

Eden District Council

Executive Minutes

Date: 3 September 2019 Venue: Town Hall, Penrith Time: 6.00 pm

Present:

Leader and Portfolio for Strategic and Community Leadership:

Councillor V Taylor

Portfolio for Communities:

Councillor L Sharp

Portfolio for Housing and Health

Councillor J Derbyshire

Portfolio for Resources:

Councillor K Greenwood

Portfolio for Services:

Councillor M Tonkin

Officers Present:

Les Clark, Director of People and Place
Robert Docherty, Assistant Director Community Services
Matthew Neal, Director of Corporate Services
Peter Notley, Assistant Director Finance
Rick O'Farrell, Strategic Advisor People and Place
Rose Rouse, Chief Executive
Oliver Shimell, Assistant Director Planning and Economic Development

Democratic Services Officer:

Claire Watters

E/25/09/19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Robinson and Councillor Rudhall.

E/26/09/19 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes E/12/07/19 to E/24/07/19 of the meeting of the Executive held on 02 July 2019 be confirmed and approved by the Chairman as a correct record of those proceedings.

E/27/09/19 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

E/28/09/19 Questions and Representations from the Public

No questions or representations from the public had been received under Rules 3 and 4 of the Executive Procedure Rules of the Constitution.

E/29/09/19 Questions from Members

No questions or representations from Members had been received under Rule 5 of the Executive Procedure Rules of the Constitution.

E/30/09/19 Corporate Performance Report: April - June 2019 -20 Leader Portfolio Holder

Members considered report CE13/19 from the Chief Executive which sought to:

1. provide a summary of progress against our targets for the period April to June 2019; and
2. inform the Executive of any areas of concern or issues requiring attention, and the remedial activity in place to deal with these.

Proposed by Councillor Tonkin
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

and **RESOLVED** that the progress to date, and the action being taken to address areas of concern be noted.

Reason: To advise Members of progress against outcomes, including any actions being taken or planned to bring performance on track.

E/31/09/19 Budget Monitoring - 1 April 2019 - 30 June 2019 - Resources Portfolio Holder

Members considered report F44/19 from the Assistant Director Finance which sought to present the quarterly budget monitoring report from 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2019.

Proposed by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Derbyshire

and **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

Reason: To ensure the Council effectively manages and monitors its Revenue and Capital Budgets.

E/32/09/19 Local Plan Review - Leader Portfolio Holder

Members considered report PP20/19 from the Assistant Director Planning and Economic Development which sought a Member view on whether there was a wish to undertake an early review of the adopted Eden Local Plan 2014-2032 and if so to determine the scope of any such review.

Councillor Beaty raised a question under Rule 5(a) of the Executive Procedure Rules querying why Carlisle City Council had not been considered within option 4 in the context of the potential preparation of a joint Local Plan.

The Strategic Advisor, People and Place advised that as Carlisle adopted their Local Plan in 2015, an early review was unlikely.

Proposed by Councillor Derbyshire
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

and **RESOLVED** that:

1. Executive commits, in principle, to a full review of the Eden Local Plan 2014 – 2032 as set out as Option 3 within the report;
2. a Local Development Scheme and Statement of Community Involvement be prepared for consideration by the Executive in November 2019 along with an indicative budget proposal for the review of the Local Plan; and
3. an early review of additional employment land options be scoped and commences immediately for Penrith, due to the pressing demand to create new employment opportunities to support the Council's growth aspirations.

Reason: Local Planning Authorities have a statutory duty to prepare, and regularly review, a Local Plan.

E/33/09/19 Draft Housing Supplementary Planning Document - Eden Development and Housing and Health Portfolio Holders

Members considered report PP17/19 from the Assistant Director of Planning and Economic Development which sought to consider the draft Housing Supplementary Document (SPD) and agree the timetable for its adoption as contained within the report.

Councillor Ross raised a question under Rule 5(a) of the Executive Procedure Rules:

Is there an intention to develop the sustainability aspect of the document to ensure standards and expectations are clear?

The Strategic Advisor, People and Place advised that this was a consultation document, and areas of concern raised during the consultation will be considered in drafting the final document. The content of the document will have to accord with planning legislation and the Local Plan.

Councillor Beaty raised a question under Rule 5(a) of the Executive Procedure Rules:

Is this the right time to develop this document and are staffing resources available?

Councillor Taylor advised that this is a revised version of an existing document. The Strategic Advisor, People and Place confirmed that staff resources were sufficient.

Proposed by Councillor Tonkin
Seconded by Councillor Greenwood

and **RESOLVED** that:

1. the Executive agree that the draft Housing Supplementary Document shall go out to a statutory public consultation; and
2. the Executive agree the timetable for the draft Housing SPD be adopted as set out within the report.

E/34/09/19 Pilot Business Growth Programme - Commercial Services Portfolio Holder

Members considered report PP23/19 from the Assistant Director Planning and Economic Development which set out a proposal to develop a Pilot Business Growth Programme with the aim of assisting new and existing businesses within Eden to access advice and support to meet their business needs.

Proposed by Councillor Tonkin
Seconded by Councillor Sharp

and **RESOLVED** that supplementary estimate of £17,000 be taken from the Business Rates Retention reserve and added to an existing Brexit budget of £17,000 to provide a sum of £34,000 to be used to develop a Pilot Business Growth Programme for Eden.

Reason: Investing in the pilot programme means that the delivery of business advice and support will be enhanced within Eden.

E/35/09/19 Eden Business Support Fund - Amendment to Criteria - Commercial Services Portfolio Holder

Members considered report PP19/19 from the Assistant Director Planning and Economic Development which sought permission to amend the criteria for the Eden Business Support Fund in order to increase flexibility of the fund and support more businesses within Eden.

Proposed by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Sharp

and **RESOLVED** that the Executive agree to amend the criteria of the Eden Business Support Fund by extending the loan period up to 15 years and extending the loan amount up to £200,000.

Reason: Amendment of the criteria of the EBSF as proposed will support jobs and growth for businesses in Eden.

E/36/09/19 Eden Community Fund Recommendations

To consider report PP11/19 from the Assistant Director Community Services which seeks approval for the award from the Eden Community Fund of grants to 9 projects.

Proposed by Councillor Sharp
Seconded by Councillor Derbyshire

and **RESOLVED** that:

1. a grant from the Eden Community Fund be agreed for the recommended projects, save for Project reference ECF 307 (Melmerby Parish Council lap top), leading to a cumulative total grant of £44,065.10; and
2. Project reference ECF 307 (Melmerby Parish Council lap top) be declined on the grounds that the required funding would not provide measurable benefit to the wider community, being funding for internal IT costs which are more appropriate to be funded by parish precept.

Reasons:

1. Nine applications were considered by the Eden Community Fund Partnership Panel and recommended for support.
2. One application was declined for funding because the Eden Community Fund Partnership Panel felt that it showed insufficient community benefit.
3. One application was declined because the Executive considered that the required funding would not provide measurable benefit to the wider community and it was more appropriate for the item to be funded by parish precept.
4. The remaining applications are recommended for support as the Council has historically supported community groups and organisations that meet both the Eden Community Fund criteria and Council Plan priorities.

E/37/09/19 Any Other Items which the Chairman decides are urgent

No items of urgent business were raised at this meeting.

E/38/09/19 Date of Next Scheduled Meeting

The date of the next scheduled meeting was confirmed as 8 October 2019.

The meeting closed at 6.57 pm

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