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Community & Environment Committee

Minutes of a Community & Environment Committee meeting held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday, 6th March, 2024 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bank Road, Matlock, DE4 3NN.

PRESENT

Councillor Martin Burfoot - In the Chair

Councillors: Robert Archer, Anthony Bates, David Chapman, Peter Dobbs, Marilyn Franks, Gareth Gee, Susan Hobson, Dermot Murphy, Peter Slack, Steve Wain and Simon Ripton

Present as substitute – Councillor(s): Simon Ripton

Helen Mitchell (Director of Corporate and Customer Services (Monitoring Officer)), Tim Braund (Director of Regulatory Services), Steve Capes (Director of Regeneration & Policy), Amanda Brown (Economic Development Manager), Karen Carpenter (Environmental Health Officer), Amanda Goodwill (Environmental Health Manager), Vikki Hatfield (Neighbourhoods Manager) and Angela Gratton (Democratic Services Officer)

Note:

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APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor(s): Peter O'Brien, Kelda Boothroyd, Matt Buckler and Andy Nash

344/23 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Anthony Bates, Seconded by Councillor Peter Dobbs and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held on 7 December 2023 be approved as a correct record.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

345/23 - RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

It was moved by Councillor Peter Slack, seconded by Councillor Gareth Gee and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

That the minutes of the following Sub-Committee meetings be received:

- Local Plan Sub-Committee – 30 November 2023
- Local Plan Sub-Committee – 20 December 2023
- Local Plan Sub-Committee – 01 February 2024

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

346/23 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

347/23 - INTERESTS

Item 9 – Planning Appeal: Leys Farm, Wyaston Road, Ashbourne

Councillor Peter Dobbs declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 9 as being named as the Councillor fronting the Council's case.

Item 10 – UK Shared Prosperity Fund / Rural England Prosperity Fund: Town Centre Improvements Grants for Approval

Councillor Martin Burfoot declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 10 due to being a member of Matlock Community Vision.

Councillor Steve Wain declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 10 due to being a member of Matlock Town Council.

Councillor Marilyn Franks declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 10 due to being a member of Matlock Town Council

Item 11 – Capital Bid for Inclusion into the Capital Programme 2024-25

Councillor Steve Wain declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 11 due to being a member of Matlock Town Council.

Councillor Marilyn Franks declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 11 due to being a member of Matlock Town Council.

348/23 - QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE OF PROCEDURE NUMBER 15

None.

349/23 - ASHBOURNE AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA ACTION PLAN AND AIR QUALITY MONITORING

The Director of Regulatory Services introduced a report providing Members with an update in relation to the Ashbourne Air Quality Management Area Action Plan in respect of the questions raised at the meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held on 7 December 2023 and a warning letter received from DEFRA in respect of the late submission of the Action Plan.

He explained a response was now needed to respond to DEFRA's warning letter which had been triggered by the absence of a valid AQAP and because a revised submission date for the AQAP had not been agreed with DEFRA. Members were asked to consider the situation and to determine how they wish officers to respond to the DEFRA warning letter noting DEFRA's current deadline of 8 March 2024 for the submission of the AQAP.

The Environmental Health Manager informed Members a response had been received from Derbyshire County Council regarding the two questions raised by the Community and Environment Committee at the December meeting a copy of which had been circulated to Members.

Neill Bennett, DCC Assistant Director, Highways Commissioning informed Members that Derbyshire Highways alongside PLACE colleagues are committed to supporting the AQAP in collaboration with DDDC colleagues and would provide a Highways interventions and position summary to Members after the meeting. To optimise interventions to provide the best outcomes for Ashbourne it is essential that all activities are evidence led, are subject to review and updated as work packages are developed and are implemented. Clearly, this means that whilst the areas identified for action were based on a joint assessment and agreement at the time, as knowledge and technologies develop, and the wider series of interventions via BSIP, Levelling Up, DEFRA and Highways capital funded projects are developed and implemented, the action plan will have to be reviewed.

