order 2006 - Urgent Item

RESOLVED:- That by reason of the special circumstances outlined below the Chairman is of the opinion that the following item of business not specified on the agenda should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency in accordance with Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Item	Reason
Heritage Grants Scheme (Minute No. 34)	To ensure appropriate delegations in place to enable the grants to be signed off as soon as possible.
30 The Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 and Access to Information (Variation) Order 2006	

Discussion arising hereon it was:-

RESOLVED:- That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 (Minute Nos 38 and 39) and Paragraphs 3 and 5 (Minute No.40) of Part One of Schedule 12A of the said Act.

31 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Shirley declared an Interest in Agenda Item 12 - Contract Matter (Minute No 40).

32 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

33 Public Participation

RESOLVED:- To note that no questions, representations, deputations or petitions had been received in respect of the meeting.

34 Heritage Grant Schemes

The Head of Legal and Governance reported that the Council had a High Street Heritage Action Zone - Repair Grant Scheme funded by the government and administered by Historic England. Grants awarded under the Scheme were part-funded by the Council's which was referred to as match funding.

The Council also had the Micro to Mighty Grant Scheme, which was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The report sought delegation for the Head of Regeneration & Planning Policy to determine grant awards.

Members asked for the delegation to be in consultation with the Lead Member for Heritage and Wildlife.

It was moved by Councillor Morgan and seconded by Councillor Wall, and

RESOLVED:- To delegate to the Head of Regeneration & Planning Policy, in consultation with the Lead Member for Heritage and Wildlife, to determine the heritage grant awards.

35 UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The Director of People and Place updated the Committee on progress made in producing the final version of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Investment Plan for Barrow, and the work completed to date with Eden and South Lakeland District Councils which would be delivered by Westmorland and Furness Council following vesting day.

She commented that due to the work involved in pulling together the draft Investment Plan and the fact that the final version was still being worked on she recommended that the recommendations included delegations to the Director of People and Place in consultation with the Chair of Executive Committee the authority to submit the Investment Plan to Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) by 1 August 2022.

Also government guidance had set out 41 interventions across the three themes that could be chosen to form the basis of the Investment Plans. From assessing their alignment with current strategic objectives and informed by the concepts submitted as part of the stakeholder engagement sessions, the three districts had provisionally identified 13 interventions that were detailed in the report.

It was moved by Councillor Morgan and seconded by Councillor Barlow, and

RESOLVED: -

1. To note the evidence base and draft intervention list attached at Appendix 1;
2. To delegate to the Director of People and Place in consultation with the Chair of Executive Committee authority to finalise the UKSPF Investment Plan including the consideration of comments from the Westmorland and Furness Local Partnership Group;
3. To delegate to the Director of People and Place in consultation with the Chair of Executive Committee the authority to submit the Investment Plan to Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) by 1 August 2022;
4. To delegate to the Director of People and Place in consultation with the Chair of Executive Committee the authority to agree a business case development process to accept specific projects into the Investment Plan; and
5. To record appreciation of the work that partners and officers have contributed within short timeframes to develop an evidence-based approach to priority setting for the UKSPF Investment Plan.

36 Hanging Baskets and Plant Contact

The Director of People and Place report updated the Committee on the contract and the current arrangement to cover summer 2022 with a view to having a new contract in place for spring plants 2023 onwards.

It was moved by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Maddox, and

RESOLVED: -

1. To note the updated position on the contract; and
2. To request Officers provide an update on arrangements for Spring Plants 2023 onwards.

37 Capital Programme

The Director of Resources report informed the Committee that the Capital Programme 2021-2025 had been presented to this Committee on 9 March 2022.

The report contained the outturn for 2021-2022, details of slippage into 2022- 2023, and other revisions to 2022-2023 and future years.

It was moved by Councillor Barlow and seconded by Councillor Roberts, and

RESOLVED:-

1. To note the 2021-2022 outturn; and

2. To approve the Capital Programme 2022-2025.

Local Government Act 1972 - Excluded Items

It was moved by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Hamilton that the meeting moved into Part Two, and

RESOLVED:- That the items to be taken in Part Two of the Agenda be dealt with following the exclusion of the press and the public.

38 Long Term Lease

The Director of Resources report informed the Committee that a request had been received for a 25 year peppercorn lease as set out in the Part 2 report.

Members raised that regard be had to the Community Lettings Policy.

It was moved by Councillor Wall and seconded by Councillor Barlow, and

RESOLVED:-

1. To grant a 25 year peppercorn lease as set out in the Part 2 report;
2. To approve the use from the Contingency Reserve to cover the budget shortfall created in 2022-2023 as set out in the report; and
3. To note that the Medium Term Financial Plan budget deficit shall increase by £6,000 per annum

39 Lease Termination - Dilapidations Notice

The Director of People and Place report detailed the current position regarding the termination of a lease.

It was moved by Councillor Wall and seconded by Councillor Morgan, and

RESOLVED:-

1. To approve the settlement for terminal dilapidations as agreed between the parties as detailed within the report; and
2. To authorise Officers to sign the settlement agreement.

40 Contract Matter

The Committee received a report from the Director of Resources on a Contract Matter.

It was moved by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor McClure, and

RESOLVED:- That the resolutions as set out in the Exempt Minute be agreed.

REFERRED ITEM

THE FOLLOWING MATTERS ARE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION

41 Strategic Asset Management Plan 2022-2023

The Head of Asset Management reported that as we move towards Local Government Reorganisation in 2023, the nature of public services would change and new ways of working and new technologies would need to be adopted to facilitate the merging of Barrow into the new unitary authority Westmorland and Furness Council.

The Strategic Asset Management Plan which was considered by the Committee was intended to promote a common understanding of emerging issues and priority actions in the short to medium-term. It was not a static document, but part of a process designed to engage Members, officers, partners and customers in a debate about the nature of and future management direction for the Council's land and property resource to influence regeneration and economic development

It was moved by Councillor Morgan and seconded by Councillor Barlow; and

RESOLVED:- To recommend the Council:-

1. To agree the Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) as attached to the report;
2. To agree to the investment profiles identified in Part 5 of the SAMP; and
3. To agree to the Priorities and Actions identified in Part 6 of the SAMP.

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm.