



COMMUNITY LED HOUSING

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 70/18

9 JULY 2018

The purpose of this paper is to inform Members about recent discussions of the Community Led Housing Programme and to recommend agreement to provide match funding for feasibility studies of two potential sites.

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 from the £11.3M committed to the South East Region.
 - c) Community Action IW has been commissioned by the Isle of Wight Council to assist with the delivery of the Fund and employ John Brownscombe as the lead officer.
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2) RECENT DISCUSSIONS

- a) Following an approach by John Brownscombe to our Community Development Officer Tony McCarthy, a meeting was arranged on 23 May at our offices with Tony McCarthy, Jason Mack and me.
 - b) In addition to outlining the purposes and operation of the funding John asked that we discuss the possible relevance of the funding to two of the Town Council's identified regeneration sites: Ventnor Central and the land behind the Free School in Upper Ventnor.
 - c) On 6 June May John Brownscombe emailed 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 to suggest that a round-table meeting with the two Councils and him might facilitate progress with both sites.
 - d) The meeting has now been arranged for 20 July at County Hall.
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3) FUNDING STRUCTURE

- a) The fund can be applied for at three levels as outlined in the following paragraphs.
 - b) *Legal Structure.* A fully funded total of £3,000 can be applied for to meet the set-up costs of the necessary community organisation vehicle, normally a Community Land Trust or Community Interest Company, to be responsible for the project. This would be led by the Town Council and other relevant partners.
 - c) *Feasibility Studies.* Feasibility Studies can be 90% funded up to a total cost of of £10,000 with the applicant providing £1,000 match funding.
 - d) *Project cost.* Funding is available for the delivery of the project up to 50% of the total cost.
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4) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to agree 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.

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