

## MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **MID SUFFOLK CABINET** held in the King Edmund Chamber, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich on Monday, 1 November 2021

### PRESENT:

Councillor: Suzie Morley (Chair)

Councillors: David Burn  
Jessica Fleming  
Lavinia Hadingham  
John Whitehead  
Julie Flatman  
Peter Gould  
Harry Richardson

### In attendance:

Councillor(s): John Field  
Helen Geake  
Andrew Mellen  
Keith Welham

Guest(s): Jo Fellowes – Schools Infrastructure Manager - Suffolk County Council  
Schools  
Pete Munford – Schools Planning Manager - Suffolk County Council

Officers: Chief Executive (AC)  
Strategic Director (KN)  
Assistant Director – Planning and Building Control (TB)  
Assistant Director - Economic Development and Regeneration (FD)  
Assistant Director - Housing (GF)  
Interim Assistant Director for Communities and Wellbeing (NM)  
Senior Governance Officer (HH)

### Apologies:

Gerard Brewster (Vice-Chair)

## 57 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS

57.1 Councillor Richardson declared a local non-pecuniary interest in Item 8, as a Ward Member for Thurston.

57.2 Councillor Whitehead declared a local non-pecuniary interest in Item 10, as Director for Gateway 14 Ltd.

## 58 MCA/21/24 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2021

It was **RESOLVED**: -

**That the minutes of the meeting held on the 4 October 2021 be confirmed as a**

correct record.

**59 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PETITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S PETITION SCHEME**

None received.

**60 QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS**

None received.

**61 MATTERS REFERRED BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY OR JOINT AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEES**

There were no matters referred.

**62 FORTHCOMING DECISIONS LIST**

The Forthcoming Decisions List was noted.

**63 MCA/21/25 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) - CIL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME NOVEMBER 2021**

63.1 The Chair invited the Cabinet Member for Planning, Councillor Burn to introduce the report.

63.2 Councillor Burn provided the introduction and outlined the two CIL bids in the report. He introduced Suffolk County Council's (SCC) Schools Infrastructure Manager and Schools Planning Manager to Cabinet.

63.3 Councillor Burn proposed recommendation 3.1 and 3.2 in the report, which was seconded by Councillor Fleming.

63.4 The Chair invited the Ward Member for Elmswell, Councillor Geake to make a representation to Cabinet.

63.5 Councillor Geake reiterated that the Parish Council, the Suffolk County Councillor and herself were against the proposal for Elmswell. She provided a summary of the attendance at the school and the circumstances surrounding school provision for Elmswell and Woolpit and the reasons for her objections to the development at Elmswell Primary School.

63.6 In response to Councillor Hadingham's questions, the SCC Schools Infrastructure Manager and Schools Planning Manager detailed the issues for the development of the school site based on the projected increase in pupils attending the school in 2022. The neighbouring village of Woolpit would be able to provide school places for any future increases in the number of primary school children in Elmswell, once the new housing developments were completed. Currently no suitable sites had been made available for the development of a new school in Elmswell.

- 63.7 The Chair asked if any of the sites that had been identified in the emerging Joint Local Plan had been considered, to which the SCC School Planning Manager responded that there had been no sites offered to the SCC Educational Authority which had been large enough to accommodate a new school in Elmswell.
- 63.8 The SCC Schools Manager continued to respond to questions from Members on issues including expected increases in the number of pupils in both Elmswell and Woolpit, the current and future capacity of the school provision in both villages, the time scales for the building of a new school, and the implications of the land availability for sites.
- 63.9 The Schools Infrastructure Manager outlined the responses to the consultation and the support of the school Governors for the development.
- 63.10 Officers responded to questions from other Members attending the meeting including the combined capacity of Elmswell and Woolpit schools and the long-term cohesive strategy for both communities being served by three schools, plans for walking and cycling links between the two villages, and forecasts for pupils attending each school.
- 63.11 Members debated the issues including that the solution to provide additional school places was based on advice received from the Local Education Authority and was supported by the School in Elmswell, that the Community User agreement would be included in phase 3 of the bid progression, that the bid was supported by the school administration and Governors, the consequences of delaying the bid, and that the bid was based on technical advice from planning officers and SCC officers. In addition that the role of the Cabinet was not to decide where schools should be built but to consider the proposed bid.
- 63.12 The Cabinet Member for Planning, Councillor Burn stated that due diligence had to be undertaken when considering the CIL Bid. He outlined the issues around the decision for the new school site and future plans for further developments in both Elmswell and Woolpit.
- 63.13 The Chair advised Members that a separate vote would be taken for each of the proposed CIL bids in recommendation 1.1.

