

Minutes of a meeting of the **Place Shaping Panel** held by video link on **Monday 18 January 2021** at **6pm** when there were present:

Cllr P E Bulman – Chairman

Cllr N J Brennan

Cllr L H Hemsall (for part  
of the meeting)

Cllr D M Thomas

Cllr S M Clancy

Cllr G K Nurden

Cllr J M Ward

Cllr S Catchpole, Cllr K Leggett, Cllr S Prutton and Cllr K Vincent also attended the meeting for its duration.

Also in attendance were the Assistant Director of Planning, Place Shaping Manager and Democratic Services Officers (JH and JO).

### 29 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER PROCEDURAL RULE NO 8

Member	Minute No & Heading	Nature of Interest
Cllr S Clancy	32 - Greater Norwich Growth Board: Five-Year Investment Plan	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, owner of a site within the Greater Norwich Development Plan area
Cllr L Hemsall	32 - Greater Norwich Growth Board: Five-Year Investment Plan	'Other' interest as the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Conservation
Cllr G Nurden	32 - Greater Norwich Growth Board: Five-Year Investment Plan	'Other' Interest, owner of a property within the same area as one of the Community Infrastructure Levy Projects

### 30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N Harpley, Cllr S Lawn and Cllr L Starling.

### 31 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 January 2021 were confirmed as a correct record, save for the following amendment.

*Minute No: 27 – Greater Norwich Local Plan – Regulation 19, Pre-Submission Publication*

Additional wording was added to recommendation 1, which read:

- (1) To publish the draft GNLP under regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 from 1 February to 15 March 2021 *and that Cabinet takes due regard of the implications of the economic and retail study on housing numbers in relation to Norwich specifically.*

### **32 GREATER NORWICH GROWTH BOARD: JOINT FIVE-YEAR INVESTMENT PLAN**

The Chairman noted the importance of this report given the number of Broadland specific projects included. He advised the meeting that Members were being asked to endorse these recommendations to Cabinet for investment from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) fund.

The Place Shaping Manager introduced the report which asked Members to consider the Five-Year Investment Plan for 2021-2026, in addition to the Annual Growth Programme (AGP) for 2021-2022.

It was explained that the three Greater Norwich local authorities pooled their CIL funding and allocated it to priority projects that supported the growth agenda across the three districts.

The Panel was advised that the Investment Plan set out an updated position on infrastructure delivery, revised CIL income and the Council's latest position in terms of income and commitments. The Plan also provided an update on the projects previously agreed and information on the preparation carried out for schemes in future years. Whereas the AGP covered those projects with allocated funding for 2021/22.

Members noted that projects not included in the AGP had not been allocated funding at this stage but would be the subject of future consideration by each individual Council going forward.

Members were asked to note that two of the four projects identified for funding in the AGP fell within Broadland. These were: £100,000 for the Brundall Sports Hub and £312,000 for the Bure Valley Path: Access and Recreational Enhancement project. In addition, it was proposed that £2m be awarded to support the education capital programme across Greater Norwich.

The Portfolio Holder for Planning, Cllr L Hemsall, expressed disappointment at the amount awarded to education as, year-on-year, the same amount of

funding was awarded with no apparent improvement to infrastructure, which gave the impression that the level of funding awarded was insufficient.

In response, the Place Shaping Manager advised the Panel that the annual allocation of CIL to education was agreed by all of the constituent partnership partners at the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) level; he explained that if the Panel wanted to indicate their desire to see the position revisited then it was reasonable for them to do so. He also confirmed that he had conveyed the views expressed by the Portfolio Holder for Planning regarding the size of the education contribution, to the Directors of the Infrastructure Delivery Board that sit under the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB).

In response to a query on Growth Programme 25 – Broadland Northway, the Place Shaping Manager advised that the monitoring of traffic was the responsibility of Norfolk County Council, although Broadland District Council had some responsibility for ensuring that conditions were complied with. He agreed to investigate this further and provide the Panel with any available information.

One Member expressed disappointment that the Carrow to Deal Ground riverside walkway was not going ahead, which halted progress on the scheme for a walkway from Norwich to Thorpe St Andrew. The Place Shaping Manager advised Members that he would investigate further and feedback to the Panel the rationale behind the stalling of the scheme.

Members further discussed the Deal Ground and Carrow worksite, where it was noted that the site had been included on multiple local plans and investment plans over the years with no resolution. The Place Shaping Manager informed Members that he was aware of ongoing constructive discussions between the various landowners, Norwich City Council and Homes England regarding the sites. He advised Members that the process was ongoing, however, there were significant challenges to be overcome.

Discussion followed regarding access to the North West Country Park, and Members noted the potential for alternative access from the Northern Distributor Road, which would not have to run through Horsford Village and were keen for this to be explored further. The Place Shaping Manager agreed to raise this with the Project Manager.

In response to a Member's question, the Place Shaping Manager explained that the Brundall Sports Hub was allocated £100,000 in CIL funds, as this was identified as the funding gap, required to ensure delivery of the scheme. The remainder of the £1.3m funding for the project came from: Section 106 contributions, contributions from the Mallards and Pastures developments within the area, in addition to investment from Brundall Investment Limited.

The Place Shaping Manager confirmed that further CIL contributions for the Brundall Sports Hub could not be ruled out at this stage, but in terms of construction costs the contract would be let on a fixed price basis and any increased costs would be borne by the tender.

### **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET**

That Cabinet

- (1) agrees the Greater Norwich Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan 2021-2026, included in Appendix A.
- (2) approves the allocation of CIL to 4 specified projects, these projects will form the 2021/22 Annual Growth Programme (AGP); the allocation of £2m to support the Education Capital Programme within Greater Norwich; and, the allocation of an additional £341,000 to projects GP46 and GP53 that were initially allocated funding within the 2018/19 AGP.

*The meeting closed at 6.35pm.*