

Cabinet

Monday, 11 July 2022

Decisions

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Monday, 11 July 2022. Decisions made by the Cabinet will be subject to call-in. Recommendations made to the Council are not subject to call-in. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Jonathan Malton.

1. Lynton Way, Sawston - Recreation Ground

Cabinet:

Agreed to implement a new 99-year lease with Sawston Parish Council relating to land owned by South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) at Lynton Way, Sawston.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- a) Decided to leave the existing lease in place, with 44 years remaining.
- b) Offered a new lease over a different term but not less than the 44 years remaining.
- c) Agreed to surrender the interest in the existing lease and agree to transfer the freehold to Sawston Parish Council.
- d) Agreed to treat this as an exceptional case and agree to a new lease longer than 99 years (subject to the requirements of the Asset Transfer Policy, which requires such a disposal to be advertised)
- e) Deferred a decision until a later date, pending further information.

Reason for Decision: Sawston Parish Council seeks to deliver substantial investment at the site, which is currently leased from SCDC, using Section 106 monies (including a new cricket pavilion) in accordance with the intended purpose of the land (which is for recreational use), and in line with Planning regulations and requirements. It is felt that a review of the lease arrangements would ensure long-standing benefit for the local community of these investment plans.

2. Orwell Beacon - Asset Transfer

Cabinet:

Agreed to the transfer of ownership of the Orwell Beacon ('the Beacon', also known as the Orwell Millennium Beacon) from South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) to Orwell Parish Council.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not approved the asset transfer (either permanently, or deferring a decision pending further information), meaning the Orwell Beacon will remain the responsibility of SCDC until such time as a new decision is made.

Reason for Decision: Orwell Parish Council has indicated a desire to take over ownership of the Beacon, which is sited in the Parish of Orwell on Parish Council-owned land, and used by the Parish Council for the benefit of the local community to mark special occasions.

Officers consider that the transfer of the ownership of this asset would be in keeping with the Council's Asset Transfer Policy.

3. **Biodiversity Net Gain**

Cabinet:

Endorsed the Biodiversity Net Gain proposal as an interim approach of guiding principles for siting biodiversity net gain for developments within South Cambridgeshire, with delegated powers given to the Joint Planning Director of Planning and Economic Development to make minor changes to the technical note.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- a) Proposed an alternative or modified approach to Biodiversity Net Gain.
- b) Do nothing and wait for more guidance to come from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, but the timescales are unknown.

Reason for Decision: To provide a practical and consistent approach to Biodiversity Net Gain to help Planning Officers, Planning Committee and developers in the period between now and November 2023 when Government will announce its approach.

4. **Greater Cambridge Local Development Scheme and Greater Cambridge Local Plan First Proposals Representations**

Cabinet:

- a) **Noted** the representations made to the Greater Cambridge Local Plan First Proposals (Preferred Options) consultation and the report on the consultation at Appendix A.
- b) **Agreed** to adopt the updated Local Development Scheme for Greater Cambridge included at Appendix B of the report, to take effect from Monday 1 August 2022.
- c) **Agreed** to grant delegated authority to the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development, in consultation with the South Cambridgeshire District Council Lead Cabinet member for Planning and the Cambridge City Council Executive Councillor for Planning and Infrastructure (in consultation with chair and spokes), to make any minor editing changes and corrections identified to the updated Local Development Scheme for Greater Cambridge included at Appendix A of the report prior to publication.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Proposed amendments to the plan-making timetables within the updated Local Development Scheme for Greater Cambridge included at Appendix B of the report – this option is not recommended as officers consider that alternative programmes would not enable the plans to be progressed in a manageable way that robustly responds to the issues identified in this report.

Reason for Decision: There is a need to revise the 2020 Local Development Scheme (LDS) timetables to ensure that the LDS remains up to date as per the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). The proposed timetables set out in the updated Greater Cambridge Local Development Scheme included at Appendix B of the report are recommended as they take particular account of changes in circumstances in relation to: evidence to demonstrate an appropriate water supply, change to the timetable of the Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant Development Consent Order, and allow for appropriate time in the process to deal with the stages following each consultation, noting the complexity of issues and the volume of comments raised by Preferred Options consultation.

5. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Transport and Connectivity Plan: Draft Plan Consultation Response

Cabinet:

- a) **Agreed** the proposed response to the draft Local Transport & Connectivity Plan consultation as set out in Appendix A.
- b) **Agreed** to grant delegated authority to the Lead Cabinet Member for Economic Development to consider and agree any material changes to the response to the draft Local Transport & Connectivity Plan consultation proposed by Cabinet, in liaison with the Cambridge City Council Executive Councillor for Planning and Infrastructure, and in consultation with the Chair and Spokes of the Cambridge City Council Planning & Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- c) **Agreed** to grant delegated authority to the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development, in liaison with the South Cambridgeshire Lead Cabinet member for Economic Development and the Cambridge City Council Executive Councillor for Planning and Infrastructure, to make any minor editing changes to the response to the draft Local Transport & Connectivity Plan consultation.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- a) Agreed the proposed response to consultation with amendments
- b) Decided not to submit a response to the consultation – this option is not recommended as it would not ensure that the LTCP properly reflects the Council's priorities as well as the transport policies and schemes required to address existing and emerging issues for Greater Cambridge.

Reason for Decision: The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Transport & Connectivity Plan (LTCP) sets the policy framework for transport schemes and

policies affecting Greater Cambridge. The draft LTCP consultation provides the main opportunity for Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council to contribute to the document, to ensure that it fully addresses existing and emerging issues for our area. The proposed response seeks to ensure that the document fully reflects the Council's priorities as well as the transport policies and schemes required to address existing and emerging issues for Greater Cambridge.

6. Neighbouring Local Plan Consultation Responses Cabinet:

- a) **Agreed** the proposed response to the West Suffolk Local Plan Preferred Options (Regulation 18) consultation as set out in Appendix A, and the proposed response to the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2040 Plan for Submission (Regulation 19) as set out in Appendix B
- b) **Agreed** that any material changes to the responses to the West Suffolk Local Plan Preferred Options (Regulation 18) and the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2040 Plan for Submission (Regulation 19) arising from consideration by Cabinet will be agreed via an out of cycle decision by the South Cambridgeshire Lead Cabinet Member for Planning in liaison with the Executive Councillor for Planning and Infrastructure, and in consultation with the Chair and Spokes of the Cambridge City Council Planning & Transport Scrutiny Committee.
- c) **Agreed** to grant delegated authority to the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development, in liaison with the South Cambridgeshire Lead Cabinet member for Planning and the Cambridge City Council Executive Councillor for Planning and Infrastructure, to make any minor editing changes to the responses to the West Suffolk Local Plan Preferred Options (Regulation 18) and the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2040 Plan for Submission (Regulation 19).

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- a) Agreed the proposed response to the consultations with amendments.
- b) Decided not to submit a response to the consultations – this option is not recommended as the respective plans would progress without awareness of potential impacts on Greater Cambridge.

Reason for Decision: The contents of the neighbouring or nearby Local Plans referred to in this report could in principle impact on Greater Cambridge and have implications for the emerging joint Greater Cambridge Local Plan. The proposed responses seek to minimise negative and maximise the positive impacts of these plans on Greater Cambridge.

7. Delivery at Northstowe Cabinet:

Recommended to Council to:

- a) Approve additional funding for the Phase 1 community buildings of:

- i. £1.53m for the Sports Pavilion (including an allocation of £300k from the Renewable Energy Reserve)
 - ii. £6.5m for the Community Building funded from Capital Receipts.
- b) Approve an amendment to the Capital Programme to increase the allocation by £1.38m for the Phase 2 Civic Hub funded by the s106 to reflect the total allocation after indexation.
- c) Approve an additional £2.82 allocated to the Civic Hub programme funded from Capital Receipts.
- d) Note that the Phase 2 Sports Pavilion is likely to be underfunded, but that delivery is not expected until 18 months after the 500th occupation on Phase 2. Although an exact amount cannot be estimated at this time, it is proposed an additional allocation of £2m be made in the General Fund Capital Programme, funded from Capital Receipts, for this project.
- e) Create a further provision of £433,000 (£219,000 plus indexation) for the Phase 1 Section 106 shortfall.
- f) Create a provision for Phase 2 Section 106 commitments of £1.6m
- g) Request that officers undertake a further review of infrastructure prioritisation in the S106 agreement for phase 2 in light of this report and report the matter back to the Planning Committee for consideration.
- h) Agree to the Community Centre and Local Centre being built on Parcel 6 via a Direct Delivery or Development Manager model.
- i) Pause the wider Enterprise Zone development (on Parcels 1,2, 3 and 4) for an initial period of 12 months.
- j) Agree the approach to Parcel 5 taking into account the option agreement set out in the exempt section of this report

This is a recommendation to Council, and not subject to call-in.

Cabinet:

- k) **Agreed** to establish a Member Governance Board for Northstowe

The above decision from Cabinet is subject to call-in.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not recommended to Council the proposals to deliver the community facilities in Northstowe.

Reason for Decision: The Council has an obligation as set out in Appendix A to deliver community facilities at Northstowe. These recommendations would enable the Council to move forward with the development of these buildings.

8. Acquisition 18 no. Affordable Homes in Over

Cabinet:

Approved the property acquisition as specified in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the exempt report.

Options Considered: As specified in paragraph 26 of the exempt report.

Reason for Decision: As specified in paragraphs 9-11 of the exempt report.