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Elmbridge Borough Council

Strategic Spending Board

Report of a meeting held on Wednesday, 13 June 2018

Members of the Committee:

* J.W. Browne (Chairman)

* B.J.F. Cheyne	* Mrs. D.M. Mitchell
* C.R. Green	* T.G. Oliver
* N. Haig-Brown	* Mrs. K. Randolph

* Denotes attendance

Also present:

Tricia W. Bland, A. Davis, Mrs. C. Elmer, Mrs. C. James, Mrs. V. Macleod,
Mrs. T. Shipley and Mrs. J.R. Turner

1/18 To Appoint a Chairman for the 2018/19 Municipal Year

The Strategic Spending Board appointed J.W. Browne as Chairman for the Municipal Year 2018/19.

2/18 Declarations of Interest

In respect of the bid submitted by Cobham Free School and Cobham Rugby & Sports Association, whilst not a disclosable pecuniary or any other interest under the Code of Conduct, T.G. Oliver wished that it be noted that he was the Chairman of Governors of Esher College. In addition, in respect of the bid submitted by North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group (NWSCCG), whilst not a disclosable pecuniary or any other interest under the Code of Conduct, he wished that it be noted that he was the Chairman of the Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board.

3/18 Minutes of the Strategic Spending Board Meeting held on 22 February 2018

The Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Spending Board held on 22 February 2018 were agreed as a correct record.

4/18 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman requested clear guidance in respect of the criteria for applications for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding due to its perceived vague nature.

The Chairman clarified that the Strategic Spending Board made recommendations to Cabinet and if Members were minded, the Board could fund applications in full; part fund or not fund at all.

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Recommendations to Cabinet on 4 July 2018

5/18 Strategic Spending Board Report

The Strategic Spending Board considered a report that summarised the four applications received by the Council which sought Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds; as follows:

- Elmbridge Borough Council, which was seeking £18,169. The deferred application was in respect of an additional discus cage at the Xcel Sports Hub, Waterside Drive.
- Elmbridge Borough Council, which was seeking £35,000. The deferred application was in respect of the replacement of retractable seating at Walton Playhouse.
- North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group (NWSCCG), which was seeking £140,000. The application was in respect of the provision of General Practitioner (GP) services at Walton Community Hospital.
- Cobham Free School and Cobham Rugby & Sports Association, which was seeking £323,418. The resubmitted application was in respect of the balance of the project cost towards an artificial playing pitch at Cobham Rugby and Sports Association.

Applicants had been invited to the meeting to present their respective application.

The Strategic Spending Board deliberated the applications in private session.

6/18 EBC - Additional discus cage at the Sports Hub, Waterside Drive

The Strategic Spending Board welcomed Ms. L. Taylor, Leisure Facilities Manager, Elmbridge Borough Council and Mr. S. Mace from Walton Athletic Club to the meeting. Ms. Taylor presented the application and provided Members with background information in respect of an additional discus cage at the Xcel Sports Hub, Waterside Drive.

Ms. Taylor explained that Walton Athletic Club was based at the Xcel Sports Hub and the Club had a large membership base and a very active throws section, both on a casual and a competitive basis. The Xcel Sports Hub currently had only one hammer / discus cage and 2 shot put circles. Due to the success of Walton Athletic Club throws section, the large number of athletes and the fact that there was only one hammer / discus cage, athletes had to wait a long time between throws or were only able to spend half a session throwing from the cage to allow time for all athletes to throw. Members noted that the proposed application was to provide an additional discus cage and circle by replacing one of the shot put circles with a larger circle suitable for discus throwing.

On consideration of the application, the Strategic Spending Board

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Recommended: that

£18,169 be awarded to Elmbridge Borough Council in respect of an additional discus cage at the Xcel Sports Hub, Waterside Drive.

7/18 EBC - Replacement of retractable seating at Walton Playhouse

The Strategic Spending Board welcomed Ms. L. Taylor, Leisure Facilities Manager, Elmbridge Borough Council to the meeting. Ms. Taylor presented the application and provided Members with background information in respect of the replacement of retractable seating at Walton Playhouse.

Members noted that the proposed application was to replace the old retractable seating system at Walton Playhouse which had reached the end of its useful life. The seating, situated at the rear of the main auditorium, was approximately 20 years old and provided 90 retractable chairs. The existing retractable seating had been serviced on an annual basis and the arm rests had been replaced when necessary. However, as the system relied on moving parts, these had inevitably worn out over time. It would not be possible or cost effective to replace just part of the system. Retractable seating was essential to the continued use of Walton Playhouse as a key performing arts venue within the Borough.