**It was RESOLVED:-**

- 1.1 That the CIL Expenditure Programme (November 2021) and accompanying technical assessment of the CIL Bid – M21-03 and M19-06(forming Appendices, A and B) and which include decisions on these CIL Bid for Cabinet to make as follows be approved: -**

**Ringfenced and Local Infrastructure Fund**

CIL Bid, Location and	Amount of CIL Bid and	Cabinet Decision
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<b>Infrastructure Proposed</b>	<b>total cost of the Infrastructure</b>	
M21-03 ELMSWELL Elmswell Primary School increase from 315 to 420 places	Amount of CIL Bid £1,560,006.21 Total costs £2,224,884.50	Recommendation to Cabinet to approve CIL Bid M21-03 for £1,560,006.21, with £1,251,938.98 from the Ringfenced Fund and £308,067.23 from the Local Infrastructure Fund

**It was RESOLVED:**

**AMENDMENTS TO A PREVIOUS BID AGREED BY MID SUFFOLK CABINET  
ON 7th JUNE 2021**

<b>CIL Bid, Location and Infrastructure Proposed</b>	<b>Amount of CIL Bid and total cost of the Infrastructure</b>	<b>Cabinet Decision</b>
M19-06 THURSTON Additional Land and School/Community Facilities	Amount of CIL Bid (previously approved) £1,069,841.00 Total costs £1,169,703.00	Recommendation to Cabinet to approve the amendments to the previously agreed CIL bid as set out in this report – to remove the requirement for a Community User Agreement.

**It was RESOLVED:**

- 1.3 That this CIL Expenditure Programme which includes the position in respect of approved CIL Bids from Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (including Cabinet decisions in June 2021) - (Appendix A Section B) together with details of emerging infrastructure /CIL Bids (Appendix A Section C) be noted and endorsed.**

**REASON FOR DECISION**

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies have been collected since the implementation of CIL on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The CIL Expenditure Framework was

originally adopted in April 2018 and reviewed with amendments adopted on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 and 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The CIL Expenditure Framework requires the production of a CIL Expenditure Programme for each District which contains decisions for Cabinet to make or note on CIL Bids for CIL expenditure. These decisions relating to the expenditure of CIL monies form one of the ways in which necessary infrastructure supporting growth is delivered.

## **64 MCA/21/26 INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT FOR MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL APRIL 2020 - MARCH 2021**

- 64.1 The Chair, Councillor Morley read out a statement that Cabinet had agreed that this Infrastructure Funding Statement and all future Infrastructure Funding Statements would be circulated to all Members and published on the Council's website in due course. Therefore, this item would not be presented to Cabinet.
- 64.2 The Cabinet Member for Planning, Councillor Burn provided an introduction for the item and outlined the requirements for the Infrastructure Funding Statement. He supported the decision that the Infrastructure Funding Statement should be forwarded to all Members in the future and published on the Council's website.
- 64.3 Councillor Burn proposed the recommendations in the report, which was seconded by Councillor Gould.

**It was RESOLVED: -**

- 1.1 That Cabinet note the content of this report and Appendices A and B and that the content of Appendices A and B be submitted to the Government as Babergh's Infrastructure Funding Statement.**
- 1.2 Cabinet's agreement is also sought to the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement (Appendices A and B) on the Council's web site.**

