

**GREAT CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the **DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE**

held in The Stevenson Centre at 7:00pm on Monday 27th March 2023

**PRESENT**  Councillors Mrs P White **Chairman**

Mrs C J Baker Mrs M Bark Mrs S Bowman

 Council Manager Mrs N Tamlyn

Council Administrator Miss E Skuce

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors D Young and Mrs T E A Welsh.

Councillors T J Keane and K Graham did not attend the meeting.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

**NONE**

**3. DECLARATIONS OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY**

**NONE.**

**4. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – FOR NOTING**

Members reviewed and **NOTED** the Items Brought Forward list.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

 **a) Babergh District Council: Public Consultation BMSDC Joint Local Plan Examination**

Members reviewed correspondence from Babergh District Council which informed that they are currently undertaking the consultation on the Joint Local Plan Main Modifications on behalf of the Planning Inspectors undertaking the Joint Local Plan Examination. The consultation runs from 16th March 2023 until Wednesday 3rd May 2023 and there is a Microsoft Teams meeting for Town and Parish Councils on the 30th March 2023. Members **NOTED** the consultation papers and it was **AGREED** for the Council Manager to attend the Teams meeting.

**6. TO CONSIDER A QUOTATION TO INSTALL A REPLACEMENT BENCH ON KINGS HILL AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATIVE BENCH PROJECT**

The Council Manager informed Members that out of the five locations for commemorative benches that had been agreed by the Committee in February, the replacement bench at the bottom of Kings Hill had been identified as a priority as it had been damaged beyond repair and had now been removed for safety reasons.

Members **NOTED** that site visits had been undertaken for the locations, four of which were owned by Babergh District Council and one was in private ownership. The Council Manager was still pursuing permissions to install the benches.

Members reviewed and discussed a number of replacement benches and agreed that the Phoenix recycled plastic street bench from Glasdon UK at a cost of £585.00 plus VAT was the preferred choice. Members **NOTED** that Glasdon also offered a commemorative plaque to come with the bench at an additional cost of £101.39 plus VAT.

It was suggested that the wording on the commemorative plaque could read “To commemorate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022, Donated by Great Cornard Parish Council” although final wording is to be agreed at a later date.

It was agreed to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it purchases the Phoenix bench from Glasdon UK at a cost of £585.00 plus VAT together with a commemorative plaque at a cost of £101.39 plus VAT. Plaque wording to be agreed at a later date. The purchase and installation of the Kings Hill bench to be undertaken as soon as possible.

Funds to come from Earmarked Funds for Commemorative Benches.

**7. TO REVIEW THE STREETLIGHT MAINTENANCE AND ENERGY COSTS FOR FY 2022/2023**

Members reviewed the invoice for street lighting maintenance and energy for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 for £29,024.92 plus VAT. The Council Manager explained that due to a significant rise in energy costs, the invoice was much higher than expected but as the Parish Council continued to upgrade its streetlights to LED lanterns, this would help with future costs. The Council Manager explained that the energy cost of an old sodium lantern was approximately £134 per annum whereas a new LED lantern was approximately £28 per annum which was a significant difference. **NOTED**.

Members also **NOTED** that the Policy and Resources Committee was also due to consider the financial implications of the invoice in their meeting later that evening.

**Meeting closed at 7:12pm**