NOTE OF A CALL-IN MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH, 2019 AT THE TOWN HALL, NELSON TO DISCUSS THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION IN RESPECT OF LAND AT BOLD STREET, COLNE

PRESENT:

Councillors

W. Blackburn Caller-In A. R Greaves Caller-In

D. M. Whipp

In Attendance:

Philip Mousdale Corporate Director

Lynne Rowland Committee Administrator

Chairman

Councillor P. White Leader

1. LAND AT BOLD STREET, COLNE

DECISION CALLED IN

At its meeting on 22nd January, 2019 the Policy and Resources Committee considered an item on land at Bold Street, Colne. The minute is shown below and resulted in a Call-In Notice being submitted by Councillors A. R Greaves, D. Lord and W. Blackburn.

'The Executive resolved on 23rd October, 2014 to declare this site surplus and market it for sale, following a recommendation from Colne and District Committee. In December, 2017 the Executive further resolved that the land be disposed of to Together Housing for the development of affordable housing and that the Chief Executive be authorised to negotiate terms.

A planning application was submitted by Cawder Construction and this was refused by Colne and District Committee on 3rd October, 2018. At that meeting it was also resolved that options for the future use of the land be referred to this Committee for consideration. A revised planning application for 9 houses and 6 apartments was resubmitted and approved by the Colne and District Committee on 11th January, 2019.

It was reported that Together Housing had been successful in securing significant levels of grant funding from Homes England to deliver the affordable housing, but this may be lost if the scheme was not to proceed. A developer had been lined up to start the scheme as soon as land disposal was complete.

With regards to the boundary wall to Colne Lane, Together Housing had confirmed that this wall would be included in the transfer and they would take on responsibility for its maintenance.'

It was stated that, at that meeting, a motion moved by Councillor D. M. Whipp, to the effect that a report should be submitted on all proposed uses for the land was rejected.

REASON FOR CALL-IN

The reason given for the Call-In was that there was a practical proposal being discussed by residents to take over ownership of the land and to manage it as a 'village green' or 'pocket park' type of facility. It was stated that this proposal had not been discussed properly by the Council.

SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF ACTION

That the Council discuss the proposal being discussed by residents to take over ownership of the land and to manage it as a 'village green' or 'pocket park' type of facility.

DISCUSSION

Councillor A. R. Greaves circulated a written proposal from residents in the Essex Street and Colne Lane, Colne area to take over the land between Essex Street and Colne Lane with a view to converting it into a Pocket Park.

The proposals included plans to set up a Community Group, on which the residents were currently taking advice. In the meantime it was stated that the Waterside Neighbourhood Action Group had agreed to take on the land until a specific group had been formally set up.

AGREED

That the written proposal from residents in the Essex Street and Colne Lane, Colne area be submitted to the next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, to be considered alongside the update submitted to the Committee on 22nd January, 2019.