

EASTLEIGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 18 January 2022 (7:00 pm – 9:03 pm)

PRESENT:

Councillor Bourne (Chairman); Councillors Bicknell, Campbell, Park, Clarke, Irish, Mann and Tyson-Payne

RESOLVED ITEMS (SUBJECT TO QUESTIONS ONLY)

19. INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed the Committee and reported that Councillor Doguie had stepped down and expressed thanks for his service to the town.

Councillors Irish and Clarke also extended their thanks.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Irish declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 10 as he is a Trustee of Age Concern Eastleigh.

21. MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

22. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation on this occasion.

23. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair wished all Councillors, Officers and members of the public a Happy New Year.

The Christmas lights switch on was a very popular event with the footfall counters showing over 24,000 visitors to the town during the day. The Chair was also delighted to attend the Happy's Christmas Circus in aid of the Mayor's Charities.

Thanks were extended to Councillor Dougie who resigned earlier this month, this has led to a by-election in Eastleigh Central on 10 February 2022.

Lawn Road Play Area

After several delays due to Covid, supply chain problems, a spate of severe vandalism and an attack on one of the contractors, the Chair was very pleased to announce that completion of the project was due by the early February, if not before.

Councillors have met a few times recently working on a project to improve the town centre. Studio B.a.d. Architects has been appointed to design and implement a £100,000 package of improvements to brighten up the town centre, to make it more attractive for visitors and residents.

The package will include new planters for trees, shrubs and flowers, new seating, decorative lighting, large wall murals, pavement artworks and new shopping kiosks. The various elements will be delivered in stages over the next six-months and aim to complete the work ready for the summer in July this year.

Stoneham Lane Football Complex

The Chair had received news from the MP and Hampshire County Council that they will not be putting in a controlled pedestrian crossing to allow safe passage to the overflow car park – instead they are moving the existing crossing a few meters and adding a streetlight. This was very disappointing news as this is a very dangerous crossing used every evening by children.

Market Street Community Garden

The project is continuing – please look out for details of the February meeting which will be a workshop to develop a design for the wider garden.

Grants

The Chair thanked Councillors Campbell, Bicknell and Park who formed the ELAC grants committee. Every year we invite bids for £10,000 community grant pot. The final awards are contained within the agenda papers. It was encouraged that this opportunity was shared far and wide to ensure support to as many community projects as possible in the coming year.

There was also a further £3,000 grant pot dedicated for supporting youth initiatives in the local area.

Mela 2022

As restrictions ease the Chair was hopeful that residents could return to a more normal year of events over the year ahead. The full event programme was currently being developed and it was announced that the Mela will return to its early summer date of 24 July this year.

24. PRESENTATION ON PLANNING GUIDELINES

A Planning Officer gave a short presentation on guidelines that had to be taken into account when determining planning applications; in particular the issues that could, and could not, be taken into account. This was set against the broader policy framework.

25. PLANNING APPLICATION - LAND AT TOYNBEE ROAD, EASTLEIGH, SO50 9DN

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Head of Planning and Economy (Agenda item 7) concerning the construction of 105 dwellings together with access from Toynbee Road, associated parking, public open space and landscaping following the demolition of existing buildings. (Ref: F/20/88079).

The Committee was advised that there were no additional consultee responses received and no additional representations received.

RESOLVED -

Delegate decision to Executive Head of Planning and Economy in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and Ward Councillors to resolve the following:

- i) Receipt of outstanding consultation responses and any necessary actions required as a result of comments received;**
- ii) Acceptable amended plans which respond to urban design, landscape and ecology comments;**
- iii) Satisfactory Completion of Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment including consideration of response from Natural England;**
- iv) Completion of S106 agreement for terms identified in report; and**
- v) The following conditions (with updates as necessary).**

Then PERMIT subject to Conditions and Notes as set out in report.

[Note: (A) One resident spoke in objection to the application citing concerns with regards to the impact on the local infrastructure, excessive number of dwellings, parking, traffic, pollution and structural issues for properties surrounding the site. (B) The agent spoke in support of the application stating that the site was allocated in the Local Plan for development, the site was highly accessible, and the houses were of a high quality. (C) The vote was tied at 4 FOR and 4 AGAINST therefore the Chair exercised his casting vote to permit the scheme.]

26. PLANNING APPLICATION - LAND AT VILLENEUVE ST GEORGES WAY, EASTLEIGH, SO50 9SJ

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Head of Planning and Economy (Agenda item 8) concerning the construction of a car dealership (Class Sui Generis), incorporating a workshop, ancillary offices, associated parking, access, servicing, landscaping, access and other associated works. (F/21/91786).

The following updates were advised:

- As per update table and the following conditions 13 & 15.
- Condition 13 updated: Development shall not commence until an updated Drainage Strategy has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The Drainage Strategy shall include full details of the mechanisms for filtration including pollution mitigation indices. The Drainage Strategy shall thereafter be implemented fully in accordance with the approved plans.
- Condition 15 updated: Prior to occupation of the development hereby permitted, a Landscape, Habitat Management and Maintenance Plan **(to cover all soft landscaping including planting on the second floor terrace)**, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The landscaping shall thereafter be maintained in accordance with the approved details.
- a response had been received from Southern Water, which set out further advice for the applicants.

RESOLVED –

To PERMIT subject to proposed conditions and securing developers contributions towards public art and towards a biodiversity mitigation scheme (to be agreed).

[Notes: (A) One resident spoke in objection to the application citing concerns over trees being removed from the site unnecessarily and raised questions over previous planning applications for the site. (B) A written statement was submitted on behalf of the applicant in support of the application stating that the scheme had been carefully designed to ensure that it met the specific development criteria in the Local Plan, the car dealership will generate 50 net additional jobs and the development would bring a long-term vacant site back into use.]

Councilor Clarke left the meeting at 20:56.

27. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Committee considered a report by the Local Area Manager (Agenda Item 9) setting out recommendations for expenditure from the Committee's revenue budget and developer contributions.

RESOLVED –

- (1) The formation of the New Parishing Working Group, nominated representatives and the Terms of Reference are noted;**
- (2) £500 was allocated for the Summer Bandstand Programme from the Revenue Budget;**
- (3) £6,000 was allocated for the Energy Centre Facilities Management costs from the Revenue Reserve;**
- (4) £3,000 was allocated for a Christmas Lights Switch-on Event Organiser from the Revenue Reserve;**
- (5) £10,000 was allocated to the Community Grant Fund from the Revenue Reserve;**
- (6) £1,500 was allocated to the Youth Grant from the Revenue Reserve;**
- (7) £5,200 was allocated to the Velmore Youth Café from the Revenue Reserve; and**
- (8) £27,000 was allocated for the 2022 Events programme from the Revenue Reserve as set out in paragraph 18.**

[NOTE: Councillor Bicknell asked if it was a new allocation of money or unallocated from previous years The Local Area Manager agreed to respond outside the meeting.]

28. COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Local Area Manager (Agenda Item 10).

RESOLVED –

That grants be approved as contained in Appendix 1 to this report.

[Note: In light of the interest declared, Councillor Irish did not take part in the vote in regards to the grant for Age Concern Eastleigh and left the meeting at 21:01.]