



COMMUNITY LED HOUSING UPDATE

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 93/18

8 OCTOBER 2018

The purpose of this Report is to provide an update on the approach to the Community Led Housing Programme for feasibility studies of two of the Town Council's Regeneration Projects.

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) Last December the government announced a new £60M fund for Community Led Housing aimed at 148 local authorities particularly affected by second home ownership.
 - b) The Isle of Wight Council was included in that list with a £1.6M allocation and commissioned Community Action IW to assist with the delivery of the Fund; it employs John Brownscombe as the lead officer for it.
 - c) Following informal meetings with John Brownscombe the possibility of accessing the Community Led funding provision of £10,000 for Feasibility Studies was reported to the Town Council Meeting of 9 July in Report 70/18.
 - d) The Report included the information that John Brownscombe had arranged a meeting for Councillor Jason Mack and the Clerk with the Isle of Wight Council's Director of Regeneration Chris Ashman, Assistant Director of Regeneration Reniera O'Donnell and Head of Economic Affairs Ashley Curzon for 20 July.
 - e) By Minute 77/18 of the Town Council meeting of 9 July the Town Council resolved that *subject to a positive outcome from the meeting with the Isle of Wight Council on 20 July the Town Council agrees to provide the match funding of up to £1,000 for feasibility studies in respect of each of the Ventnor Central and Upper Ventnor sites.*
 - f) The outcome of that meeting was an invitation to the Town Council to submit funding applications for Feasibility Studies in respect of both sites.
 - g) The completed applications were submitted to John Brownscombe on 6 September and circulated by email to Members on the same day.
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2) PROGRESS

- a) John Brownscombe is on leave until 10 October and a decision on the applications is expected the following week.
 - b) The Isle of Wight Council provided a copy of their list of preferred suppliers in this field and, in preparation for what is hoped to be a positive outcome from the funding applications the two Island-based companies on the list were invited for informal discussions of the projects and how they saw the feasibility studies progressing.
 - c) Councillor Jason Mack (Lead Member for Housing), Councillor James Toogood (Lead Member for Buildings) met with ERMC at 10am on Thursday 4 October and with Mattinson Associates Ltd at 12.
 - d) The purpose of the meeting was to clarify the most effective content for the Brief that, if the funding is secured, will be provided to each as the basis of quotations for the work.
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