

Present: Mayor, Councillor G Lambert
Deputy Mayor, Councillor K Arlett
Councillor Sara Abey
Councillor Julian Brookes
Councillor Donna Crook
Councillor D Eggleton
Councillor Will Hamilton
Councillor Miss L M Hillier
Councillor Miss K Hinton
Councillor Sarah Miller
Councillor D Nimmo Smith
Councillor Laurence Plant
Councillor I Reissmann
Councillor Jane Smewing

In Attendance: Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk
Cath Adams – Planning and Project Manager

27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Evans and Gawrysiak and for lateness from Councillor Reissmann.

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

29. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

30. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was moved by the Chairman and **RESOLVED**

that the public and the press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business transacted.

Councillor Reissmann joined the meeting at 6:38pm.

Councillor Abey joined the meeting at 6:45pm.

31. 353-357 READING ROAD

Members had before them a report on the progress of the Reading Road project and recommendations from the 353-357 Reading Road Working Group. The following items were discussed:

31.1 that having fully debated the question of valuation and taking all the relevant information into consideration, the Council does not need to obtain a further valuation of the site.

31.2 that relevant consultants are approached for quotes to provide a commercial viability assessment of the project and a professional opinion on whether the project provides best value for the Council. Advice on the appropriate consultants

to approach to be sought from NALC and other parishes involved with similar projects.

- 31.3 that the Council's solicitors and the developer are asked to meet and discuss the options for providing reassurance to the Council with regard to the development of non-specialist housing of which 40% will be affordable. This to be in line with EU procurement legislation.
- 31.4 to take advice on the feasibility of including a percentage of affordable housing (if viable within the procurement rules).
- 31.5 if the tender returns for the clubhouse build are in excess of the sum stated in section 3.2 of the report dated 6 July, for the Special Full Council agenda of 10 July as the cost estimate of the clubhouse, the Council to have the right not to proceed with the sale. However, in the event of the cap being breached, both sides must seek to ensure the resulting gap is bridged. The Council's solicitors to be asked to consider the appropriate wording to facilitate this.
- 31.6 once a consultant is identified as in resolution 31.2, any duplication with other consultants on this project should be investigated.
- 31.7 the Planning and Project Manager to collate the current revenue and costs associated with the 353-357 Reading Road site.
- 31.8 right of way over the access road to be included in the contract with the developer at any time of day and the ownership of the land to be agreed. Solicitors to discuss at the planned legal meeting this summer.
- 31.9 a sum of £100,000 is to be set aside from the Capital Reserve. This is to be allocated for fencing and works to reposition and extend existing pitches.

32. ACCESS TO THE FAIRMILE HOUSING SITE

Members had before them a report on advice from the Council's consultants for the access over the Fairmile verge to a development site that is in the Joint Henley and Harpsden Neighbourhood Plan. The following was discussed:

- 32.1 to inform the developer that Council expects an agreed sum in return for the agreement for the ransom strip, increased (following advice from Vail Williams) to account for the additional 10 houses now proposed. The sum is stated in section 2.1 of the report dated 10 July on the Special Full Council agenda for 10 July as the valuation of the ransom strip.
- 32.2 dependent on 32.1 - that the Council will sell the ransom strip for the Fairmile development site.
- 32.3 that, if agreed, legal documentation is produced to progress the agreement.

The Meeting closed at 7.38pm