On consideration of the application, the Strategic Spending Board

Recommended: that

£35,000 be awarded to Elmbridge Borough Council in respect of the replacement of retractable seating at Walton Playhouse.

8/18 NWSCCG - Provision of GP services at Walton Community Hospital

The Strategic Spending Board welcomed Mr. A. Grimes and Mr. T. Thomas from North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group (NWSCCG) to the meeting. Mr. Grimes presented the application and provided Members with background information in respect of the provision of General Practitioner (GP) services at Walton Community Hospital.

Mr. Grimes explained that the purpose of the project was to create the physical infrastructure that would enable the delivery of the out of hospital Primary Care Operating Model and Local Integrated Care Operating Models that form part of the Surrey Heartlands Sustainability and Transformation Plan. In addition, it would also provide relief in the short to medium term for the increased pressure on local health services in the aftermath of the Weybridge Hospital fire. Members noted that Walton Community Hospital had a disused ward area and the Fort House Surgery had outgrown its existing accommodation and the transfer of the practice would extend the range of services offered.

Mr. Grimes informed Members that the changes to the building would enable the NWSCCG to increase capacity and transform GP services to support older people.

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Burwood Ward in Walton Community Hospital had been vacant for a number of years and required extensive re-modelling to make it suitable as a GP service.

Members concerns related to the lack of parking facilities at Walton Community Hospital and the impact of additional traffic in the area. Mr. Grimes explained that the Council's policy stated one parking space per consultant was required and discussions would take place with Surrey County Council in respect of the local bus services that were available.

On consideration of the application, the Strategic Spending Board

Recommended: that

£140,000 be awarded to North West Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group (NWSCCG) in respect of the provision of General Practitioner (GP) services at Walton Community Hospital. Allocation of this funding be subject to two key conditions:

- 1. Satisfactory consultations with local residents and Ward Members being undertaken with regard to parking concerns and the impact of additional traffic. Officers will liaise with local Ward Members and the Chairman of the Strategic Spending Board to determine whether the condition has been met; and**
- 2. The submission of a satisfactory travel plan agreement being in place and prepared in consultation with Elmbridge Borough Council and Surrey County Council.**

Matters of Report

9/18 Cobham Free School & Cobham Rugby & Sports Association - Artificial playing pitch

The Strategic Spending Board welcomed Mr. H. Morris, Chair of Governors from Cobham Free School, Ms. V. Alexander, Head of Community Development and Mr. D. Williams from Cobham Rugby Sports Association, to the meeting. Mr. Williams presented the resubmitted application and provided Members with background information in respect of the shortfall of funding that was required for the development of a new Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP).

A number of reservations about the resubmitted application were raised, due to the fact that the previous Strategic Board had imposed a condition that the allocation of the funding awarded of £471,144.87 be subject to the balance of the project cost being obtained from third parties. Members were of the view that match funding or part funding had not been actively sought from other sources. Mr. Williams replied that over £2 million had been invested in the club over the past decade and they had tried to seek third-party funding, however this had not been achievable.

Furthermore, a condition had previously been imposed that the allocation of the funding be subject to a signed Community Use Agreement. A Member queried

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whether the facility would be made available to the wider community. Mr. Morris replied that Cobham Free School had exclusive use of the facility during school hours throughout the year, however the aim of the project was to maximise the use of the facilities outside of school hours to the wider community.

A Member queried whether the applicant had investigated if the VAT amount of £132,000 could potentially be reclaimed. Mr. Williams replied that their tax consultants had not provided 100% assurance that the full amount of VAT was reclaimable, however the full amount was expected to be recovered.

On consideration of the application, the Strategic Spending Board

Resolved that the application be deferred to enable Cobham Free School and Cobham Rugby & Sports Association:

1. To seek further clarification on whether the VAT amount of £132,000 is recoverable in full or in part, and if so, the mechanism for this and how this reduced amount would impact on the requested figure of £323,418;
2. In liaison with officers, demonstrate that all other funding sources, for example, the London Marathon Charitable Trust has been pursued;
3. To provide a fuller understanding of the offer to the wider community and how Cobham Free School and Cobham Rugby & Sports Association intends to promote availability including, a signed Community Use Agreement with Elmbridge Borough Council being in place; and
4. Entering into pre-application discussions with Elmbridge Borough Council or submit a planning application to determine whether planning permission is required and what restrictions there could be on the use of the pitch.

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The meeting commenced at 9.00 am and concluded at 11.12 am

J.W. Browne
Chairman

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Democratic Services Officer

Mrs. P. Phillips

Committee and Member Services Officer

Other Officers in attendance

Mrs. K. Tagliarini

Head of Planning Services

Ms. S. Parkes

Planning Policy Manager

M. Corbett

Planning Policy Officer