### **REASON FOR DECISION**

There are a number of different ways which Infrastructure is delivered following growth within each District. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies have been collected since the implementation of CIL on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The CIL Expenditure Framework was originally adopted in April 2018. It was reviewed with amendments; these were adopted on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020. This Framework requires the production of a CIL Expenditure Programme for each District at least twice a year containing decisions for Cabinet to make or note on CIL Bids for infrastructure. Section 106 monies are collected through the completion of legal agreements before planning permission is granted for development. These secure developer contributions or direct provision of infrastructure. These legal agreements control the amount of money to be received and the timing and nature of the infrastructure provision. Neighbourhood CIL is paid out twice a year by the 28<sup>th</sup> April and by the 28<sup>th</sup> October to all Parishes with the exception of Parish meetings where these monies are held by the Councils for us to work with those

Parishes to devise and implement infrastructure proposals. All Parishes need to make a yearly return to each Council on the expenditure of their Neighbourhood CIL and this should be published on their Parish web site. As part of the evidence supporting the development of a Joint Local Plan an Infrastructure Delivery Plan has been produced which is being updated. All of these measures and where appropriate, decisions form ways in which necessary infrastructure supporting growth in the Districts are delivered /or prioritised for the benefit of our communities

## **65 MCA/21/27 FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Note: The meeting was adjourned between 11:50 am and 12:03pm.

- 65.1 The Leader of the Council, Councillor Morley introduced the Item and proposed recommendations 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 in the report.
- 65.2 Councillor Flatman seconded the recommendations.
- 65.3 The Chair invited the Cabinet Members for Communities, Housing, and Health and Wellbeing to provide introductions for their proposals in the Strategic Priorities.
- 65.4 The Chair provided an introduction on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, as he had forwarded apologies to the meeting.
- 65.5 The Chair invited questions from Cabinet Members and other Members attending the meeting.
- 65.6 In response to a question regarding the staff resources required to meet the projects set out in the Strategic Priorities, the Chief Executive stated that the report detailed the requirements for staff resources and that it varied whether recruitment for vacancies would be for permanent or temporary arrangements. A breakdown of staff requirements for each Service Area would be provided to Members after the meeting.
- 65.7 In response to questions from other Members attending the meeting the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing advised that the Youth Prescribing scheme would be made available through the integrated neighbourhood teams. The delivery plan would also include engagement with opposition members. The Holiday Scheme eligibility would in the first instance be based on those who received free school meals. The Department of Education provided funding for all other holiday schemes except for those provided in the half-term breaks, which the Council funded.
- 65.8 In response to questions in relation to the funding allocated for sustainable travel, the Assistant Director for Economic Development and Regeneration detailed the work of the Sustainable Travel Officer and stated that the funding supported this work with stakeholders such as Suffolk County Council and businesses.
- 65.9 The Strategic Director responded to a question in relation to members'

involvement in developing the proposals included in the Strategic Priorities. There would be opportunities at the upcoming All Member Briefings to provide input to the proposals and to discuss further.

- 65.10 Additional questions from other Members attending the meeting related to the funding allocation for the proposals, the timing for the expenditure of the funding and the previous exemplar scheme for construction of housing.
- 65.11 The Assistant Director for Housing stated that the housing developments were on HRA sites, and that it was pertinent to look at new technological developments, as they come forward, to improve energy performance in housing.
- 65.12 Members debated the issues including the impressive array of investments in action, that small sums of funding were important to smaller organisations, that non-permanent appointments should be made to time limited projects, and that the reserves were spent as a result of prudent savings and would be put to good use in the Community.
- 65.13 In addition to the Council providing money for core funded services, the Council could also deliver the new services identified in the Strategic Priorities, these were funded from the reserves, recirculating loans and from external match funding. The Council was in a fortunate position to be able to develop and recover from the effect of the past months and to support residents and businesses, enabling them to grow.

**It was RESOLVED: -**

- 1.1 That the proposed areas of expenditure, with a total value of £5.138m and as set out at paragraph 4.5 of this report, be agreed in principle.**
- 1.2 That authority be delegated to the relevant Assistant Director in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member to finalise the detail of the programmes of work and to make minor amendments if required.**
- 1.3 That authority be delegated to the relevant Assistant Director in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member and the Cabinet Member for Finance to agree the criteria for the allocation of new loans and grants.**

**REASON FOR DECISION**

To enable the new and extended programmes of work to commence to support the delivery of the Council's strategic objectives.

The business of the meeting was concluded at 12:58 pm.

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Chair