

COUNCIL – 21ST JUNE 2021

Report of the Chief Executive

ITEM 6.4 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - BROADNOOK

Purpose of Report

To seek to defer a Community Governance Review for the proposed Broadnook development.

Recommendation

That a Community Governance Review relating to the proposed Broadnook development be deferred until the ongoing Borough electoral review is completed and until at least 50 residential properties within the development are completed and occupied.

Reason

To defer the review until a more suitable time for it to be undertaken.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

At the Council meeting on 22nd January 2018 when the Borough-wide community review recommendations were considered, Council resolved (minute reference 65.4):

'That the initial proposal to establish a new parish meeting for the proposed Broadnook development not be progressed at this time due to the lack of approved outline planning permission for the site, but that a Community Governance Review to specifically consider the development should be initiated by the Head of Strategic Support if outline planning permission is approved.'

For the reason that:

'Due to the absence of outline planning permission for the site it is unlikely that the development will be significantly progressed by the time any recommendations arising from the Community Governance Review come into effect, and it is therefore not recommended to establish a new parish for the Broadnook development at this point in time. However, in light of the general support for the development to be covered by a new parish, a further Community Governance Review should be initiated if an outline planning application is approved, which could then reconsider establishing a new parish for the

development at that time. It is envisaged that this review could be completed before development commences on the site’.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

Outline planning permission for the development was approved in November 2020.

However, now would not be a suitable time to undertake a Community Governance Review due to the ongoing electoral review of the Borough being undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

Also, experience from the establishment of the new Stonebow Village parish for the proposed development at Garendon has demonstrated that setting up a new parish before building has commenced is not beneficial as it can result in a very small number of residents within the parish, making the operation of a parish meeting difficult.

It is therefore proposed that undertaking a Community Governance Review for the Broadnook development should be deferred until after the Borough electoral review is completed, and until at least 50 residential properties within the development are completed and occupied.

This is likely to mean that the earliest any changes arising from the Community Governance Review would come into effect would be for the parish council elections due in May 2027.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

None.

Risk Management

No specific risks have been identified in relation to this decision.

Background Papers: None

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