It was moved by Councillor Peter Dobbs, Seconded by Councillor Steve Wain and

RESOLVED (Unanimously)

1. That the update in relation to the 2 questions for Derbyshire County Council raised by the December meeting of this Committee are noted.
2. To engage with DEFRA to explain the reasons why the submission of the AQAP has been delayed and to seek to agree a new date for the submission of the AQAP.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

6.47 Neill Bennett, DCC Assistant Director, Highways Commissioning left the meeting.

350/23 - DERBYSHIRE DALES CORPORATE PLAN: WORKING GROUPS

The Director of Regeneration and Policy introduced a report updating Members on progress made by the four Derbyshire Dales Corporate Plan Working Groups, established by Council on 14 December 2023, which are under the remit of this committee.

It was moved by Councillor Peter Dobbs, Seconded by Councillor Robert Archer and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

The report and appendices were noted.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

6.51 pm Meeting adjourned.

7.05 pm Meeting reconvened.

351/23 - PLANNING APPEAL: LEYS FARM, WYASTON ROAD, ASHBOURNE

7.05 pm Councillor Dobbs left the meeting due to having a non-pecuniary interest.

The Director of Regeneration and Policy introduced a report seeking use of the General Reserve for fees in connection with defending an appeal at a Planning Inquiry relating to an application recommended for approval which was refused by the Planning Committee.

It was moved by Councillor Robert Archer, Seconded by Councillor Anthony Bates and

RESOLVED

1. That an Urgent Decision is sought to approve a supplementary revenue budget in 2023/24 for additional expenditure of up to £100,000 in respect of a planning appeal, to be financed from the General Reserve.
2. That the approach to defending the appeal as set out in section 3 of the report is agreed.

Voting

11 For

1 Against

0 Abstained

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

7.08 pm Councillor Peter Dobbs rejoined the meeting.

352/23 - UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND / RURAL ENGLAND PROSPERITY FUND: TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS GRANTS FOR APPROVAL

The Economic Development Manager introduced a report to consider the decision of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Board in relation to Improvements to Town Centres, to meet the spend and output requirements before 31st March 2025. Funding has been provided by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). Following the Council meeting in December 2023, a call for projects was issued.

Members were informed that the UKSPF Partnership Board had considered full, detailed appraisals of the following projects and had approved unanimously the capital grants, figures subject to final costings and subject to match funding where indicated:

It was moved by Councillor Steve Wain, Seconded by Councillor Peter Slack and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

That in accordance with the decisions of the UKSPF Partnership Board, capital allocations are approved as follows:

- Matlock Western Gateway Phase 1 - £268,000
- Town Centre Improvement Fund: Matlock: Hall Leys Park Project - £450,737
- Town Centre Improvement Fund: Wirksworth: The Meadows Rejuvenation Project – £150,000

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

353/23 - CAPITAL BID FOR INCLUSION INTO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2024-25

The Neighbourhoods Manager introduced the report seeking Members approval for one new bid (comprising of four projects) for a capital project to be referred to Council on 4th April 2024 for inclusion in the District Council's Capital Programme 2024/25. As required by financial regulations, a full business case has been completed for each proposed capital project. A grant from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund covers approximately 61% of the estimated project cost with the other 39% to be match funded.

The Council are in a position to carry out several significant improvements in Hall Leys Park, Matlock as detailed below. A sizable funding contribution of up to £450,737 is available from UKSPF towards these projects, requiring match funding of £279,263 from the Council's capital resources:

- Replace the Skatepark,
- Replace the paddling pool with a Splash Pad reducing repair and maintenance costs,
- Refurbish the pathways with resin bonded surface and
- Working with Derbyshire County Council introduce a multi-user trail to connect section of the White Peak Loop.

It was moved by Councillor Steve Wain, Seconded by Councillor Simon Ripton and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

That £279,263 of match funding for the Hall Leys Park Improvement Capital Bid for year 2024/25, summarised in the report, be approved by this Committee, and recommended to Council for inclusion in the capital programme.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

Meeting Closed: 7.35 am

Chair