

Time Commenced – 6.00 pm
Time Finished – 7.35 pm

Regeneration and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Board

24 February 2015

Present: Councillor Stanton (Chair)
Councillors Dhindsa, M Holmes, Jackson, MacDonald, Troup, Turner
and Wood

41/14 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

42/14 Late Items

There were no late items.

43/14 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

44/14 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 13 January 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

45/14 Forward Plan

Members of the Board requested the following items:

- 19/14 Marble Hall
- 33/14 Specialist Consultancy Framework

46/14 Draft City Centre Masterplan

The Board considered a report which stated that the Vibrant City Strategy was approved by Council Cabinet in October 2014. It promoted physical regeneration in the city centre and district centres.

To enable the regeneration of Derby city centre, a revised masterplan was envisioned by the Vibrant City Partnership, a sub group of Derby Renaissance Board, with a wide ranging membership including key organisations and business in the city centre as well as representatives from the Business Improvements Districts (BIDs).

The Board received a presentation setting out the proposal in the masterplan.

Members of the Board stated that the timing of this meeting was unfortunate in that it was expected that more detail on the proposals would be available next week.

Members of the Board stated that they would like to see more detailed proposals with a phased plan, goals and timeframes.

Resolved

1. To note the presentation and endorse the masterplan
2. To request a more detailed report to a future meeting setting out the phased plan, goals and timeframes.
3. To circulate the presentation to Members of the Board.

47/14 Festive Lights – Review of Provision and Funding

The Board considered a report which stated that the Council currently provided a range of festive lights across the city throughout the year, to mark a number of occasions. The cost of providing the lighting for these occasions was budgeted for each year at £114,000. In 2014/15 to 2016/17 budget setting process consideration was given to stopping the provision of festive lights. In addition a reserve had been available over the past few years to enable replacement displays, but this was the last of the reserve funding.

The current budget proposals had delayed the budget savings for the festive lights until 2016/17. However it was still proposed that the Council would seek to work with partners across the city to collectively look at how we might be able to encourage external contributions from across the city in an effort to reduce the dependence on the Councils budget for this discretionary service.

Members of the Board requested more information on the benefits of festive lights to the retail offer in the city and what would be lost if the lights were not provided. They also requested details on how other commercial sponsorship opportunities could be explored.

Resolved

1. To note the report.
2. To request further information on the benefits of festive lights to the retail offer in the city and what would be lost if the lights were not provided.
3. To request details on how commercial sponsorship opportunities could be explored.

48/14 Our River Our City – Project Update and Community Engagement Strategy

The Board considered a report which gave an update on the Our City Our River (OCOR) project. The OCOR masterplan was approved by Council Cabinet in July 2012 to guide the provision of flood defences and associated regeneration along a new alignment set back from the River Derwent to allow more space for flood water and promote regeneration.

The OCOR Business Case, which was developed jointly by the Environment Agency (EA) Projects team and the Council, was approved by Council Cabinet on 6 November 2013 and submitted to the EA's Large Projects Review Group, (LPRG).

The OCOR Business Case (v6) was approved by the EA's LPRG in September 2014, which triggered the approval and release of funding, Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) and Growth Funding to Derby City Council to enable the commencement of the delivery of the OCOR project.

Derby City Council agreed to take on the lead role and associated responsibilities for the delivery of the OCOR project and the on-going maintenance of the flood defence assets at the meeting of Council Cabinet held on 22 October 2014.

The project was separated in to three Packages, which provided flood risk and growth benefits to distinct areas within the city. Each Package was a combination of stand alone flood defences and flood defences which were incorporated in to development sites which were delivered as those sites were developed.

The approval of the Business Case by the EA had released up to £17m of FDGiA funding, and £18m of Growth funding as a contribution to the delivery of the whole of the scheme. In addition, a further £12m of funding had been secured from the LEP as a contribution towards the delivery of Package 2 works. There was currently a funding shortfall in the order of £40m to complete the whole of the scheme.

Following a competitive tender process utilising one of the EA's frameworks; a formal design and build contract was awarded in December 2014 for the stand-alone package 1 works to Gallifords Black & Veatch (GBV) to commence detailed design for the delivery of the scheme in earnest, subject to planning approval being secured. The funding secured to date was sufficient to enable the completion of the whole of Package 1 works, and contributed to the commencement of the delivery of the Package 2 defences. A dedicated community consultation officer appointment was included within this contract. At this stage, it was envisaged that small elements of work would commence before 31 March 2015, with the main works starting in October 2015.

The OCOR project had developed a Project Initiation Document (PID) which incorporated the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the OCOR Board, the Scheme of Delegation (SOD) for the project, the governance structure and initial staffing structure for OCOR, viewed as an essential step in moving the project forward.

The project was to submit a formal hybrid planning application for the entire OCOR scheme at the beginning of February 2015. This included for detailed consideration for the first Package and outlined Packages 2 and 3. Consultation linked to the planning application submission included:

- The statutory 21 day consultation period – March 2015.
- All identified land owners within the OCOR 'red –line ' area would receive a formal notice and letter
- Following validation - all properties within 15m of the red –line area would also receive notice of the submission of the application
- Site notices would be located along the entire length of the scheme
- A series of 5 planning application information sessions to be held primarily in the package 1 detailed planning application areas, Darley Abbey, Little Chester, Duke St, Council House and Elvaston .

Press release(s) and information regarding the planning application to be circulated via range of mediums, including neighbourhood boards, forums and the Our City Our River website.

There had been significant stakeholder engagement in advance of the submission of the planning application, and there was more comprehensive engagement planned during the planning application process. An outline communication strategy was developed as part of the submission of the Business Case and this was now to be developed further in to a live document, which would incorporate a more comprehensive plan for Community Engagement during the delivery of the project.

Members of the Board suggested that the OCOR team work closely with the masterplan team in Regeneration to make sure there was a joined up approach to both projects.

Resolved

- 1. To note the report.**
- 2. To request that the OCOR team work closely with the masterplan team in regeneration to make sure there is a joined up approach to both projects.**

49/14 Work Programme and Fracking Topic Review

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer circulated the draft report on the 'Fracking Topic Review'.

Resolved to send any comments on the topic review report to the Overview and Scrutiny Officer.

MINUTES END