

REPORT BY THE LEADER ON THE WORK OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The attention of Members is drawn to the following items which have been discussed by the Policy and Resources Committee since the last ordinary meeting of the Council:-

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 17th MARCH, 2022

- Transforming Pendle Programme**

We agreed the governance structure, role definitions and formal reporting arrangements of the Programme to the Policy and Resources Committee. We also noted the progress to date and endorsed the proposed approach to performance management.

- Core Strategy Review and New Local Plan**

We agreed that a new Local Plan be produced, protecting Pendle's valuable landscapes, with associated evidence in accordance with a new Local Development Scheme.

- Nelson Cemetery Provision**

The Committee agreed to remove Nelson Cemetery Allotments from the list of potentially suitable sites; agreed that the preferred site for new cemetery provision be land off Edge End Avenue/Halifax Road, Nelson and requested that a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee including phases, timescales and estimated costs of preparation.

- Joint Venture with Brookhouse Group**

We noted that the three Group Leaders be appointed as interim Board Members of the new Joint Venture Partnership with Brookhouse Group Limited until the Annual Council meeting in May. We also agreed to ring fence £50,000 within the Growth Sites Development Reserve for initial set up and running costs of the company.

- Ground and First Floors, Ace Centre, Nelson**

The Chief Executive was authorised to continue negotiations, in consultation with the Leader, to agree terms for Nelson and Colne College to lease the ground and first floors of the ACE Centre as a bespoke base for the Town Deal Digital Skills Hub project.

- Climate Emergency Declaration Update**

We noted progress on the Climate Emergency Action Plan and the potential of wider expansion to maximise opportunities for future progress, particularly in terms of the Council's carbon neutral target, mainstreaming climate change and the Council's work in partnership.

- Battery Recycling Scheme and Foil Recycling Scheme**

The Committee agreed the introduction of a household battery recycling collection scheme with start-up funding granted from Lancashire County Council. A promotional campaign was also agreed.

- Bankhouse Road Site, Nelson**

PEARL Together were chosen as the preferred developer, subject to agreement over land value and future ownership of assets on the land. We agreed the land be declared surplus to requirements and available for development. A further report will be submitted to the Committee at an appropriate time in relation to the terms of the disposal.

- **Gib Hill**

We agreed that a five member Working Group be established to develop a preferred option and the approach to discussions with interested organisations; and that no part of the site be considered for housing.

- **Triangular Piece of Land in front of The White Lion, Earby**

We agreed a request for the transfer of this piece of land to Earby Town Council.

- **Hodge House Playing Fields**

We agreed, in principle, the request from Bradley Big Local Community Land Trust to provide artificial grass pitch(es) at Hodge House. We asked that the Corporate Director continue discussions with the Trust and that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

- **Hackney Carriage Unmet Demand Survey**

We deferred considering this item and asked the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager to write to the hackney carriage trade to establish if it would be willing to fund a hackney carriage unmet demand survey.

- **Department for Transport Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards and Policy Review**

We agreed recommendations from the Taxi Licensing Committee in relation to amendments to the Taxi Licensing Policy subject to an amendment “that the requirement that all vehicles must be fitted with CCTV cameras that must be functioning and in recording whilst the vehicle is in use be included in Section 4.1 of the Policy, but in view of the potential cost involved and the need to search for potential funding, not be implemented at this time.” The requirement under the Finance Act 2021 was also incorporated into the Policy which was adopted from 1st April, 2022.

- **Lorry Park, West Close Avenue, Barnoldswick**

We agreed that the resurfacing scheme proceed.

- **Disposal of land on Bradley Road East/Junction of Leeds Road, Nelson**

Following a request from Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee to dispose of the land the Committee agreed that the Council retain control of the whole of the site for continued informal car park use by all nearby residents and businesses.

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 26th MAY, 2022

- **Planning Applications**

We refused 21/0755/FUL Full: Change of use of land to extend residential curtilage and formation of a hard standing for use as domestic car parking area (retrospective) at Waterside Bungalow, Montford Road, Brierfield and 21/0978/FUL Full: Retention of use for private equine use, dog rehabilitation use and associated workers dwelling at Pendle Bridge Lodge, Woodend Road, Brierfield.

- **Proposed Timetable for Developing the Corporate Plan 2023/2027**

We approved what was proposed.

- **Transforming Pendle Programme**

The Committee endorsed the reallocation and refocusing of resources and approved the next steps as detailed in the report. It was agreed that a Member Reference Group be established (based on a membership of 5:3:1).

- **UK Shared Prosperity Fund**

We agreed that a Local Partnership Group be established to steer the Investment Plan and that this be chaired by the Leader of the Council or his nominated representative. The Chief Executive was also granted delegated authority to develop and submit the Investment Plan, in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

- **Town Deal Business Case Assurance and Funding Recommendations**

We approved three recommendations from the Nelson Town Deal Board to approve £2,000 of Towns Funding for the Business Resilience and Growth project; £727,966 for the This is Nelson project; and £2,290,000 for the Advanced Digital Skills Academy, all subject to a number of conditions.

- **Revitalised Nelson Project**

The Committee agreed that initial steps be taken to prepare a Compulsory Purchase Order for Pendle Rise Shopping Centre and that the possibility of the site being acquired by the Joint Venture Company, rather than the Council, be explored.

- **Transfer of Facilities and Services to Town and Parish Councils**

The Corporate Director was authorised to agree terms for the transfer of Trawden Recreation Ground to Trawden Forest Parish Council; agree terms for an extended lease to Trawden Bowling Club; and that the land in front of Tyseley Grove, Earby be transferred to Earby Town Council.

- **Public Space Protection Orders/District Enforcement Contract**

We noted the re-tendering exercise and agreed that the outcome be reported to the Committee in the usual way.

- **Pendle Youth Employability Service Hub Service Procurement Outcome**

We agreed to appoint Active Lancashire as the YES Hub service provider from August, 2022 to March, 2026.

- **43A Market Street, Colne**

We agreed to declare the upper floors of this property surplus to requirements and gave authority to the Chief Executive to negotiate a private treaty sale with an interested party, but if the terms were not agreed it be marketed for sale.

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 30th JUNE, 2022

- **Corporate Peer Challenge**

We welcomed the Corporate Peer Challenge Report and approved the draft action plan.

- **Pendle Local Plan**

The Committee noted the documents in the appendices attached to the report and agreed that they be approved for public consultation for a minimum of four weeks.

- **Safeguarding Update**

We approved the revised Family Support and Safeguarding Children's Policy and Promoting Welfare and Safeguarding Adults Policy.

- **PEARL Joint Venture Companies Development Activity**

We noted the ongoing and planned development activity of the PEARL Companies.

- **Victoria Road Reflagging Scheme, Earby**

The Committee agreed that this request be picked up as part of the Masterplan for Earby and that other funding streams be sought for this scheme.

- **Compulsory Purchase of a Property in Nelson**

We agreed the recommendations as set out in the report.

Councillor N. Ahmed,
Leader,
Pendle Borough Council