

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Community Infrastructure Levy Working Party held at Tale Room, Blackdown House, Heathpark, Honiton EX14 1EJ on 17 September 2019

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 11.00 am and ended at 12.15 pm

9 Minutes of the Community Infrastructure Levy Working Party held on 18 July 2019

The minutes of the Community Infrastructure Levy Working Party held on 18 July 2019 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

10 Declarations of Interest

There was no declarations of interest.

11 Exmouth Community College - additional Information from DCC

The Service Lead for Planning Strategy and Development Management advised the Working Party that Devon County Council had re-submitted their application for funding form detailing information that was missing from their previous application submitted in 2017. The application form presented to Members provided a more detailed background to the project related to the expansion proposal for the delivery of a 16-class teaching block. The Working Party noted Devon County Council had requested a £1.5m contribution.

The Service Lead for Planning Strategy and Development Management put to the Working Party two questions. The first question being whether Members were satisfied with the level of information provided and the second question about whether Members were still in agreement to recommend to Strategic Planning Committee the project be supported and to increase the funding commitment to £1.5m.

Discussion included:

- Clarification sought on the current position. In response, the Working Party were advised £1.9m was available.
- The need to bear in mind the need for a second school.
- Clarification sought on the information provided on the application form. In response it was advised the application form was not 100% complete but did consist of a better level of information explaining the need for the project.
- There is an urgent need for the school to expand because the additional numbers anticipated from the new housing developments would not be sustainable.
- Concerns raised that the delivery of the extension may make it more unlikely that a second school would be delivered.

RECOMMENDED to the Strategic Planning Committee: that a contribution of 44% of the total estimated cost of the project, up to a maximum of £1.5m be contributed to the expansion proposal at Exmouth Community College.

12 Exmouth Dinan Way Extension - Additional Bid from DCC

The Service Lead for Planning Strategy informed the Working Party about a new pinch point funding pot made available by government for dealing with highways pinch point issues. The Service Lead for Planning Strategy advised that Devon County Council were intending to submit an application for funding for an extension at Dinan Way that would ease congestion by providing an alternative route to the unsuitable local roads currently used and provide a connection to the A376. The Working Party noted the designed scheme had secured planning permission in 2017.

The Service Lead for Planning Strategy drew attention to the application Devon County Council had submitted and outlined the main criteria for funding was that local authorities had to provide match funding to help support the bid. The Working Party noted the total cost of the project was £11.16m. Devon County Council in discussions with officers had initially sought a commitment of a future spend of £400,000 towards the project but were now seeking £1,116,000 (10%). When combined with a contribution from Devon County Council this would amount to 15% of the total project cost against which government money through pinch point fund would be sought as match funding. The Service Lead Planning Strategy said that the increase in the request had been questioned with Devon County Council and they had explained that they had increased the request on the basis that the greater the local contribution to the project the greater chance the bid would be successful.

The Service Lead for Planning Strategy drew the Working Party's attention to concerns raised by Devon County Council that if the project was not secured through funding they were concerned about whether the Dinan Way extension would be delivered at all.

It was highlighted that Exmouth Town Council may want to contribute towards the scheme. The Working Party noted Exmouth Town Council had received £300,000 for their proportion of the Exmouth Neighbourhood CIL and was also due a further £92,000.

Discussions covered:

- Concerns raised about allocating all monies to Exmouth.
- Concerns raised about whether the road was the appropriate development to prioritise as it would not enable any further development.
- Concerns raised that the existing road structure would not support the new housing development at Goodmores Farm.
- Clarification sought on DCC's contribution. In response it was advised Devon County Council were proposing to make a maximum contribution of £558k (5%).
- Concerns raised about transparency.
- Clarification sought on the timeline for delivering the extension. In response it was advised it would need to be delivered between 2021 – 2023 as these were the timescales for spend of the pinch point funding.
- It was suggested this council contribute £400k and Exmouth Town Council contribute the remaining £158k.
- It was suggested to approach Devon County Council to ask Exmouth Town Council for a significant contribution as their support was paramount.
- Concerns raised about what was classed as a significant contribution.

RECOMMENDED to the Strategic Planning Committee: that a contribution of £400k to made to Devon County Council subject to a significant contribution from Exmouth Town Council.

No other business was raised.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

M Howe (Chairman)
M Armstrong
K Blakey
K McLauchlan

Officers in attendance:

Ed Freeman, Service Lead Strategic Planning and Development Management
Sulina Tallack, Planning Obligation Officer
Keith Lane, Planning Officer (Planning Policy)
Wendy Harris, Democratic Services Officer

Councillor apologies:

S Bond
I Hall
G Jung
F King

Chairman

Date: