

County Council

Date: Tuesday, 17 December 2019
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Council Chamber, Shire Hall

Membership

Councillor Nicola Davies (Chair)
Councillor Peter Butlin
Councillor Les Caborn
Councillor Mark Cargill
Councillor Richard Chattaway
Councillor Jeff Clarke
Councillor John Cooke
Councillor Peter Gilbert
Councillor Colin Hayfield
Councillor Maggie O'Rourke
Councillor Bill Oler
Councillor Anne Parry
Councillor David Reilly
Councillor Jill Simpson-Vince
Councillor Andrew Wright
Councillor Bill Gifford
Councillor Kam Kaur
Councillor Jeff Morgan
Councillor Kate Rolfe
Councillor Izzi Seccombe
Councillor Jenny Fradgley
Councillor Clive Rickhards

Items on the agenda: -

1. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election or appointment to the Council. A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which s/he has a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless s/he

has a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if s/he has not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Must leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with.
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests must still be declared in accordance with the Code of Conduct. These should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

(3) Minutes of the previous meeting

7 - 28

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2019.

(4) Chair's announcements

To receive any announcements from the Chair of the Council, Leader, Cabinet Members or Chief Executive.

(5) Petitions

To receive any petitions submitted in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme.

(6) Public Speaking

To note any requests to speak on any item on the agenda in accordance with the Council's Public Speaking Scheme (see note at end of the agenda).

2. A452 Kenilworth to Leamington Spa Cycling Scheme

29 - 34

Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Councillor Jeff Clarke

A report that asks that Council approves an allocation of £4.749 million from the Capital Investment Fund to the Kenilworth to Leamington Spa Cycling Scheme and its addition to the Capital Programme.

3. Capital Investment - Nuneaton

35 - 54

Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Councillor Izzi Seccombe

This report asks that Council approves the allocation of £19.42m funding from the Capital Investment Fund (CIF) to enable the development of a new library and business centre in Nuneaton and add the project to the Capital Programme at the cost of £19.42m.

4. Education (Schools) Capital Programme 2019/20

55 - 76

Cabinet Portfolio Holder: Councillor Colin Hayfield

This report recommends proposals for allocating resources in the Education (Schools) Capital Programme to specific projects.

5. Notices of Motion

To consider the following motions submitted by members in accordance with Standing Order 5:

Motion 1.

This Council requests a report to go to Cabinet by April 2020 that:

1. Clarifies and prioritises the Authority's powers and key objectives in relation to bus provision to enable more consistent and effective negotiations with bus operators. This should include investigating multi-operator ticketing, bus priority measures and improved bus information.
2. Analyses the success of s.106 contributions which have been used to pump prime new bus routes over the last 10 years in Warwickshire and investigates alternative frameworks to incentivise long term successful routes around new developments if necessary.
3. Fully scopes the use of Advanced Quality and Enhanced Partnership schemes as set out in the Transport Act 2000 and Bus Services Act 2017, including engagement with operators and sets a date no later than December 2020 to assess whether implementation of the AQ or EP schemes are necessary to achieve the Authority's key objectives.
4. Considers and assesses the resources required to successfully deliver the Council's key objectives recognising that any strategy or objectives that emerge from this process must be fully costed before they can be presented to Cabinet and all sources of funding identified.

Proposer: Councillor Keith Kondakor

Seconder: Councillor Jonathan Chilvers

Motion 2.

This Council encourages all Warwickshire residents to leave excess packaging at supermarket checkouts.

Proposer - Councillor Jonathan Chilvers

Seconder - Councillor Keith Kondakor

6. Member Question Time (Standing Order 7)

A period of up to 40 minutes is allocated for questions to the Leader,

Cabinet Portfolio Holders and Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

7. Any Other items of Urgent Business

To consider any other items that the Chair considers are urgent.

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Disclaimers

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Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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These should be declared at the commencement of the meeting

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers_2

Public Speaking

Any member of the public who is resident or working in Warwickshire, or who is in receipt of services from the Council, may speak at the meeting for up to three minutes on any matter that appears on the agenda. This can be in the form of a statement or a question. If you wish to speak please notify Democratic Services in writing at least two working days before the meeting. You should give your name and address and the subject upon which you wish to speak. Full details of the public speaking scheme are set out in the Council's Standing Orders.

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**Minutes of the Meeting of Warwickshire County Council
held on 15 October 2019**

Present:
Councillor Nicola Davies (Chair)

Councillors Helen Adkins, Margaret Bell, Parminder Singh Birdi, Sarah Boad, Mike Brain, Peter Butlin, Les Caborn, Mark Cargill, Richard Chattaway, Jonathan Chilvers, Jeff Clarke, Alan Cockburn, John Cooke, Andy Crump, Yousef Dahmash, Corinne Davies, Neil Dirveiks, Judith Falp, Jenny Fradgley, Bill Gifford, Peter Gilbert, Daniel Gissane, Clare Golby, Seb Gran, Colin Hayfield, John Holland, John Horner, Andy Jenns, Kam Kaur, Keith Kondakor, Jeff Morgan, Bill Olnor, Maggie O'Rourke, Bhagwant Singh Pandher, Anne Parry, Dave Parsons, Caroline Phillips, Wallace Redford, David Reilly, Clive Rickhards, Howard Roberts, Kate Rolfe, Jerry Roodhouse, Andy Sargeant, Izzi Seccombe OBE, Dave Shilton, Jill Simpson-Vince, Dominic Skinner, Bob Stevens, Heather Timms, Adrian Warwick, Alan Webb, Chris Williams, Pam Williams and Andy Wright.

1. General

(1) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Jo Barker.

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

With reference to motion number 1, Councillor John Holland and Councillor Bill Gifford declared an interest being impacted by proposals for changes to residents' parking permits.

(3) Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2019

Council considered the draft minutes from the meeting of 25 July 2019.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2019 be approved as a correct record.

(4) Announcements

A series of announcements were made to Council.

1. The recent death of former Warwickshire County Councillor Doug Hall was announced. Doug Hall represented the Council from 1973– 1988. He also served for many years on Rugby Borough Council (serving Brownsover Ward) and as a Parish Councillor.

Councillor Alan Webb stated that he had known Doug Hall for many years. He was a truly committed public servant who worked hard to get things done for his constituents. Councillor Izzi Seccombe spoke on behalf of the Conservative Group recognising that when a person stands for public office, they put their lives on hold. Councillors Richard Chattaway and Councillor Jerry Roodhouse echoed these views.

2. The recent death of Bob Meacham OBE, Independent member of the Council's Audit and Standards Committee, was announced. Councillor Alan Cockburn stated that Bob Meacham sat as an independent member of the County Council's Audit and Standards Committee from May 2008 until August of this year. For 10 years between 1981 and 1991 Bob Meacham was Leader of Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council being awarded an OBE in 1986 for services to local government. In addition to his public Service, Bob Meacham was a keen and talented motor racing driver campaigning Lotus, Jaguar and Volkswagen cars over the years.

Council stood in tribute to Doug Hall and Bob Meacham.

3. Councillor Nicola Davies (Chair of Council) informed the meeting that she had recently attended the opening of the Veterans' Centre in Nuneaton. This, she observed was a good example of the delivery of the Armed Services Covenant. Councillor Bill Olnor thanked the Chair for attending the event emphasising that military veterans have a range of experiences that can present challenges at any time in their lives. It would be good, he concluded if there was more than one such centre in Warwickshire. Councillor Bob Stevens explained that the Veterans' Centre had originally been established in the offices of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council. That arrangement had come to an end and new premises were identified. The move to the new facility had been supported in terms of materials and labour by Balfour Beatty.

(5) Petitions

Dr Alex Jones presented a petition concerning the proposed K2L cycleway. She stated,

“Thank you for inviting me to present the petition for the K2L cycle route between Leamington Spa and Kenilworth, on behalf of three local cycling groups, Cycleways, Kenilworth Cycle Group and University Bicycle User Group. Our petition achieved over 3000 signatures this summer.

When signing the petition, people commented that they used to cycle between the towns but were now afraid because traffic has become faster and heavier, drivers expressed frustration that cyclists on the road hold up rush hour traffic, parents said how much they would like to have a safe cycle route particularly at weekends, students enthused that they would be able to visit the neighbouring towns more easily in the evening.

In addition to signatures, Warwick University has expressed its official support for K2L, in a letter to WCC from the pro-vice chancellor, Simon Swain, and we understand that Chiltern Railways will also write soon, since the southern end of the route could improve commuter access to Leamington rail station. K2L is supported by Leamington Spa Town Council and has received attention in local papers and was mentioned in a parliamentary committee by our MP for Warwick and Leamington, Matt Western. Jeremy Wright, MP for Kenilworth and Southam, also has expressed strong support.

The proposed K2L route is a segregated cycle path parallel to the A452 between north Leamington to Kenilworth via Rocky Lane. K2L would dramatically improve cycle access between these two towns, benefiting schools, the university, and business parks. Additionally, shop and restaurant owners in Kenilworth could expect more local business, similar to studies commissioned by Transport for London that show that traffic reduction in retail areas benefits local retail.

Our county suffers from some of the worst air pollution in the country and one third of UK's CO2 emissions come from transport (Dept Energy figure). These problems are caused by two different type of pollutants, but both can be improved by cleaner transport. Furthermore, cycling to school or work can enable people to increase their regular exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle. Physical inactivity directly contributes to 1 in 6 deaths in the UK, the same number as smoking, creating a burden on health services. It is time to prioritise infrastructure for healthy sustainable transport.

The provision of cycle routes makes good financial sense, as the Dept of Transport recently noted, investments in walking and cycling on average yield £5.50 of benefits for every £1 invested. This is excellent value for money, and a far higher benefit-to-cost ratio than many large road and rail schemes. Investment in K2L would be a useful contribution to WCC's strategy to move to a low carbon transport system.

On 25th July this year, the WCC declared a climate emergency. Warwickshire needs a coherent and comprehensive cycle network. Let K2L be the start of a bold and necessary new strategy in low carbon transport for the county. This is an ideal opportunity for you to demonstrate responsiveness to public opinion and take action to address the climate emergency.

To conclude, the proposed K2L cycle route between Leamington Spa to Kenilworth has strong public support and this a scheme meets all of WCC's policy objectives. We look forward to receiving your response and hope to publicise the construction of K2L on our social media accounts".

Councillor Jeff Clarke (Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning) thanked Dr Jones for attending the meeting and presenting the petition. Councillor Clarke promised that a full response will be provided by the County Council to Dr Jones.

(6) Public Speaking

The Chair welcomed three members of the public to the meeting, namely Mrs Ellen Boylin, Mrs Mags Sinclair-Bailie and Mr Phil Gregg. All were present to address Council regarding potential changes to the residents' parking scheme.

Speaker 1 – Mrs Ellen Boylin

“Good morning Madam Chair and thank you for the opportunity to address you all on the problems we foresee with the proposed changes to our visitors permits.

We appreciate it doesn't involve Rugby, it's the whole of Warwickshire that is currently permitted. Firstly, we feel these proposed changes to the visitor permitting are very unfair, unjust and totally unworkable. At the moment the details are very sketchy to say the least. We also feel it been an invasion of our privacy to have to log each and every visitor.

And who will be registering with yourself? The County Council or NSL who it has been outsourced to, and to try and limit just to 50 visits per year is just unacceptable on so many levels. Is that 50 hours, 50 actual visits or 50 days? It is not clear and at what cost?

At the moment, we all feel it feels very much like “Big Brother” is watching us. I've queried this with the council and Mr John Rollinson assures me that the council has no interest in how many visitors we actually receive. So, in which case we are asking why are we having the register them at all?

We have a lot of minority groups within the Rugby borough and I'll leave my fellow neighbour here to address these issues in more detail when he speaks but I would like to give you a couple of examples from people who have contacted me.

Number 1 is a single mother with two children, and she is concerned because she only currently has a resident's permit which is £25 a year but she cannot afford a visitor's permit which is also £25 a year. But as under the current proposal she wouldn't be able to afford anything, but also as a single mum she occasionally needs help from her parents but has no visitor permit to give them. Equally her parents cannot risk the chance of getting a parking ticket. I'm sure those who are in the room who are parents and grandparents will acknowledge that children come with various risks i.e. they often need to be taken to a doctor's appointments, hospital appointments etc. so a car is a definite necessity.

My second example is an elderly neighbour who is very worried and upset, because she currently has a visitor's permit just so her son can visit her for one hour a week to bring her shopping. This group I'm very concerned about. The elderly are often very lonely as well and rely on visitors. This lady has no computer or smartphone so how is she meant to register her visitors under the new proposal? This question has been asked to the Council and I think I am right in saying that a phone line will be set up for those people with no internet access, but it will only be manned Monday to Friday 9-5pm.

Again, this is limiting people to when and how they visitors and restricting one of the most vulnerable user groups. Also, there's the problem with people who are unregistered carers for their family members. Within our group we have a lady who visits her father four times a day every single day. Under these proposals are 50 visits. This lady would easily get through her entitlement very quickly and we also gather that once the entitlement is used up for that year there were no chance to buy any more, which we find totally unacceptable.

The parking situation has been made worse by the amount of HMOs in our area and I'm sure Rugby is no exception. One near to me has five cars. I raised this very issue with our local MP Mark Pawsey back last year and pointed out that no one was keeping track of how many permits were issued as opposed to how much space is available the space is not stretchable is not an elastic, the terraced houses on the streets are where we have to work with what we've got".

Speaker 2 – Mrs Mags Sinclair-Bailey

"I intend to speak about the service overall and the warden patrols. The service we are getting already, well we don't get the service we pay for. The existing system is inefficient in its costings and erratically enforced through both public and journalistic freedom of information inquiries I am informed that the scheme costs £2 million to administer.

Everyone acknowledges the wardens are rarely seen, surely the question is how can this be run more competently or is it really necessary at all? Rather than just deciding to increase the costs across the board to some of the poorest homeowners in our area. Just this week a local resident and a conversation with an NSL warden who informed him that in Rugby there were three or four wardens patrolling with average street check between 1 per week, maybe more if they're lucky. He went on to say that if the scheme becomes paperless, the physical scanning of the registration plates would take longer than having a site of a paper permit in a window which would actually extend the time taken to check a full road full of vehicles resulting in the end in less roads been checked overall.

Concerning the wardens, they are not from our area. They drive in and out of our town using their vehicles adding to the congestion that the county claim they want to reduce. They do not know or understand the local people or their needs; when the scheme was run by Rugby Council the wardens knew the area and the nuances regarding each road.

Warden patrol times are always during the day time when a large majority of residents' vehicles are not in their streets but after 5pm there is not a sign of a patrol regardless of the fact that most of the streets are actually restricted until 8pm. The struggle to park in any terraced road whether permitted or not, is draining and frustrating at any time after 5 or 6 pm therefore having a permit is of no benefit.

Finally, the origin of the parking scheme. Historically the permits were introduced in an attempt to control parking near the Rugby railway station, specifically in and around Abbey Street.

This aspect of the suspected sale of visitors permits in this area is the reason that the Council are imposing changes to the whole visitors' scheme across the town. I'm told by John Rollinson that in some cases permits have been revoked when caught selling visitors passes.

In my opinion there should be a weightier penalty than that to pay for contributing to the hardship of their neighbours. Parking is already overstretched close to a rail service it will only become more fraught as our town is rapidly expanding.

I suggest the council re-evaluate the scheme and consider the precedent already set. In Elsee Road in Rugby each vehicle there has a permit specific to that one street. Could Abbey Road and its area benefit from this idea or be just be better served? Or you could shrink the size of the zones, reducing the number of streets where each permit is valid, this would alleviate spaces being taken in the station area by residents who maybe live further away but are using their permits to access the station".

Speaker 3: Mr Phil Greg

"I want to tell you about the effect of the Warwickshire County Council parking permit proposals on those who are less well off in Rugby. They are disadvantaged by income, by age, by ethnicity, by language barriers, by lack of education.

In Rugby these groups are more prominently represented in the areas where permits are required than in the more affluent suburbs where parking is free. These disadvantaged groups will experience several problems. One, the complex nature of the parking proposals, this scheme is unwieldy, difficult to understand. One of its requirements, has been said, is to predict an unknown level of future usage. I've been well educated, and I find this scheme daunting.

Problem two, remoteness of administration. The administration of this scheme is remote from these disadvantaged people in two ways. Firstly, because the scheme is a county scheme, and secondly because it's administered by a private company only reachable by electronic means. This renders it inaccessible to these groups. In Rugby the previous scheme was administered locally. Users could walk into a local office and talk to the person responsible. For people in these groups that would be a far more accessible solution.

Problem three, the lack of computer technology. The proportion of these groups in Rugby who do not have access to computers or smart mobile phones is higher than the 10% quoted for the general population. t, they will have great difficulty in complying with the new online system as my colleague has said even if the parking permit internet site were reliable which currently it is not.

Problem four. Cost. Many households, we predict, will be unable to afford the number of parking permits they need at the proposed prices. If they need two permits, they will only buy one and so on. They will then use up the small number of non-permit parking spaces causing greater chaos in our town.

To sum up, these disadvantaged groups need sympathetic treatment they do not need a faceless corporation riding roughshod over the difficulties in their everyday lives that they are already struggling to cope with. For a Council which prides itself on its standards of equality this scheme risks breaching those principles”.

The three speakers were thanked for their contribution. The issue would be raised again as a motion later on the agenda.

2. Warwickshire County Council Brexit Preparation

Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Leader of Council) moved the report and recommendations. She was seconded by Councillor Peter Butlin (Deputy Leader – Finance and Property) who reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Helen Adkins (Deputy Leader – Labour Group) highlighted the possible impact of Brexit on social care and homelessness asking what actions were proposed to mitigate against these.

Councillor Bill Olnier welcomed the work being carried out to assess the potential impact of Brexit. Regarding social care and the need to protect the vulnerable he stated that it will be of great importance to ensure these people are kept fed. In addition, Councillor Olnier observed that Brexit could have a significant impact on social care staffing as this area of employment relies heavily on those from the rest of Europe.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse (Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) reminded Council that it had previously discussed the potential impact of Brexit on small businesses. He reported that mixed messages concerning potential shortages of certain products have been circulated with people being particularly concerned over that possibility of shortages of medicines. It was reported that Rugby Borough Council is examining “settled status” and how it will impact on people in that area.

Councillor Richard Chattaway (Leader of the Labour Group) stated that some reports have suggested that 30000 people in Warwickshire could be directly affected by Brexit. He cited a school where the majority of the foreign language teachers are from mainland Europe. In addition, a significant number of County Council support staff are from outside the UK. Councillor Chattaway called for contingency arrangements to be made known adding that in his area reports of hate crime had increased. The threat of Brexit related scams was highlighted. Trading Standards will have a key role in tackling these. Finally, it should be recognised that many “ex-pats” will seek to return to the UK. A significant number of these will be elderly, having medical conditions requiring attention.

Councillor Dave Parsons supported the comments made by Councillor Jerry Roodhouse adding his concern that consideration could be given to a points-based immigration system.

Councillor Keith Kondakor welcomed the report but expressed a sense of not knowing what is happening. Warwickshire relies heavily on the motor and agriculture industries. A downturn in these could see a significant reduction in jobs. Reductions in the restaurant and building trades could lead to the failure of major contracts.

Councillor Sarah Boad (Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) noted that Coventry Airport at Baginton is classified as a port. She asked that information be provided on what actions are proposed for it. That a by election is scheduled for Warwick District was noted. Constituents are angry at the lack of progress and there is a risk that someone will be injured as a result.

Councillor Peter Gilbert called on politicians to support the democratic process. Councillor Maggie O'Rourke echoed concerns over the future of social care provisions adding that she was proud to be at a meeting that was well ordered.

Councillor Clive Rickhards requested a break down of how the monies provided by central government to assist the Council in its Brexit related work will be utilised.

Regarding the possible increase in Brexit related scams Councillor Peter Butlin informed Council that consideration is being given to adding additional resources to Trading Standards' budget. Regarding the potential impact on agriculture Councillor Butlin observed that these are unclear. He added that the key will be to ensure that people are kept informed. A major problem is the indecision that is being displayed.

Councillor Seccombe agreed with Councillor O'Rourke's observations on the behaviour of politicians. Regarding the status of Coventry airport as a port, Council was informed that officers are working with Warwick District Council on this. It was agreed that settled status is of major importance and that help and support should be provided. Extra efforts will be made to protect vulnerable people.

The recommendation was put to the vote and was agreed unanimously as set out below.

Resolved:

That Council notes the approach and progress made by the County Council in preparing for Brexit on 31 October 2019.

3. Warwickshire Youth Justice Plan 2019/20

Councillor Jeff Morgan (Portfolio Holder for Children's Services) presented the plan to Council explaining that it was something that the whole authority should be proud of. The document had been endorsed by Cabinet and sent to the Youth Justice Board. Councillor Morgan had visited the Youth Justice Team at their office in Nuneaton and spoken to most of the staff there. He had been most impressed by their work. It was noted that children in care and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are not overly represented in the data. This is contrary to what some people believe to be the case.

Councillor Pam Williams seconded the recommendation and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers (Leader of the Green Group) welcomed the stability of the budget available for the team and noted the low number of first-time entrants and reoffending. Councillor Gilbert suggested that the key is to find meaningful employment for young offenders thus breaking the pattern of criminality. This view was echoed by others.

Councillor Pam Williams observed that early intervention is important to avoid patterns of inappropriate behaviour developing.

The recommendation was put to the vote. It was agreed unanimously.

Resolved:

That the Warwickshire Youth Justice Service Strategic Plan 2019/20 be adopted by Warwickshire County Council 2018-19.

4. Addition of Two Developer-Funded Schemes to the 2019/20 Capital Programme.

Councillor Butlin explained that although some members may not necessarily agree with the proposals before Council, legal advice is that any refusal to cooperate and agree the schemes' addition to the Capital Programme would be unlawful.

Councillor Jeff Clarke (Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning) seconded the recommendation and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Judy Falp acknowledged the position the Council was in but expressed her disappointment that major planning applications that result in major disruption are being approved on appeal. With reference to the A425 Councillor Chilvers expressed his dissatisfaction at the mitigating measures proposed adding that for future schemes more consideration should be given to them.

Councillor John Holland stated that the knowledge that the County Council has little control over the schemes in question served to strengthen his resolve to vote against them. He added that Warwick District Council had refused the development sites to the south of Warwick, but its decision had been overruled. In addition, it was noted that none of the major development sites in the local plans is close to a railway line. The A452 development will draw traffic off the M40 motorway and into Leamington Spa. The only hope, he concluded, is to work to improve air quality in Warwick town centre. Regarding the A452 Councillor Adkins noted that the development had resulted in the loss of many trees. She challenged whether this had been necessary.

Councillor Kondakor suggested that it is important to consider how to move people sustainably with minimal additional infrastructure for cars. The evolving local transport plan should focus on public transport and cycle way provision. In addition, it is important to consider lifetime maintenance costs when assessing the suitability of proposed schemes.

Councillor Alan Webb called on the Portfolio Holder to provide a report on examples of schemes that have encountered problems in their implementation and the impact that these have had on tax payers. In response, Councillor Clarke noted that as all such schemes are fully funded by developers there is no cost to tax payers.

In concluding, Councillor Butlin reminded Council that the time to challenge major developments is the planning stage. It is the district and borough councils that are the planning authorities. Developers are required to enter into a bond agreement so that if they face financial difficulties the Council is protected.

The recommendation was put to the vote. It was agreed with five members voting against it. There were no abstentions.

Resolved:

That Council gives approval to the addition of the following two schemes to the Capital Programme for 2019/2020:

- A425 Banbury Road and A452 Europa Way, Warwick. Developer – Barwood Land. Approximate value £3.5 million.
- B4632 Campden Road, Long Marston. Developer – CALA Homes. Approximate value £2.5 million.

5. Notices of Motion (Standing Order 5)

1) Revisions to Permitting for On-Street Parking

Councillor O'Rourke proposed the motion as set out on the agenda. This stated,

“This Council regrets the proposals that have been the subject of recent consultation which would, if approved, see increased charges to the current resident parking schemes across Warwickshire.

This Council therefore asks that a select committee be established to consider the implications of maintaining the current charging base and what if any changes need to be made to the current parking permit schemes and parking enforcement arrangements.

The findings of the Select Committee shall be included in a report to Cabinet with clear recommendations”.

In proposing the motion Councillor O'Rourke made the following points.

- 1) When Rugby Borough Council had recently considered the proposals for parking as put forward by the County Council, they unanimously rejected them.
- 2) Local residents are concerned to have their views heard.
- 3) The proposed system will rely heavily on a digital interface. Many residents do not have access to computers or struggle to use them.
- 4) Many of the streets where permitting is proposed have houses of multiple occupancy. These require more than one parking permit and have a very limited number of parking spaces along their length.
- 5) Shift workers struggle to find parking spaces when they return from work. Having to walk any distance at unusual hours of the day can leave people feeling vulnerable.

Councillor Dave Parsons seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak.

Amendment 1

An amendment was tabled by the Conservative Group. This was proposed by Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Seccombe. This stated,

“The Council supports the timetable in respect of the recent consultation on parking charges. The timetable allows the analysis of the consultation to be assessed and presented to Overview and Scrutiny to give Members time to consider and comment on. The report will then be presented to Cabinet with any recommendations that may be made by Scrutiny”.

Following some discussion over the nature of the amendment the Chair confirmed that it was acceptable.

Amendment 2

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Roodhouse. This stated,

“This Council regrets the proposals that have been the subject of recent consultation which would, if approved, see increased charges to the current resident parking schemes across Warwickshire.

This Council therefore asks that a select committee be established **and takes evidence from Bed & Breakfast owners, community and business groups from across Warwickshire. The select Committee should consider an impact analysis on** the implications of maintaining the current charging base and what if any changes need to be made to the current parking permit schemes and parking enforcement arrangements.

The findings of the Select Committee shall be included in a report to Cabinet with clear recommendations”.

(Amended wording in bold).

In introducing the second amendment Councillor Roodhouse made the following points.

- 1) The proposed scheme appears to be ill thought out having been driven by a need to replace the current scheme.
- 2) Permit prices have not increased for years but to increase them by such a large amount in one go is unfair.
- 3) The proposed scheme would have a negative impact on the vulnerable.
- 4) If the proposals are to be considered by overview and scrutiny committee a special meeting will be required.
- 5) The political composition of overview and scrutiny committees mean that there is a risk that impartiality in their proceedings is lost.
- 6) The implementation of the new scheme should be deferred pending the procurement and commissioning of a new computer system.
- 7) Detailed figures have previously been requested from officers, but these have not been forthcoming.

Councillor Jenny Fradgley seconded the amendment and reserved her right to speak.

Councillor Maggie O'Rourke accepted amendment 2 as a friendly amendment.

Debate

A series of elected members addressed Council on this matter.

Councillor Webb recognised that services have to be paid for but noted that parking charges take no account of affordability. Thus, any increases will impact most on those who can least afford to meet them. He added that there is evidence of abuse of the current scheme but regardless of which scheme operates there remains a shortage of parking spaces for those who need them. Increasing the cost of parking will not resolve this issue. A full review of parking is required.

Councillor Olnier stated that when parking permits were initially introduced in Nuneaton there was resistance from people who considered it was wrong to have to pay to park on the road. Nevertheless, whilst they were unable to have a dedicated parking space, they did receive some priority. The division represented by Councillor Olnier is dominated by terraced housing. As a consequence, around 80% of car owners must leave their vehicles on the road.

Councillor Bill Gifford expressed concern that it was the need to replace an obsolete computer system that appeared to be driving the new permitting system. This he suggested is not what businesses and residents want. He added that when new parking arrangements were introduced in Leamington Spa decisions were based on a street by street analysis. This approach should be taken now across the County.

Councillor Gilbert noted that many small businesses are currently struggling financially. Increases such as those proposed may be provide the tipping point leading to the closure of the business. He agreed that examination by overview and scrutiny would be appropriate.

Councillor Kondakor highlighted the shortage of car parking in many urban areas. Regardless of parking arrangements it would be preferable to examine why people are choosing to drive. Improvements to public transport systems could lead to reductions in car ownership and usage. He noted that bed and breakfast businesses in Scarborough are issued with localised permits for use of their guests.

Councillor Fradgley raised the interests of bed and breakfast business owners explaining that in Stratford upon Avon proposals for three new hotels are already presenting a threat to bed and breakfast businesses. She reported instances where people have been reluctant to use their cars knowing that on their return, they would be unable to park.

Councillor Kate Rolfe spoke in support of the friendly amendment.

Councillor Boad agreed that a street by street analysis of parking need and solutions would be preferable to a blanket, County-wide approach. She added that the income from parking should be directed to helping town centre businesses at a difficult time for high streets.

Councillor Chattaway observed that all members receive complaints regarding parking. Residents are disappointed with the proposals and a full review by scrutiny is required.

Councillor Dominic Skinner considered that the quality of parking enforcement is in need of improvement adding that abuse of permits is known about but there are insufficient resources to follow up on these cases.

Councillor Caroline Phillips expressed reservations over the potential for overview and scrutiny to make a positive contribution.

Councillor Chilvers stated that he had been waiting for a considerable time for financial figures concerning car parking. He noted that there have been media reports stating that around £2m of income comes from car parking. However, this is largely from parking infringements and not from parking charges. Councillor Chilvers stressed that income from car parking should be reinvested in parking related issues. He suggested that some of the income could be used to subsidise permits for those less able to afford them.

Support for a scrutiny meeting to review the proposals was expressed by Councillor Dan Gissane.

Councillor Parsons (Seconder of Labour amendment) reiterated the need for a special scrutiny meeting that would provide local residents with the opportunity to share their views.

Councillor Seccombe (Seconder of the Conservative amendment) reminded Council that there has been no decision agreed. There are however options to be considered. Councillor Seccombe observed that eight years has elapsed since charges for parking permits were increased. There is no proposal to stop residents from being able to park.

Councillor O'Rourke (Proposer of Labour motion) reminded Council of the extent of dissatisfaction felt by local communities.

Councillor Clarke (Proposer of the Conservative amendment) concluded by calling for overview and scrutiny to review the matter.

Vote

A vote was held on the Conservative amendment. This was carried with two abstentions and eighteen votes against.

Thus, the Conservative amendment became the substantive motion. A vote was held on the new substantive motion. This was carried with one abstention and eighteen votes against.

Resolved

“The Council supports the timetable in respect of the recent consultation on parking charges. The timetable allows the analysis of the consultation to be assessed and presented to Overview and Scrutiny to give Members time to consider and comment on. The report will then be presented to Cabinet with any recommendations that may be made by Scrutiny”.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.50 and reconvened at 13.35.

2) Budgetary Underspends

Councillor Chattaway moved the motion stating,

“This Council would like to understand why The Administration has failed to ensure that all monies collected from the rate payers of Warwickshire have not been fully utilised and spent on much needed services in our towns and communities.

We therefore ask Cabinet to produce a detailed report for consideration by the Resources and Fire & Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee identifying why the underspends and slippage in the capital programme and revenue have occurred and what actions will be taken to ensure that this is not repeated in the future. This report should include an assessment of capacity to deliver budgets”.

In tabling the motion Councillor Chattaway noted significant reported underspends in capital and revenue in the 18/19 financial year. Regarding capital underspends he suggested that this was because of a failure to progress projects at an adequate pace. In addition, he suggested, a focus on the Council’s transformation programme appears to have had an impact on the Council’s capacity to deliver in some areas. Councillor Chattaway requested that a report be produced to explain why the underspends are arising. Regarding members’ delegated budgets Councillor Chattaway considered that projects supported by these were moving too slowly.

Councillor Adkins seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak.

Debate

Councillor Kondakor expressed the view that the term “late spends” should be used as opposed to “under spends adding that costs increase with delays. He considered that members are not kept adequately informed of schemes and that there appeared to be little planning around when best to undertake work. Small projects, he concluded, should be kept in reserve to use resources that have been assigned to projects that are delayed.

Councillor Andy Crump (Portfolio Holder for Fire & Rescue and Community Safety) explained to Council that underspends are not unusual and can be attributed to a range of different factors including, late payment of government grants and unexpected additional income. The flexibility that underspends can present means that other council services can benefit. For example, additional resources have been provided for the Fire Protection Service from reserves.

Councillor Adrian Warwick suggested that the actions called for in the motion before Council are already being undertaken by the overview and scrutiny committees and Cabinet. The principal objection, he suggested, is to obtain best value for money.

Councillor Peter Butlin stated that of the £14m underspend reported in 2018/19, £9m was the result of increased income. He assured Council that services are being delivered and that customer satisfaction rates remain high. In the first quarter of this financial year an underspend has been reported for adult social care. However, this is attributable to the late payment of a government grants and not to a drop in demand for services.

Councillor Adkins (Secunder of the motion) stated that whilst she appreciated the need to retain reserves there are people in communities in need of services. She called for consideration to be given to the establishment of a cross party group to consider the factors leading to underspends.

Councillor Chattaway asked why it had been considered necessary to increase funding for the Fire Protection Service. He concluded that the motion had been presented to act as a means of ensuring that the Council has the capacity to deliver its services.

Vote

A vote was held on the motion. The vote was lost with one abstention.

3) GP Surgeries

In proposing the motion Councillor Richard Chattaway stated,

“Given the increasing demands on primary care provision in Bedworth and North Warwickshire we would ask that this Council invites the CCG and NHS England to attend the next appropriate Adult Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee to provide,

- 1) full details of the reasons for closures of 4 GP practices in Bedworth and North Warwickshire,
- 2) full details of what provision is being put in place to ensure that primary care services are both accessible and fully meet the needs of local residents in these areas, and

- 3) a list of all statutory consultees and details of all consultations held including disclosure of feedback received in relation to these closures”.

Councillor Chattaway added,

- 1) The George Eliot Hospital in Nuneaton is currently experiencing major pressures. One reason for this is a shortage of GP practices.
- 2) Warwickshire has experienced a shortage of GP practices for some time.
- 3) The closure of a surgery can affect around 2000 people. These have then to be served by remaining practices.
- 4) Nuneaton and Bedworth are set to grow. This growth will only apply greater pressure to surgeries.
- 5) The re-tendering of GP services may not provide the answer to the problem of this shortage.

Councillor Bill Olnier seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Margaret Bell moved a friendly amendment. This was to the first bullet point of the motion, changing it to say,

“Full details of the re-contracting of the four Alternative Provider of Medical Services (APMS) primary care services in Nuneaton, Bedworth and North Warwickshire”.

The reason behind the friendly amendment was to avoid creating undue anxiety amongst local residents who might fear for the future of their services. Councillor Bell explained the background to the Alternative Provision of Medical Services (APMS). This arrangement involves the re-contracting of GP services every five years. At present 3 practices are up for contract. Councillor Bell was keen to emphasise that the Clinical Commissioning Groups have worked hard to ensure that stakeholders and communities are kept informed on progress. There is a possibility that the Leicester Road surgery will close but Councillor Bell stated that the CCG would have an opportunity to explain this at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Les Caborn seconded the proposed friendly amendment. In doing so he agreed with Councillor Chattaway adding that “winter pressures” are now experienced throughout the whole year. He agreed to circulate to the Council a briefing note and letter that he had received on it.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse noted that it had previously been agreed with the health providers that whenever changes to services were proposed these would be discussed with the Council. In this case such discussions had not been held. Councillor Roodhouse suggested that the concordat required refreshing and that the Council should do more to hold the health providers and commissioners to account.

Councillor Keith Kondakor agreed that getting GP practices to set up in Nuneaton is a challenge. The shortage of GPs means that people sometimes struggle to get appointments and present late.

Councillor Clive Rickhards observed that there is an increasing tendency towards closure. The GP practice in Studley had closed some while ago and there is no indication that it may re-open.

Councillor Wallace Redford stated that the issue of GP practices had been raised at a recent meeting of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. At a meeting to be held on 15 November the issue will be discussed again. The CCGs are expected at that meeting.

Councillors Shilton and Phillips echoed other members' concerns with Councillor Phillips adding that pressure on hospitals has an impact on elective surgery.

Councillor Bill Oler echoed welcomed Councillor Bell's amendment. He considered that the way in which the CCGs work continues to be a mystery. Additionally the relationship between GPs and CCGs is unclear.

Vote

A vote was held. The motion as amended was agreed unanimously.

Resolved

That given the increasing demands on primary care provision in Bedworth and North Warwickshire the Council agrees to invite the CCG and NHS England to attend the next appropriate Adult Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee to provide,

- 1) Full details of the re-contracting of the four Alternative Provider of Medical Services (APMS) primary care services in Nuneaton, Bedworth and North Warwickshire,
- 2) Full details of what provision is being put in place to ensure that primary care services are both accessible and fully meet the needs of local residents in these areas, and
- 3) A list of all statutory consultees and details of all consultations held including disclosure of feedback received in relation to these closures

6. Member Question Time (Standing Order 7)

1) Introduction of New Parking Permit Arrangements

Councillor Roodhouse to Councillor Clarke

"The consultation on resident parking states, "Our existing paper-based permit management system is becoming obsolete with technical support from its suppliers being reduced from October onwards. We must now move to a digital, online system." Could the Portfolio Holder say when he knew it was going to be obsolete and how much is this change costing"?

In response to this question Councillor Clarke stated that the current system will continue until the new one comes on line. Councillor Jeff Clarke agreed to send a full response out to members.

2) Environmental Impact Statements on Reports

Councillor Chilvers to Councillor Timms.

“Council reports have recently had an ‘environmental impact’ section added. What framework have officers been given to enable them to assess the impact of a policy?”

In response, Councillor Timms observed that the approach to the statements on reports would vary depending on the nature of the report.

3) Waiting Time for OT Assessment

Councillor Chilvers to Councillor Les Caborn (Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health).

“How long is the current wait for an OT assessment for adaptations for older people for each level of priority?”

In response Councillor Caborn, not having the information to hand, agreed to send it to all of Council in the next few days.

4) De-merge of Police Coalition (i)

Councillor Fradgley to Councillor Dave Reilly (Chair of the Police and Crime Panel).

“The Chair will be aware that the Home Secretary has placed a six-months delay on the de-merger of the Warwickshire and West Mercia Police Forces. The September 2019 Peel Report on Warwickshire Police by HM Inspector of Constabulary notes serious concerns about the force’s efficiency. I am pleased that 7 out of 12 categories are rated “good”, however, four categories are rated “requires improvement” and one, “Planning for the Future” is rated “inadequate”. The cause of concern for this inadequate rating is the force has not yet defined how all its services to the public will operate in the future nor has it agreed a smooth transition for a future operating model, nor has it consulted with the public on these matters. Amongst other recommendations the report states “the force should improve its arrangements both to consult with the public about business planning and to make feedback as a result of such consultation”. In view of the importance of the police service to Warwickshire residents and a number of this council’s departments, will the Chair please discuss with the Police and Crime Commissioner what public consultation is planned in response to the inspector’s recommendations and whether there are any ways in which this council can assist in the consultation”

In response to this question Councillor Reilly assured Council that the Police and Crime Panel is working with the Police and Crime Commissioner to address issues around the ending of the alliance. Councillor Reilly repeated that performance had been found good in many areas adding that the County Council is working to fulfil its role in supporting the police.

5) De-merge of Police Coalition (ii)

Councillor Olnier to Councillor Crump.

“Many members will have viewed with concern the very public breakdown of the Strategic Alliance between the West Mercia and Warwickshire Police forces. We have seen an intervention by the Home Secretary with an inspector despatched to assess the situation resulting in a suspension of the divorce for a period of three months, and the recent announcement by the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner offering to act as a mediator because of the serious concerns he has about the implications of the breakdown. There have also been less than positive comments with regard to Warwickshire Policing in the recently published Peel Report. Given the fact that our Police Commissioner sought and was granted the right to attend Full Council and, in some circumstances, to vote in this Council but is yet to appear in these meetings. Can the Portfolio Holder tell us when the Police Commissioner intends to come to this Council and to give a full account of the current state of policing in Warwickshire and provide members with answers to the considerable number of concerns which are being expressed by those whom they represent?”

In response Councillor Crump assured Council that the Police and Crime Panel works to hold the Police and Crime Commissioner to account.

In response to a suggestion by the Chair, Council agreed that an invite be extended to the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend a meeting of Council

6) Stratford upon Avon Fire Station

Councillor Kate Rolfe to Councillor Crump

Displaying her android device Councillor Rolfe shared with Council a press release concerning major improvements at Stratford Fire Station. Councillor Rolfe asserted that she had received no prior notification of this and asked why this was the case.

In response Councillor Crump stated that the improvements had been approved by Cabinet but confirmed that he had not emailed Councillor Rolfe directly to notify her of them.

7) Long Service by Kenilworth Firefighter

Councillor Dave Shilton to Councillor Crump

Councillor Shilton asked the Portfolio Holder to recognise the long service of Kenilworth firefighter, Malcolm Gunter who has completed 40 years' service.

Councillor Crump commended Mr Gunter noting that there are a number of retained firefighters who have served for many years.

8) Government Support for Bus Services

Councillor Kondakor to Councillor Clarke

Noting that government has recently announced a national cash injection for bus services Councillor Keith Kondakor asked whether the Council will be bidding for a share of this.

In response Council was informed that officers are working on this.

9) Flood Water Tanks

Councillor Kondakor to Councillor Clarke

Councillor Clarke was asked whether he was aware of an incident whereby soil placed on top of a plastic flood relief tank had caused it to collapse.

It was agreed that Councillor Kondakor would send details to Councillor Crump and *the matter would be investigated.*

10) Delays with Double Yellow Lines

Councillor Boad to Councillor Clarke

Councillor Boad cited an example where the painting of double yellow lines on a road in her division had been delayed owing to an administrative error. The delay will be over 12 months as parking variations are looked at once a year. Councillor Boad asked the Portfolio Holder to review the process of annual reviews to consider whether they can be undertaken more frequently.

Councillor Clarke agreed to look in to this.

7. Any other items of urgent business

None

8. Exclusion of Public and Press

Resolved:

That members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the items mentioned below on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

9. Consideration of the Exempt Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 25 July 2019

The exempt minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2019 were considered by Council.

Resolved

That the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2019 be approved as a correct record.

The meeting closed at 14.57.

.....
Chair

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Council

17 December 2019

A452 Kenilworth to Leamington Spa Cycling Scheme

Recommendation

That Council approves an allocation of £4.749 million from the Capital Investment Fund to the Kenilworth to Leamington Spa Cycling Scheme and its addition to the Capital Programme.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 The 2019/20 capital budget resolution agreed by Full Council in February 2019 included a specific priority that by September 2019 investment proposals for additional cycle routes in response to accident data and air quality would be brought forward for decision.
- 1.2 In response, allocations from the Capital Investment Fund (CIF) were sought in September for three priority cycling schemes, namely Kenilworth to Leamington Spa Cycle Route, Nuneaton and Bedworth Cycling Connections and A47 Long Shoot Cycle Route (Hinckley to Nuneaton).
- 1.3 On 14th November 2019, Cabinet considered a report on CIF funding and approved the allocation of £1.012 million funding to the Nuneaton and Bedworth Cycling Connections scheme and £0.438 million to the A47 Long Shoot Cycle Route and the addition of these two schemes to the Capital Programme. Cabinet also approved the allocation of £4.749 million from the CIF and recommended that Council approve £4.749 million for the A452 Kenilworth to Leamington Cycle Route (K2L) and its addition to the Capital Programme.
- 1.4 The K2L scheme will deliver a new 5 km off-carriageway cycle route connecting Kenilworth and Leamington Spa along the A452 and B4115 / Rocky Lane (see plan at **Appendix**). Provision of a high quality, safe, direct, continuous dedicated cycle track on this corridor is essential to overcome the main barrier to cycling, which is the fear of danger posed by motor vehicles.
- 1.5 The current lack of safe segregated cycling provision, high traffic volumes (around 30,000 vehicles per day), narrow carriageway and large roundabouts on the A452 create conditions which are not conducive to cycling. The A452 is

currently the only direct route between the two towns and there are no suitable alternative routes for cyclists.

- 1.6 There is significant public support for the K2L scheme and a petition presented to Cabinet on 15th October attracted over 3,000 signatures. The scheme emerged as the highest priority new cycle route in the County during a prioritisation exercise carried out as part of the Task and Finish review of Cycling Infrastructure. This process was based on a methodology recommended by the Department for Transport, with schemes evaluated using the criteria of effectiveness, policy, deliverability and economic criteria.
- 1.7 The K2L scheme is expected to release considerable suppressed demand for cycling on the A452 corridor. The scheme will enable everyday cycling journeys between the two towns, as well as supporting cycle access to the University of Warwick, Stoneleigh Park, JLR Whitley and Coventry. It will also provide an important sustainable transport link for the 1400 new dwellings and new employment planned in east Kenilworth. The development of 4000 new houses at Kings Hill to the north of Kenilworth will further increase demand for this cycle route.
- 1.8 The scheme has been assessed by external consultants using established methodology as having a benefit cost ratio of 2.1 which is categorised by the Department for Transport as providing high value for money. It should be noted that the forecasting method used to predict levels of post-scheme cycling for these calculations may not fully reflect the current level of suppressed demand and severance created by the poor cycling conditions on the A452 or the lack of alternative routes available for cyclists. The growing popularity of electric bikes and the potential this offers for widening the appeal of cycling, particularly for longer journeys, is another factor which the forecasting methodology does not take into account.
- 1.9 K2L is a named scheme in the Warwickshire Local Transport Plan 2011-26. Policy CY2 Cycle Networks and Policy CY3 Prioritising cycling schemes includes an action to 'Seek to develop dedicated cycle infrastructure on key inter-urban links: Kenilworth – Leamington Spa'.
- 1.10 The scheme will contribute towards a range of objectives, including those on congestion, air quality, carbon emissions, safety and health. Delivery of high-quality cycling infrastructure will encourage a switch from car-based travel to sustainable modes and reduce carbon emissions from transport.
- 1.11 On approval of the funding allocation, further design work will be carried out. A key challenge for the scheme is providing a safe crossing of the River Avon and associated flood plain. There is no scope for cycling provision on the

existing narrow road bridge. There may be an opportunity in the future to provide cycling infrastructure on this section as part of the proposed A452 (Thickthorn – Bericote) highway scheme, which is included in the Warwick District Local Plan Infrastructure Delivery Plan. The current proposal to enable delivery of the K2L scheme is to construct a modular cycle / pedestrian bridge structure over the river and flood plain. This structure can be removed and relocated elsewhere if required should the highway scheme come forward in the future.

2.0 Financial Implications

- 2.1 The scheme has been estimated to cost £4.749 million and CIF funding will be used to fully fund this key scheme to ensure it can be brought forward at the earliest possible opportunity. An appropriate level of contingency has been built into the cost estimates to reflect the current stage of design.
- 2.2 External funding is being sought for the scheme in order to reduce the amount of CIF required. Potential sources of funding include developer contributions, HS2 Road Safety Fund and Highways England cycling funding. Where external funding is secured and received which contributes to this scheme, an amount equal to the value of the external funding will be returned to the Capital Investment Fund for use on future projects.
- 2.3 The impact on maintenance budgets of constructing new cycle track is considered to be minimal, any ongoing maintenance costs will be absorbed into the general highways and bridge maintenance budget.
- 2.4 Monitoring of the capital project costs will be reported as part of the quarterly financial monitoring report to Cabinet.

3.0 Environmental Implications

- 3.1 Developing cycle route networks to make cycling a viable transport choice is key to reducing carbon emissions from transport and tackling climate change. The schemes will enable residents and commuters to make positive steps towards reducing their carbon footprint by switching from driving to cycling for short local journeys.

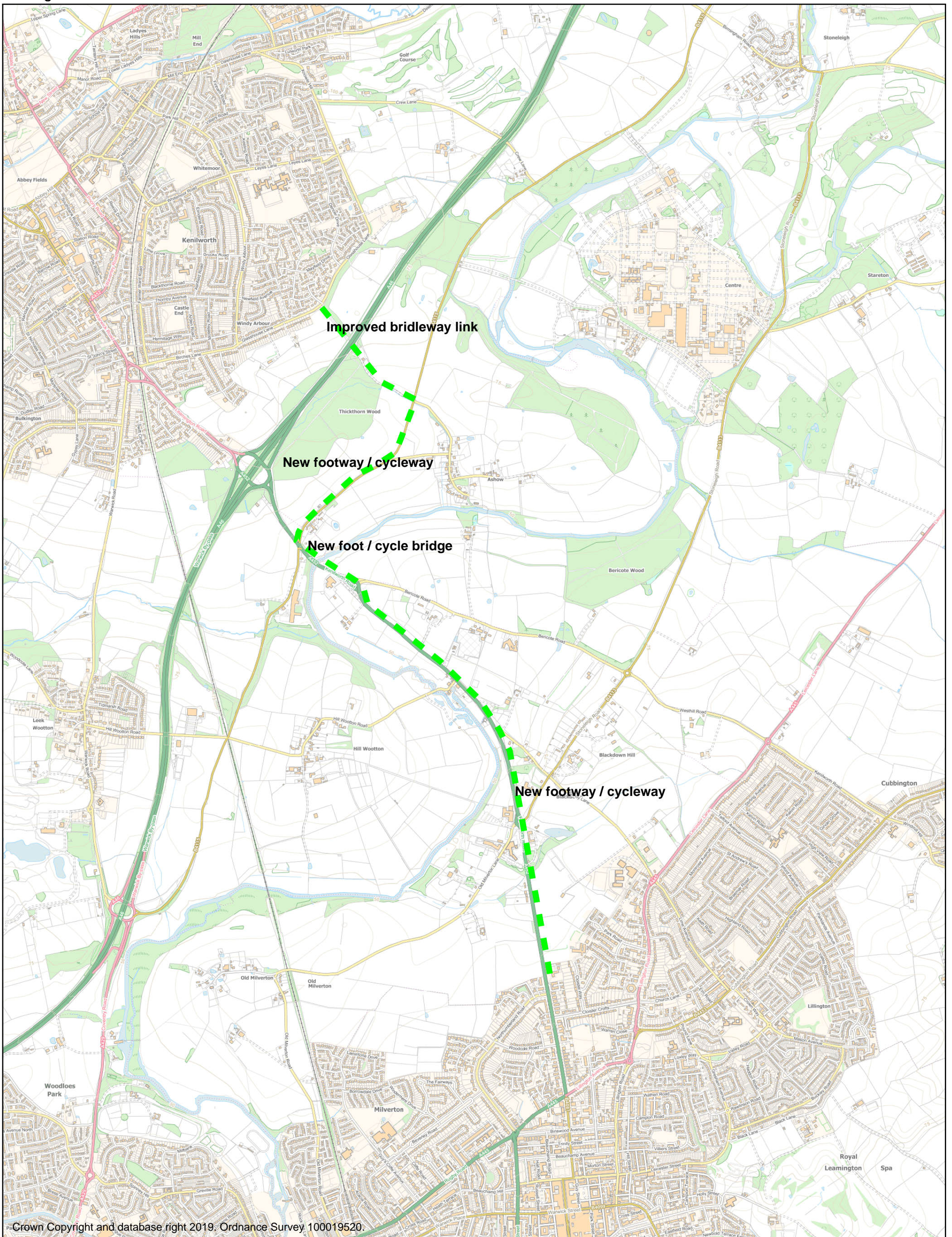
4.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 4.1 Approval of the CIF funding allocation and the addition of the K2L scheme to the Capital Programme will enable detailed design work, land acquisition and other statutory processes necessary to deliver the scheme to be progressed.

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

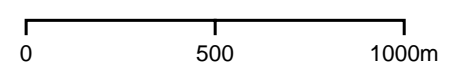
Local Member(s): Cllr Wallace Redford
Cllr Dave Shilton
Cllr Bill Gifford
Cllr Sarah Boad



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K2L Cycle Route Scheme: Indicative Route Plan

2019-12-03



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Council

17 December 2019

Capital Investment - Nuneaton

Recommendation

The Council approves the allocation of £19.42m funding from the Capital Investment Fund (CIF) to enable the development of a new library and business centre in Nuneaton and add the project to the Capital Programme at the cost of £19.42m.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 On 14 November 2019, Cabinet gave approval to recommend to Council that an allocation of the County Council's own Capital Investment Fund (£19.42m) is made to build a new WCC building in Nuneaton.
- 1.2 The total estimated costs of the Scheme are £19.92m, including funded demolition works which are already in the capital programme (£500k Growth Fund).

2.0 The Building: Library and Business Centre

- 2.1 The new building will provide Nuneaton town centre with a new landmark building hosting the main northern hub library, a new business centre, café and changing places facility.
- 2.2 The proposal aims to stimulate the economy within Nuneaton town centre and act as a key anchor to a prime development site which is in WCC and NBBC's ownership. This directly supports the Transforming Nuneaton programme and will help drive further investment into the town.
- 2.3 It is anticipated that the new building, through its key functions, will over the next 10 years:
 - Create 200 jobs in the business centre and café over and above existing library jobs
 - Support 120 businesses through the provision of office accommodation and WCC business support, particularly important for new start-ups and those expanding
 - Bring £15.8m to the local economy in Gross Value Added
 - Generate gross revenue income of circa £490,000 per annum from Business Centre and café when target occupancy is achieved.

2.4 The project was evaluated against the criteria for the Fund and scored 81.8/100, scoring particularly well on both the alignment to WCC's core outcomes and on political, social and environmental impacts.

2.5 Project costs:

	2019/20 £	2020/21 £	2021/22 & later £	Total £
Construction including demolition		500,000	14,381,427	14,881,427
Inflation (Q1 2022)			818,479	818,479
Project / Design fees	231,061	771,314	1,152,750	2,155,125
Other development / project costs			1,119,000	1,119,000
Client contingency			948,701	948,701
Total Capital Cost	231,061	1,271,314	18,420,357	19,922,732
Less: external funding secured LEP funding		500,000		
Capital Investment Fund requirement	231,061	771,314	18,420,357	19,422,732

2.6 Full details can be found in Appendix B – Cabinet Paper 14.11.19

3.0 Proposal

3.1 Approval is requested to add the Transforming Nuneaton Public Sector building to the capital programme to the value of £19.42m across the financial years 2019/20 – 2022/2023 as detailed in section 2.7.

4.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

4.1 Subject to the recommendation being agreed, it is anticipated that the Scheme will be completed by Autumn 2022.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 As set out in Appendix B

6.0 Environmental Implications

6.1 As set out in Appendix A

Background Papers

None

Appendix A: Environmental Implications

Appendix B: Cabinet Report 14.11.19

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The report to Cabinet that this is based on was circulated to the following members prior to publication.

Local Member: Councillor Olnier

Other members: Councillors Warwick, Boad, Chattaway, Chilvers, O'Rourke, Seccombe, Singh Birdi

Appendix A: Environmental Implications

A new building provides an opportunity to ensure it is built in a way which minimises its impact on the environment.

The Building

The building has been designed to BREEAM Level Good as a minimum required to be achieved as specified in the project is brief. BREEAM groups its sustainability rating under the following 9 headings:

- Management - Commissioning and construction site management
- Energy Use - Operational energy and CO2 issues
- Transport - Transport related CO2 and location related factors
- Health & Well Being - Indoor and external issues
- Pollution - Air & Water pollution
- Land Use & Ecology - Ecological value of the site
- Materials - Environmental implication of building materials
- Water - Consumption and water efficiency

The Design Principles: the appointed architects have a strong track record in delivering ultra-low energy, environmentally responsible buildings in the Public Sector, a passive measures and a fabric first approach has been adopted on the scheme. Their approach is to integrate sustainability at the concept stages of all projects well in advance of planning application stage so that measures are captured at an early stage. This initiative is developed on a holistic basis, which means that highly valuable input is concentrated on the design of the building fabric, structure and envelope at the early stages in collaboration with the whole design team. High insulations values and a very good air-tightness level will be targeted, and PassivHaus and Zero Carbon design experience will be used to ensure the key features of the development far exceed the requirements of the latest Part L Building Regulations standards. South facing glazing will be shaded through the overhang of the colonnade and the brise-soleil. Throughout these early stages, the architect team will be a key participant in any design development and whole life cycle cost exercises with the Quantity Surveyor.

Design Engineering: As part of the appointed engineers commitment to sustainability and One Planet Living Principles, a Beyond Report has also been prepared for the WCC which provides concepts for multidisciplinary and project-specific sustainable initiatives that could be adopted by the us. The structural specification is to be developed to specify or encourage the responsible sourcing of materials wherever possible. Measures to minimise resource depletion and raw material will be explored.

The **Energy and sustainability strategy** for the building discusses enhanced thermal insulation properties for walls, windows, roof and floors relative to the Part L minimum allowable values and in Stage 3 work will take place on high efficiency building services plant with a particular focus on lighting and ventilation as theses represent a major consumer of energy.

As design progresses and discussion continues with the planning authority further environmental considerations will be looked at including the use of photovoltaics panels to help off-set the energy use. Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) are required whenever a property is built and contain information about the property's energy use and typical energy costs as well as recommendations about how to reduce the energy use. Enhanced EPC ratings are often pursued for commercial office developments as part of the overall marketing strategy to make the space attractive to tenants.

Transport & Travel

The site benefits from a high level of sustainable transport accessibility as would be expected for a town centre location. The site benefits from the close proximity of the local amenities, facilities within and around the main commercial area, with good pedestrian linkage. Nuneaton Bus Station and Train Station are both located within a 400 metre walk of the site making it easy for people to visit without the need for a car, thereby reducing carbon consumption

The scheme also includes an allowance of for electric vehicle charging points in the cost plan and showers and allowances for cycle stores are also included

Cabinet

14 November 2019

Capital Investment in Nuneaton Town Centre

Recommendation

- 1) Cabinet recommends Council approves the investment of £19,423,000 into the creation of a new public sector building in Nuneaton town centre using WCC Capital Investment Fund resources.
- 2) Cabinet recommends Council approves the addition of the £19,423,000 scheme to the capital programme in financial years 2019/2020, 2020/21 and 2021/22 as per the profile shown in section 6.
- 3) Authorises the Strategic Director for Communities to enter into any such contracts as may be necessary to deliver the new building on terms and conditions acceptable to Strategic Director for Resources.
- 4) Authorises the first call on the revenue income generated (described in section 7.4) is used to re-pay reserves that may be needed to temporarily meet upfront project costs as detailed in the report.
- 5) Cabinet note and endorse the renewed Collaboration Agreement with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council for the Vicarage Street Development Site.

1. Background

- 1.1. The Transforming Nuneaton (TN) Programme is a suite of projects that, together, will help Nuneaton to grow its local economy and enhance the town centre offer. Investment in the town centre is needed to improve and expand the leisure offer, re-focus and enhance the retail offer, unlock housing development and improve rail, highway and cycle infrastructure to support economic growth within the Borough and wider area. The resulting job creation will be a huge boost to the local economy and improve the viability of the whole town centre. Key elements within the programme include:
 - Delivery of major infrastructure improvements in order to enable development to take place;
 - Acquisition and preparation of land in order to unlock and create prime development sites;
 - Design and implementation of flood mitigation schemes for the town which will open up development opportunities;
 - Delivery of key developments within the town centre to diversify and grow the offer within the area and support economic growth;

- Deliver high quality public realm to create better links to the town via the train and bus stations;
 - Engagement of key stakeholders and service providers to support the diversification of the town centre;
 - Effective marketing and communication of Nuneaton to promote and encourage investors and visitors; and
 - Creation of a Business Improvement District to support town centre businesses and develop the offer within the area.
- 1.2. Delivery of the Programme is led by strategic partners WCC and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC), with direct funding provided by the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership for land assembly and transport infrastructure design work.
- 1.3. The Vicarage Street development site (see figure 1) is one of two key investment sites in the town centre in WCC and NBBC ownership and a priority for the TN programme. It sits in a prime location adjacent to the ring road and at a gateway point to the town centre. The site is currently being expanded through land assembly to make it bigger and more attractive to the private sector. The land being bought directly links the land owned by WCC and NBBC to the main retail area.
- 1.4. WCC and NBBC are renewing the Collaboration Agreement between the two authorities regarding Vicarage Street development site. The renewed collaboration agreement is based on the same principles as the original but has been updated to reflect the current programme, governance, external funding and land assembly arrangements for the project in line with decisions of Cabinet since 2012. The formula for the division of any proceeds from the finished programme is based on land ownership percentages as originally agreed. Cabinet are asked to note and endorse the action taken in order to maintain the pace of the programme.
- 1.5. The primary aim for the site is for the two partners to release the land to developers to bring in alternative uses for the town centre. It is hoped by bringing in new uses the offer will diversify within the town and reduce its reliance on the retail sector (which is in severe decline on the high street). The first phase of Vicarage Street development site is in construction, with McCarthy and Stone currently building a 50-retirement apartment scheme. Market demand for other development plots remains tentative, but soft market testing carried out by an independent consultant has indicated that this is very likely to be assisted, and private sector investment encouraged, by direct investment by WCC in the site.

Figure 1

Vicarage Street Development Site

OPPORTUNITY SITES IN NUNEATON TOWN CENTRE

- Opportunity Sites
- Potential Land Assembly
- Commercial & Leisure (Cinema)
- Offices & Public Sector
- Retail, Food & Drink
- Residential with Retail/Leisure ground floor
- Hotel
- Residential
- New & Replacement Parking
- Improved Connections
- New Station Square

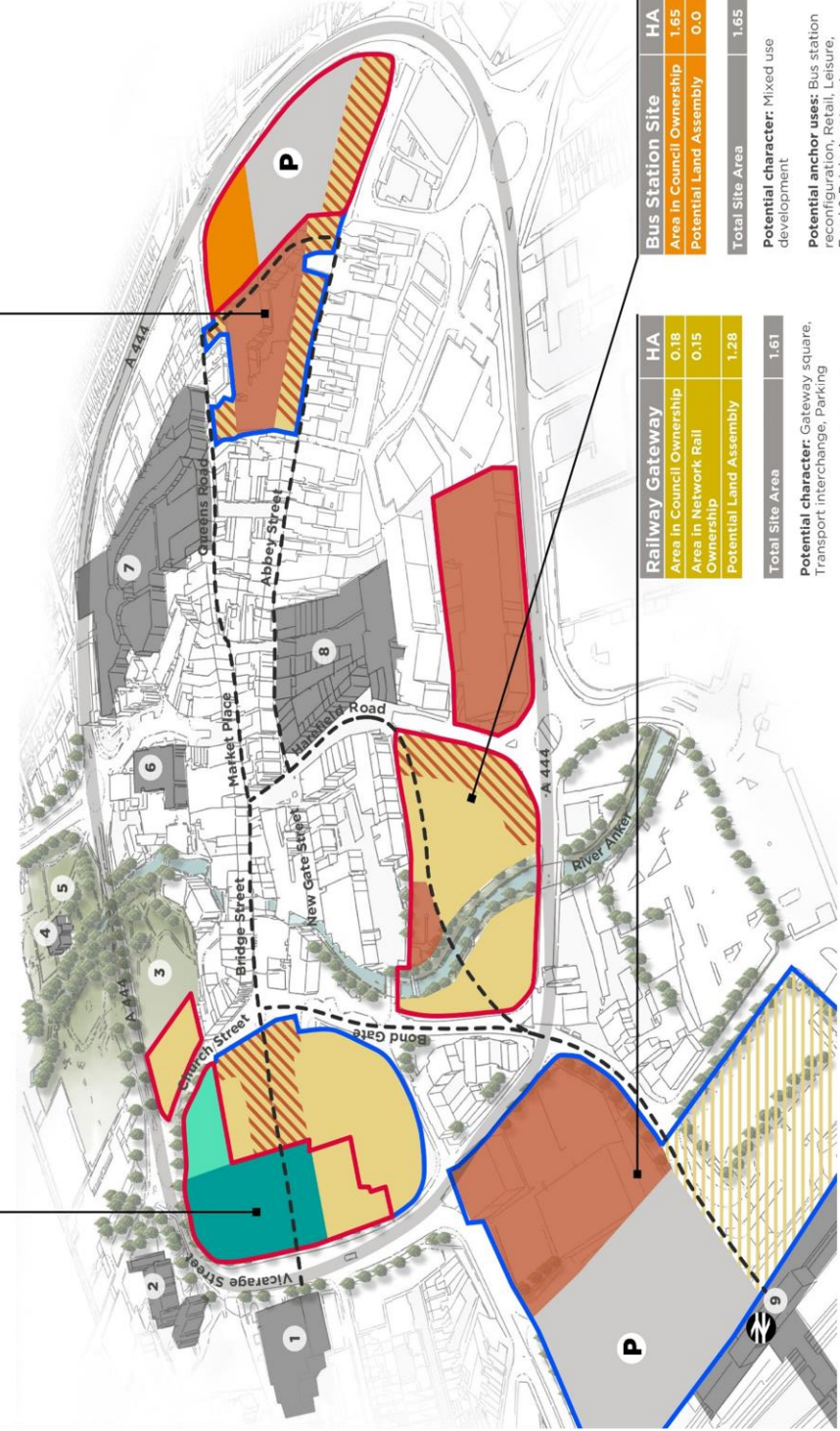
1. Warwickshire Justice Centre
2. St Nicolas Parish Church
3. George Eliot Memorial Gardens
4. Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery
5. Riversey Park
6. Town Hall
7. Ropewalk Shopping Centre
8. Abbeygate Shopping Centre
9. Nuneaton Railway Station

Abbey Street Site		HA
Area in Council Ownership	1.41	
Potential Land Assembly	0.91	
Total Site Area		2.32
Potential character: Leisure led mixed use development		
Key uses: Leisure (Cinema), Retail, Restaurants, Apartments		

Vicarage Street Site		HA
Area in Council Ownership	1.6	
Potential Land Assembly	1.1	
Total Site Area		2.7
Potential character: Residential-led mixed use development and public sector hub		
Key uses: Office, Public sector hub, Hotel, Apartments, Education facility		

Railway Gateway		HA
Area in Council Ownership	0.18	
Area in Network Rail Ownership	0.15	
Potential Land Assembly	1.28	
Total Site Area		1.61
Potential character: Gateway square, Transport interchange, Parking		
Key uses: Transport hub, Parking, Parking, Gateway Square		

Bus Station Site		HA
Area in Council Ownership	1.65	
Potential Land Assembly	0.0	
Total Site Area		1.65
Potential character: Mixed use development		
Potential anchor uses: Bus station reconfiguration, Retail, Leisure, Food & Drink, Apartments		



- 1.6. A key part of the site's development is therefore now seen to be the proposal to build a new public sector building accommodating a library, new business centre and café, which would act as an anchor tenant and catalyst to the wider development site, building on the success of the WCC Business Centre portfolio to create quality office accommodation for new start-up and existing businesses within the town centre. These uses have been identified through a full options appraisal which also looked at bringing in other uses, comparing with having a single use building and assessing what WCC's service requirements were. It also assessed what uses could have a positive impact on the generating footfall in the town centre (see Section 3 of this report for more information). The existing library has approximately 182,000 visits per year which is a big contribution to the number of visitors in the town; a new offer in a better location is expected to really increase the town centre's vitality.
- 1.7. Specifically, delivery of the new public sector building is expected to generate, over the next 10 years:
 - Create 200 jobs in the business centre and café over and above existing library jobs
 - Support 120 businesses through the provision of office accommodation and WCC business support, particularly important for new start-ups and those expanding
 - Bring £15.8m to the local economy in Gross Value Added
 - Generate gross revenue income of circa £ 490,000 per annum from Business Centre and café when target occupancy is achieved.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1. Nuneaton town has several issues facing it which effect the growth of the local economy and its long-term sustainability. These are described below.
- 2.2. Socio-economic factors: Nuneaton is the largest town in Warwickshire but performs especially poorly economically and socially. For example, comparator statistics show that the number of jobs per person in Nuneaton & Bedworth is 0.6 whereas in Warwick District it is 1.16, and Gross Value Added per head (2015) is £33,660 in Warwick District and £15,830 in Nuneaton & Bedworth. Nuneaton and Bedworth have the highest levels of deprivation across Warwickshire and NBBC ranks as the 111th most deprived Local Authority District nationally (out of 326). Six Super Output Areas within Nuneaton and Bedworth are in the top 10% most deprived nationally including one in Abbey ward which covers the town centre.
- 2.3. Town Centre Diversification: The town centre is heavily reliant on retail (currently 58% of units) which, in the current climate, is not sustainable and so it needs to diversify its offer. The vitality and viability of the town centre is affected by the low level of office and residential accommodation available – this limits investment from new businesses locating to the town centre and reduces the number of people using the centre, especially in the evening and night time. Figures from the Rope Walk shopping centre in Nuneaton show a decline of nearly 13% in footfall between 2016 and 2018 and a 29% drop since 2008/09. The Coventry & Warwickshire Sub Regional Employment Market Signals Study (2019) states “Businesses, especially new-start businesses with high growth aspirations, are struggling to find premises with suitably flexible leases, which will allow them to

expand or move-on within a few years (or even sooner) if they achieve their rapid growth aspirations. The provision of small-scale flexible office accommodation within inner urban areas across the sub-region should be a priority going forward.”

- 2.4. Town Centre Investment: Nuneaton does not attract the same level of investment from the private sector as other areas of the county. Land values and market conditions mean that private investors are not choosing the town as a location for development. Current void units within the town centre area equate to 14% of the total commercial ground floor space. Level of dis-investment are illustrated by the following changes affecting Nuneaton in recent years:

Disinvestment	Date	Details
Marks and Spencers	2011	2648sqm. Reopened as Poundland in 2013.
Pizza Hut	2013	Abbey Street restaurant closed. Returned in 2017 as a takeaway on Queens Road.
BHS	2016	3750sqm of prime retail space
Heart of England Department Store, food store and HQ offices	2016	
Saints Bar	2016	Café bar closes
Store 21	2017	
Maplins	2018	379sqm in prime retail location. Company nationally went into receivership and closed stores across UK.
Royal Bank of Scotland	2018	National consolidation.
Blue Inc	2018	Ropewalk based, part of problems with whole company.
Toni & Guy	2018	
The Bakery	2019	Opened in 2018. Community company
Topshop	announced June 2019	https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-48510300

3. Options and Proposal

- 3.1. The proposal is to deliver a new library, business centre and cafe building in Nuneaton town centre to act as a catalyst for the regeneration of the town. The building’s location has been chosen to allow it to act as an anchor at a prominent position to drive footfall through the town. The funding is requested from within the existing notional Capital Investment Fund (CIF) allocation reserved for the Transforming Nuneaton programme.
- 3.2. The café, library and the business centre entrance will provide activity at ground level whilst the office accommodation occupies the upper three floors. The foot-print of the office floor plates is an efficient L-shaped plan with a central circulation with offices either side. This is broken up with meeting and breakout spaces that could be converted to office accommodation if required. At mezzanine / first floor level, library staff will overlook the main double-height library space, whilst above this a roof terrace will provide amenity space to office users. A large circular roof light will provide excellent daylighting into the heart of the building. Images of the proposed building and its location in the town are shown below in figures 2 – 4; see appendix for the full details of the building design.

Figure 2: Location of proposed new building: site of current Wilkos, Powell House and post office – end of Bridge Street currently being bought by WCC using CWLEP funds

— Plot of new building



Figure 3: Proposed new building - pedestrian view



Figure 4: Proposed new building - aerial view



- 3.3. The new building will provide the library service with a new, state-of-the-art facility which will have flexible space across most of the ground floor of the building. It will have the same floor space as the existing Nuneaton library, to enable delivery of all the key services provided by the Library service as well as accommodating pods for registration services, meeting rooms, make a space and informal event space. It will be well lit through a large roof light and have accessible facilities for all. It will be complemented by a café which will be sited in one corner allowing for interaction between the spaces whilst also being able to operate independently if opening hours differ.
- 3.4. The building has been designed to enable maximum flexibility in how space is used. The floor plate for the ground floor is, apart from plant rooms, a flexible space which can be adapted as plans become firmer about how the Library Service and WCC look to use it; equally the first floor provides space which provides an opportunity for wider WCC services to be delivered from here. Further work will take place to explore opportunities with other WCC services, for example children centre services, to maximise the opportunity of a new public sector building in the heart of the town centre.
- 3.5. The current Library and Information Service is moving towards a Community Hub Model working with Partners and delivering more events and activities and becoming a destination for the community and visitors. The service aims to create opportunity for all citizens of Warwickshire through information learning and inspiration, promote literacy skills and an appetite for reading and learning, widen

participation and demonstrate impact of libraries in supporting learning and **provide library premises and services** that meet the needs of 21st century communities.

- 3.6. The development of a new Business Centre on the top floors aims to provide modern, quality, well serviced, flexible business accommodation with car parking, generally not available within the town centre currently. The development of a new Centre aims to:
- Address the failing office market – new office development is not currently viable, so public sector intervention is necessary to strengthen and develop a more vibrant office market;
 - Support the growth of smaller businesses through the provision of suitably sized office space and WCC Business Support services;
 - Create an environment for networking and new partnership working;
 - Stimulate the market for larger spaces and justify development of more private led business accommodation; and
 - Increase viability of other sites in the Town Centre through this direct development and establishing higher accommodation standards.
- 3.7. This is in line with WCC's Business Centre Strategy, which has a vision "to have a network of Business Centres within Warwickshire which, while continuing to be cost neutral to the County Council, provide appropriate and flexible workspace for new, early-phase and growing businesses in a supportive environment. We do this to help to pro-actively stimulate and support increased dynamism and entrepreneurialism within under-performing economic areas, generating increased economic activity, employment and prosperity." A previous review of WCC's business centres had recommended that WCC "explore the potential to invest released funds both in the development of the existing portfolio and development of new centres, therefore creating more accommodation suitable for start-up and SME businesses."
- 3.8. The business centre will comprise of approximately 68 highly flexible offices focussed at small start-up enterprises. They will range from two desk offices to 7-9 desk offices alongside break-out, collaboration space which has been recognised as a highly effective way of bringing young businesses together.
- 3.9. The building is being designed to BREEAM Good standard; at the next design stage (RIBA 3) it is intended that detailed low and zero carbon technology reviews will be held by the design team. This will include exploring the zones on the building where photovoltaic panels could be introduced. The scheme also includes an allowance of for electric vehicle charging points in the cost plan and showers and allowances for cycle stores are also included.
- 3.10. The full breakdown of the building GIFA of 4,124 m² is:
- Ground Floor (1531m²)
 - Nuneaton Hub Library including book loan service, Let's Make - technology spaces (including 3D printers, virtual and augmented reality, robotics, coding and programming), children's area, George Eliot collection
 - Café – to be run by a private business
 - Changing Spaces facility – a fully accessible changing / toilet facility for adults with disabilities, the first in the town centre.
 - Storage, plant and service access

- First Floor (825m²)
 - WCC Office space for library service, hot desking facilities and other services, in a flexible space which overlooks the main library
 - Business Centre offices / reception
- Second Floor (873m² + 764m² roof terrace)
 - Business Centre including offices and collaborative working areas
 - Roof Terrace > for events, meeting space, environmental feature
- Third Floor (873m²) (plus roof plant area 22 m²)
 - Business Centre

3.11. An initial equality impact assessment has been carried out to identify any potential impacts the building may have on protected groups. This assessment will be continually reviewed as the design work enters its final stages and will aim to ensure opportunities are maximised (e.g. installation of a changing place facility) and any potential negative impacts are mitigated against.

3.12. The proposal has been developed jointly by Communities and Resources in recognition that the potential of this new building has benefits for the town centre itself, economic growth, local communities, the council's assets, and service delivery.

3.13. The new building will:

- Become a new landmark building, which will create additional footfall in the town centre: the current library is in a building that sits on a corner out of sight of the main retail area. In a more prominent location with the addition of a business centre, it will provide a greater number of visitors through new business owners/staff and library/café customers.
- Free up a key site for future development: by moving the library service to a new building its current site at a gateway point on the ring road will be available for private sector development.
- Contribute to a wider uplift in value of WCC land in the area, thereby increasing WCC's asset base. The land value is currently low; by proactively investing in the area and demonstrating a market for development the value of the land should increase.
- Stimulate the local economy by introducing grade A offices in the town centre where currently there are none. The business centre would be run as part of WCC's existing business centre portfolio and generate a revenue income for the organisation once it is established.

3.14. Within the Strategic Business Case for the new public sector building, option analyses for scope ("what"), solution ("where"), delivery ("who"), implementation and funding were carried out. Options were assessed against critical success criteria (business needs, strategic fit, benefit optimisation, potential achievability, ability of the market, and the organisation could fund the required level of expenditure) and investment objectives (enable and provide a catalyst for change and improve return on investment through efficiencies and opportunities for income generation initiatives).

3.15. Financial modelling showed that private developers would not find the scheme commercially viable as current low land values do not provide the levels of developer profit required by the market. Instead WCC is proposing to retain ownership of the site and develop the building itself. Development of land owned

by the public sector to attract future private development is a well-documented way of subsequently bringing in private investors. Case studies show that public sector intervention by way of developing a new public building successfully bring in further private sector investment, for example:

- Southwater One: As part of plans to regenerate Telford town centre and the shopping centre Telford and Wrekin Council developed a new library which led to the private sector investing in residential and retail in the immediate vicinity <http://www.telford.gov.uk/Southwater/>
- Barnsley: The Library @ the Lightbox forms the cornerstone of the wider town centre redevelopment, which has already seen the transformation of the famous Barnsley Markets. Future plans also include a Cineworld, Superbowl UK, 26 new shops, seven family-friendly restaurants and high-quality public realm improvements <https://theglassworksbarnsley.com/news/library-the-lightbox-opens-as-a-cornerstone-of-the-glass-works/>

4. Risks

A full risk register has been established for the project and will be continually reviewed as it moves forward. Key headline risks to WCC are summarised below:

Risk 1: Increase in project costs due to increases in build costs, demolition costs escalating due to currently unknown issues within the buildings, or flood mitigation measure costs increasing if the flood zone areas change.	
Impacts	Mitigations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on deliverability, possible reduced / changed building which may not deliver desired outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs based on RIBA stage 2 designs which is a known gateway for reaching reasonably robust costs. • Work with the Flood Management Team and Environment Agency to ensure design meets planning requirements. • Contingency has been built into the costs for the building at this stage (10%) allowing for final technical design to be completed in RIBA stage 3 /4 and costs to be finalised. See section 6.3 for detail on contingency costs.
Risk 2: Planning Application for the new building is refused or severely delayed due to objections	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in delivery due to a need to re-apply with revisions • Additional costs incurred due to the need for revisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experienced design team are in place to develop a scheme which works within the identified site. • Preliminary conversations have taken place with the planning authority • Once agreed as a project a clear communication and engagement strategy will be developed to work with the community on this project

Risk 3: Delay in land assembly due to the need for CPO and or objections received – key risk relating to re-location of Royal Mail and timescales/costs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in site preparation and starting construction • Impact on funding spend – risk of losing LEP funds if not spent in required timescales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive voluntary negotiations with landlords and tenants have taken place • Two key buildings acquired to date; third property price agreed. • CPO authority received from WCC Cabinet for full development site.
Risk 4: Business Centre does not acquire tenants as predicted	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income levels for WCC are not as predicted and affect cashflow • Number of new businesses and jobs into the town are lower than anticipated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently two cashflows have been developed looking at different occupancy levels to assess the impact of a slower uptake of office space. These show how income will be affected and will enable the Service area to plan accordingly. • Predicted uptake has been based on the occupancy levels of an existing WCC business centre (Eliot Park), enquiries being received by the service area and inward investment and what the industry would use as reasonable occupancy level (85%) • A full marketing campaign will be launched at the appropriate time to 'sell' the centre / office space.
Risk 5: Project Management and governance - capacity of PM and/or project team is affected leading to an effect on delivery of project	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in timeline of project • Limited engagement of key stakeholders moving forward, leading to minimal buy-in to project • Effect on cost and or deliverables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MACE have been appointed to act as Project Manager • Transforming Nuneaton Programme Management Structure in place • Project Officer Group proposed for every day delivery needs
Risk 6: Legal implications of running a business centre - ensuring compliance with state aid and income generation requirements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricts the running of the business centre in terms of rents, target audience and therefore the level of income generation • Limits how the space could be used in the future. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial advice on state aid has been provided when purchasing the proposed site; recommended that further advice is obtained prior to contracts being signed.

5. Capital Investment Fund (CIF) Panel Assessment

5.1. Overall the bid scored 81.8/100, scoring particularly well on both the alignment to WCC's core outcomes and on political, social and environmental impacts. Individual sections scored as follows:

Alignment with the organisation's core outcomes - 19.2/20

Warwickshire's economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training and skills and infrastructure - 21.6/30

Financial Viability - 31.2/40

Political, Social and Environmental impact - 9.8/10

- 5.2. The panel felt that the level of detail in the bid and supporting appendices was appropriate for the balance of funding requested and the panel was happy to see that the project had successfully progressed to this stage. An extensive options appraisal contributed proof that the scale of the investment is necessary, this was particularly important as it was evident that WCC needed to prove externally they would take the risk in order to be the catalyst for further private sector investment in the town. The scale of the public sector investment has been sufficiently justified given the need to support the Council's strategic aims in the current economic climate.
- 5.3. Due care and attention around risk was evident in the bid with an extensive (construction phase) risk register which needs to be continuously monitored (and developed further for other risks). The panel could not identify evidence for the consideration of optimism bias however an appropriate 10% contingency has been provided which the panel felt was appropriate for the nature and scale of the project. Given that capital projects historically tend to have higher outturn costs than budgeted the contingency was deemed to be sufficient given the information provided and the basis of the costings.
- 5.4. Cost escalation remains a significant risk requiring the highest management. Reassuringly, costings for both capital and revenue are understandable and reasonable, with revenue costings developed in house based on existing knowledge and capital costings provided by the external project manager based on experience of similar projects and timescales.
- 5.5. The panel considered the project management (including contract management) costs and whether this could be delivered by an in-house team rather than the proposal to outsource the majority of this. However due to the scale and nature of the project the panel were satisfied that the external project manager's expertise is required but the panel agreed that the contract relationship with the external project managers needs to be managed effectively to ensure Value for Money for the whole project.
- 5.6. The panel did identify several tax and legal issues which had to be addressed, however, the panel agreed upon advice that there were no legal obstacles to this project going through CIF at this stage, but there are some areas that should be on the collective radar and resolved in due course particularly on the legal implications for income generation and state aid.
- 5.7. VAT issues have been considered and advice provided by Finance to the service. Some queries on VAT implications depend on whether WCC owns elements of the site and on whether VAT will take effect if a Compulsory Purchase Order was used to secure the site together with the resulting Stamp Duty Land Tax. There were also queries over the possibility of a land swap and the possible VAT implications surrounding this arrangement. VAT on income issues relating to income on the library, café and business centre have been raised with the service together with advice provided on the options available to WCC to mitigate these risks. The service has been working closely with Finance to mitigate any risks arising from the tax position and should continue to do so throughout the project.

6. Financial Implications – Capital

- 6.1. The budgeted construction cost is £19,922,732 – this is a fully inclusive cost including demolition, furniture, fixtures and equipment, ICT and all fees. £500,000 of demolition cost is covered by the LEP Growth Fund already secured. This will continue to be accounted for within the existing project in the capital programme (Transforming Nuneaton, project number 11611000) to ensure a clear auditable trail for the LEP funds. The net CIF requirement is therefore £19,422,732.

	2019/20 £	2020/21 £	2021/22 & later £	Total £
Construction including demolition		500,000	14,381,427	14,881,427
Inflation (Q1 2022)			818,479	818,479
Project / Design fees	231,061	771,314	1,152,750	2,155,125
Other development / project costs			1,119,000	1,119,000
Client contingency			948,701	948,701
Total Capital Cost	231,061	1,271,314	18,420,357	19,922,732
Less: external funding secured: LEP funding		500,000		
Capital Investment Fund requirement	231,061	771,314	18,420,357	19,422,732

- 6.2. This budgeted cost is comparable to the construction cost of Southwater One, Telford & Wrekin Council's flagship Library and office building, also including a café.
- 6.3. The current cost plan provides for:
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Client contingency | £948,701 |
| Main contractors risk budget | £277,893 |
| <u>Design Development Risk</u> | <u>£708,628</u> |
| Total contingency | £1,933,097 |

This equates to approximately 10% contingency.

- 6.4. Advice had been sought on the VAT implications of the project. An initial appraisal has taken place and it is anticipated that all VAT on the build costs should be reclaimable as long as this is closely monitored as the scheme progresses and any material changes will be considered within the context of this.

7. Financial Implications – Revenue

- 7.1. The Business Centre aims to generate enough income to cover all operational / revenue overheads and surplus income for WCC. Figures below show calculations for annual figures based on an 85% occupancy rate. It is anticipated that this level of occupancy could be reached within 5 years based on other WCC facilities.

Rental income	£	448,290
Broadband recharge	£	20,000
Total income	£	468,290
Estimated operating costs	- £	250,000
Potential surplus income	£	218,290

- 7.2. It is estimated that a café operator could generate a further £20,000 - £30,000 p.a. depending on the final design / size of the café area.
- 7.3. The library service will be accommodated in a facility which is the equivalent size of the existing library. It is therefore not anticipated that on-going revenue costs are more than current, and it is highly likely that they will reduce based on a new building having significantly lower maintenance costs and being much more energy efficient. A full analysis will be completed at RIBA stage 3 when the running costs of the new building will be calculated based on final technical details including heating / ventilation systems and building materials.
- 7.4. Revenue costs will be incurred for the moving of the library from the old library to new; these costs have been estimated within the project cost plan and will require further refinement as the project details are confirmed. It is recommended that the first call on the revenue income generated (described above) is therefore used to re-pay reserves that may be needed to temporarily meet these upfront project costs.

8. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

The high-level delivery programme is:

Milestone	Date
Funding Package Approved	December 2019
Commission MACE for next stage	January 2020
RIBA Stage 3 (developed design) Complete	April 2020
Land assembly complete (without CPO)	June 2020
Land Assembly complete (with CPO)	January 2021
RIBA Stage 4 (technical design, planning and procurement) complete	January 2021
<i>The following stages could be delayed if CPO is needed</i>	
RIBA Stage 5 (Construction) Start	January/February 2021
RIBA Stage 5 (Construction) Complete	April 2022
RIBA Stage 6 (Handover and Close Out)	June 2022
Library Opens	Autumn 2022
Business Centre Opens	Autumn 2022

Background papers

None

Appendix: MACE New Build Presentation Slides

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member: Councillor Olnier

Other members: Councillors Warwick, Boad, Chattaway, Chilvers, O'Rourke, Seccombe, Singh Birdi

Council

17 December 2019

Education (Schools) Capital Programme 2019/20

Recommendation

That Council approves the addition of £15,694,411 to the capital programme to deliver the schemes outlined in Section 3.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 This report recommends proposals for allocating resources in the Education (Schools) Capital Programme to specific projects set out in Section 3. Some of the proposals include funding from developer contributions.
- 1.2 Overall numbers in secondary schools have been growing since September 2015 as larger cohorts transfer from primary schools, we are currently expecting numbers to peak in September 2022 to correspond with the Reception peak seven years earlier.
- 1.3 Where possible, and where economies of scale allow, expansions and building works will also address other factors such as: encouraging infant and junior to become primary, pre-school requirements in an area, providing specialist SEN provision, and any outstanding DDA requirements.
- 1.4 Proposals to increase the number of pupils admitted at schools across a wide area of Warwickshire are explained within this report.
- 1.5 Whilst the issue of sufficiency of provision has to take priority, it is important to ensure that schools that are not expanding are able to continue to operate within their existing accommodation. Details of proposed schemes to make improvements to existing schools are set out below. It is also important to recognise that whilst we are committed to offering good or outstanding places and investing in these schools, we are also committed to investing in schools struggling with improvements where the investment addresses capacity, education delivery, half forms to whole forms of entry and defects.

1.6 All proposed education capital projects are considered against independently published third-party data to benchmark the cost to the County Council of providing school places and ensuring effective allocation of resources. The cost per additional mainstream place utilises the Department for Education Local Authority School Places Scorecard, while SEND places utilise the National School Delivery Cost Benchmarking for SEND places report as published by the Local Government Association.

1.7 The current available funding is set out in Section 2.

2.0 Available Funding

2.1 Allocations of grant funding from the Department for Education for the 2019/20 financial year were notified to the authority in February 2017. Allocations are paid annually and are not available for expenditure until the start of the financial year within which they are received.

2.2 To ensure school places are available when needed it is sometimes necessary to temporarily fund capital spend from the DfE Capital Grant in advance of the relevant developer contributions for a project being received. Once the developer contributions are received the DfE Grant funding can be released back into the capital programme. The available funds outlined in this report include £7,500,796 of grant funding released in this way.

2.3 Breakdown of available funds

Balance of unallocated education capital funds	£27,641,000
Release of temporary funding back into the education capital programme (see paragraph 2.2)	£7,500,796
Relevant developer funding received	£8,394,392

3.0 Proposals for addition to the 2019/ 2020 Capital Programme

Cabinet is asked to allocate the following additional Education capital resources to the capital programme:

3.1 Whitnash Primary School, Leamington Spa

In order to meet the increasing need for primary school places in South Leamington in conjunction with the expansion of other local primary schools, and the future opening of new provision in the South Leamington planning area, it is proposed to expand Whitnash Primary School from 1.5 to 2 forms of

entry (fe). This will permanently increase capacity by an additional 105 places across the school over the next 7 years to accommodate need arising from housing development and ensure the school is supported and grows alongside the proposed new schools in area.

In order to accommodate the increased pupil numbers and operate at 2fe it has been identified that the school will require two additional classrooms, plus ancillary spaces and toilets. This can be achieved through refurbishment of the existing space within the school buildings occupied by a PVI Nursery to provide the necessary classrooms.

There are very few early years' providers in this Early Year's planning area, in contrast to the number of primary schools and the housing growth that continues to take place. This is an area of concern for the local authority; there is a sufficiency need for further provision in this planning area, as the current provision cannot meet demand. It is proposed as part of this project to relocate the existing PVI nursery within the local area 0.3 miles walking distance from the school site, a (circa) 5-minute walk. Alternative premises, which WCC is the freeholder, has been identified and is expected to become vacant during Spring 2021. Refurbishment work will be required as part of the overall project to ensure the new nursery building meets the required space needs for early years provision.

The total cost for this project as outlined is £1,000,000 which represents good value for money compared to the average cost reported for primary school expansion projects on the Department for Education Local Authority School Places Scorecard 2018. This project increases capacity of the school by 105 additional pupils equating to a cost of £9,523 per place compared to the national average of £16,596 per place.

It is proposed to allocate £1,000,000 as follows:

Developer Funding	£1,000,000
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3.2 Newdigate Primary School, Bedworth

In November 2017 Cabinet gave funding approval for the expansion of Newdigate Primary School in Bedworth from 1.5 forms of entry to 2 forms of entry, creating an additional 105 places. The allocated project budget stands at £1,264,000.

The existing capital project is to provide a hall extension, two additional classrooms, and internal refurbishment to great additional group and SEN resource space to allow the school sufficient physical capacity to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers.

From November 2017 to date the project has gone through full feasibility and has received planning approval from the local planning authority. Following design and development and a number of tendering exercises the total project costs now stand at £1,739,600, an £475,600 shortfall against the existing approved budget.

The increase in project costs can be attributed to a significant increase on contractor procurement in the last two to three years. BCIS All-In Tender Price Index shows a 36% increase between 2013 and 2018 with a further rise of circa 30% expected over the next five years. In addition the complexity and phasing required of the works across the site to ensure the school buildings retain a cohesive flow in line with the existing classrooms and key stages has led to several smaller areas of works in various parts of the school that will increase duration and costs as opposed to one single build phase and location.

The project has undergone an extended tender exercise. At the start of 2019 the original tender received was 30% over what had been formally estimated and therefore a further tender process was carried out with an alternative contractor. The tender returned was of similar cost to the first. Following discussions with the original contractor a lower revised cost has been submitted which compares more favourably with the benchmark per pupil place.

The original project budget equates to £9,524 per place, this is significantly lower than the per place benchmark cost of £16,596, and as outlined by the extended tendering process cannot be achieved. In comparison the current total project costs give a per place cost more aligned to the national average at £16,568 per place.

Developer funding has been secured in the area but not yet received to date. It is proposed to forward fund the difference from education capital resources to be released back into the education capital programme utilising further appropriate developer contributions once received

It is proposed to allocate £475,600, as follows:

Education capital resources £475,600

3.3 Heathcote Primary School, Warwick

Cabinet approved funding for phase 1 of the construction of Heathcote Primary School in July 2015. Phase 1 provided accommodation for a 1fe

primary school and nursery, with ancillary facilities including hall and kitchens sized appropriately to accommodate future expansion to 2fe.

Heathcote Primary School opened from September 2017 as 1fe (210 places) and has proved popular with residents in the surrounding area. It is currently proposed to expand the school to 2fe (420 places) from September 2021 to ensure there are sufficient places to meet the expected need in the planning area in line with housing development

The school has grown in response to the need for school places to offer 5 out of 7 year groups from September 2019. For September 2019 the school has admitted a bulge class in Reception, offering 60 places at the request of the LA to meet need in the area. It is expected the school will need to admit a second bulge class for Reception 2020 entry, prior to official expansion to 2fe from September 2021.

Phase 2 of the expansion will deliver an 8 -classroom extension and will also include the delivery of additional car parking onsite, the conversion of an existing class base to a studio hall, associated outdoor play areas and landscaping at Heathcote Primary School to accommodate increasing need for places in the area as a result of ongoing housing development

The total cost for this project as outlined is £2,694,156 which represents good value for money compared to the average cost reported for primary school expansion projects on the Department for Education Local Authority School Places Scorecard 2018. This project increases capacity of the school by 210 additional pupils equating to a per place cost of £12,829 per place compared to the national average of £16,596 per place.

It is proposed to allocate £2,694,156, as follows:

Developer Funding £2,694,156

3.4 New Primary School Rugby Gateway Development, Rugby

The existing project to deliver a new 1 form entry primary school and associated early years facilities as part of the housing development known as Rugby Gateway to the North of Rugby town was approved by Cabinet in July 2015, with current allocated funding totalling £3,150,080.

A presumption competition was undertaken, and Lawrence Sherriff School Academy Trust selected as the sponsor for the new school.

Subsequent delays outside of WCC control in relation to the number of homes built and occupied on site due to land ownership issues by the housing developer, have led to transfer of the site and the opening date of the new school being significantly pushed back.

The original funding approval was given over 4 years ago during which time there has been an increase in the base cost of construction and also a number of site adjustments/abnormal works that are now known to be required.

The change in scope to include early years provision as a standalone building, provides maximum flexibility on the type of provision delivered onsite. This change has been implemented following the delivery of several new school buildings of similar design which have highlighted physical and operational difficulties when including the early years provision integrated within the main school building.

This standalone solution to provide early years provision will provide capacity for 39 2-4 year olds on site and will allow options for the school and early years provider to operate independent from the school now or in the future. In comparison integrated provision within the main school building would be required to be significantly smaller with capacity for only 26 places and share a number of facilities with the school.

The base cost for construction only now exceeds the original approved funding amount and stands at £3,472,000. The required customer options, necessary site adjustments and abnormals, standalone early years provision, professional fees and risk total a further £1,943,513.

The total cost for this project as outlined is now £5,415,513, slightly higher on a per pupil basis than the average cost reported for new primary school projects on the Department for Education Local Authority School Places Scorecard 2018. This project provides a new school with capacity for 249 pupils, equating to a per place cost of £21,749 per place compared to the national average of £19,611 per place.

As outlined the total expected total project costs are now £5,415,513, a short fall of £2,265,433 against currently approved funds.

It is proposed to allocate £2,265,433 as follows:

Developer funding	£2,265,433
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3.5 Champion School, Leamington Spa

Cabinet approved Phase 1 of the expansion of Champion School in November 2017. The project is currently underway to deliver a new 17 classroom Science and Maths block to the rear of the school site, as well as upgraded kitchen/ dining facilities and additional car parking to the front of the school site for September 2020.

Phase 2 of the expansion project will deliver a new sixth form teaching block, refurbishment of science classrooms to provide general teaching spaces, sports hall refurbishment and associated outdoor areas and landscaping to provide the accommodation necessary for the school to continue to accommodate the increasing need for places in the area as a result of increased primary cohorts and ongoing housing development.

The school has phased the increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) and admitted an additional year 7 class for September 2019 raising the PAN to 180 at the request of the LA. This has been done in advance of phase 1 completion, utilising existing classroom capacity within the school. It is expected the school may need to admit a bulge class above the increased 180 PAN for year 7 2020 entry, prior to official expansion to 210 PAN from September 2021.

This project increases capacity of the school by 550 additional pupils with the total cost across the existing Phase 1 and Phase 2 as outlined equating to £29,962 per place compared to the national average of £22,738 per place reported for secondary school expansion projects on the Department for Education Local Authority School Places Scorecard 2018.

Developer funding has been secured in the area of which £2,408,651 has been received to date. It is proposed to forward fund the difference from education capital resources to be released back into the education capital programme utilising further appropriate developer contributions once received.

It is proposed to allocate £8,979,222, as follows:

Developer Funding £2,408,651

Education capital resources £6,570,571

3.6 St Gabriel's C of E Academy, Rugby

St Gabriel's C of E Academy opened in September 2018 to serve the Houlton Urban Extension in Rugby. The school was built by the master developer

Urban and Civic as part of the s106 education requirements. The delivery of the school was brought forward due to pressure on places in the surrounding area.

The school opened with a reception class a mixed KS1 class and 2 mixed KS2 classes. During the first year of opening numbers increased from 70 to 139 requiring the school to split a class during the year. The school then split a further class in September 2019 to accommodate increasing demand.

The school now has 159 children on roll and has 30 children in the Yr2/3 mixed class. There is therefore no capacity to admit further children into these year groups. The school would like to split this final class in September 2020; the LA supports the creation of the additional class to ensure sufficient places exist in KS2.

There is currently an onsite PVI pre-school operating within an existing classroom, however the school was initially built to accommodate 7 classes only and has no purpose-built Early Years facility onsite. In order to provide the necessary space to accommodate all 7 primary year groups in separate classes and continue to provide Early Years onsite internal refurbishment is required to re-purpose the practical 'Ideas Lab', which is the largest teaching space in the school, to become a bespoke on site pre-school.

Developer funding has been secured in the area towards Early Years provision of which £26,152 has been received to date. It is proposed to forward fund the difference from education capital resources to be released back into the education capital programme utilising appropriate further developer contributions once received.

It is proposed to allocate £130,000, as follows:

Developer Funding	£26,152
Education capital resources	£103,847

3.7 Brailes C of E Primary School, Brailes

Brailes C of E Primary School currently operate an Early Years classroom accommodating both Reception children and Nursery children. The current floor space in the Early Years Classroom does not allow the school to offer a consistent number of nursery places when the school admits a full cohort of 15 Reception children (the school's Published Admission Number is 15). The school can only have 7 nursery children in each session with a full cohort of 15 Reception.

The school is located in a large rural area with limited Early Years provision. In order to meet the demand for nursery places in the area it is proposed to

increase the floor space of the Early Years classroom in the main school building to provide sufficient floor space for 15 Reception children and 15 Nursery children in each session.

It is proposed to extend the existing classroom space to provide an additional 26m². A 6m² accessible WC, shower, and changing facilities would be provided within the existing classroom area. The proposal also includes improvements to accessibility, safeguarding, covered entry, flexibility to separate early years from nursery children and retains valued storage. The total cost of extending the existing classroom has been estimated at £150,000.

It is proposed to allocate £150,000 as follows:

Education capital resources £150,000

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 Details of currently available capital funding are listed in Section 2 of the report. This available funding is a total of **£43,536,188**
- 4.2 The project costs outlined within this report total **£15,694,411**, of which £8,394,392 is from developer funding, and £7,300,018 is from education capital resources.
- 4.3 In addition this report outlines the release of £7,500,796 of education capital grant funding back into education capital resources pot (see paragraph 2.2).
- 4.4 This leaves a balance of **£27,841,778** for future education capital projects. All future capital projects would be subject to a separate report to Cabinet.
- 4.5 See **Appendix** for breakdown of income and expenditure.
- 4.6 Where schools are expanding at the request of the Local Authority, there is often a revenue implication in that additional teaching staff are required in the September but the school's budget does not reflect this until the following April. The Schools Forum have agreed a policy to provide interim funding to schools to account for this and resources are allocated from within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to meet these short-term additional revenue costs.

5.0 Environmental Implications

5.1 As this report is concerned primarily with financial matters it has no direct environmental implications. Individual projects' environmental impacts will be considered through the planning process.

6.0 Background papers

6.1 Equality Impact Assessment.

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Local Members: See below.

Other Members: this report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Cllr Colin Hayfield
Cllr Jeff Morgan
Cllr Yousef Dahmash
Cllr Chris Williams
Cllr Corinne Davies
Cllr Jerry Roodhouse

Schools Capital Programme - Finance Breakdown

		Available Basic Need Resources £		
Balance following July 2019 Cabinet report		14,603,000		
Changes to existing projects and funding received		13,038,000		
Release of temporary funding back into the education capital programme (see paragraph 2.2)		7,500,796		
Total Available Resources		£35,141,796		
Projects Recommended for Support in November 2019 Cabinet Report	Total Additional Cost £	Proposed Use of Basic Need Resources £	Proposed Use of Developer funding Resources £	
3.1 Whitnash Primary School – expansion	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	
3.2 Newdigate Primary School – additional funds	475,600	475,600	-	
3.3 Heathcote Primary School – expansion	2,694,156	-	2,694,156	
3.4 New Primary School Rugby Gateway - additional funds	2,265,433	-	2,265,433	
3.5 Champion School - expansion	8,979,222	6,570,571	2,408,651	
3.6 St Gabriel's C of E Academy – internal alterations	130,000	103,847	26,152	
3.7 Brailes C of E Primary School – classroom extension	150,000	150,000	-	
Total	£15,694,411	£7,300,018	£8,394,392	
Revised Unallocated/ (Shortfall) in Basic Need Resources		<u>£27,841,778</u>		

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EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Education (Schools) Capital Programme 2019/20

Before completing this document please refer to our 'Guide to Equality Impact Assessments' [here](#).

Service/policy/strategy/practice/plan being assessed	Education (Schools) Capital Programme 2019/20
Business Unit/Service Area	Education and Learning
Is this a new or existing service/policy/strategy/practice/plan? <i>If an existing service/policy/strategy/practice/plan please state date of last assessment</i>	New programme of work
EIA Review team – list of members	Emma Basden-Smith Bern Timings
Do any other Business Units/Service Areas need to be included?	Strategic Asset Management
Date of assessment	18/03/19
Are any of the outcomes from this assessment likely to result in complaints from existing services users, members of the public and/or employees? <i>If yes please let your Assistant Director and the Customer Relations Team know as soon as possible</i>	Yes/ No

Details of service/policy/strategy/practice/plan

Scoping and Defining	
<p>(1) What are the aims, objectives and outcomes of the service/policy/strategy/practice/plan?</p>	<p>The Capital Programme outlines how funds will be allocated to specific projects in order for Warwickshire County Council to undertake their legal duty.</p> <p>Warwickshire County Council has a legal duty to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure sufficient schools and places in a locality; • secure sufficient early years & childcare places; • ensure sufficient post 16 provision; • provide appropriate education provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities; • promote high education standards; • ensure fair access to educational opportunity; • promote the fulfilment of every child's education potential; • promote diversity and parental choice. <p>It is the Council's role to plan, commission and organise school places in a way that raises standards, manages supply and demand and creates a diverse infrastructure. The programme sets outlines proposals, costs and timeframes including the results of any formal consultation. The Capital Programme is in place to ensure public funds are spent in a transparent, objective, cost effective and sustainable way.</p>
<p>(2) Who are the customers?</p>	<p>Schools and school age children (including children within the 0-18 age range, or 0-19 for SEND) in the geographical areas associated with the proposed projects</p>

(3) How has equality been considered in the development or review so far?	N/A
(4) What is the reason for the change/development?	The Education Capital Programme is in place to ensure all children have access to the most appropriate education provision.
(5) How does it fit with Warwickshire County Council's wider objectives?	<p>Warwickshire's Education Strategy 2018 - 23 outlines the priorities for the next five years. The sufficiency of school and early years places aligns with these challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WE1: Early Years: Our challenge is to foster children's love of learning from birth through early childhood and into Year 1 so that all young children achieve their potential • WE2: An Empowering Curriculum: Our challenge is to promote a broad, empowering and creative curriculum, focusing on times of transition, and prioritising vulnerable groups • WE3: Family of Schools: Our challenge is for all learners to enjoy a high quality learning experience • WE4: Employability: Our challenge is to champion employability by promoting the best opportunities for all learners
(6) Why might it be important to consider equality and the	The Education Capital Programme could benefit any of the groups with protected characteristics, and the data analysis and consultations do not suggest there will be any adverse or negative impact identified for any particular group.


protected characteristics?	
Information Gathering	
<p>(7) What sources of data have you used?</p> <p><i>You must keep a record of any data you have currently used as supporting evidence</i></p>	<p>Pupil number forecasting information incorporating; local plans, housing developments, birth data, early years data and school admissions data, patterns of movement.</p> <p>SEN Sufficiency planning and gap analysis.</p>
<p>(8) What does the data you have tell you about your customers and about protected equality groups?</p>	<p>Pupil number forecasting information takes no distinction in relation to protected characteristics.</p>
<p>(9) What do you need to know more about?</p>	<p>Work undertaken in relation to the Disability Access Block Header proposed in the report will require additional information in relation to individual pupils needs so the appropriate alterations can be made to ensure pupils with SEND are able to access mainstream education.</p>
<p>(10) How could you find this out and who could help you?</p>	<p>All projects undertaken in relation to the Disability Access Block Header proposed in the report will be considered by the Disability Access Working Group.</p>
Engagement and Consultation	

(11) Who have you consulted with from protected equality groups?	Where relevant formal consultation has been undertaken in accordance with statutory requirements - this Included information on WCC consultation website and statutory notice in local press, together with information to all school parents and other local schools and settings.
(12) Who else could you consult with?	N/A
(13) Who can help you to do this?	N/A
Monitor and Evaluate	
(14) How will you monitor and evaluate the service/policy/strategy/practice/plan?	The programme of works will be regularly reviewed and reported by exception to the Education Capital Access and Organisation Board.

Please note: Further information and advice about the corporate consultation process can be found [here](#).

(15) Analysis of impact and potential actions:				
Protected characteristics from the Equality Act 2010	What do you know? Summary of data about/feedback from your service-users and/or staff	What does this mean?		What can you do? All potential actions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate discrimination/mitigate negative impact • Advance equality of opportunity • Foster good relations
		Positive impacts identified (actual and potential)	Negative impacts identified (actual and potential)	
Age	N/A			
Disability	All adaptations which are specific to individual learners have input from the learner.	This consultation ensures work is fit for purpose and right first time.	None	
Sex	N/A			
Race	N/A			
Religion or belief	N/A			

Gender Reassignment	N/A			
Pregnancy and Maternity	N/A			
Sexual orientation	N/A			
Marriage and Civil Partnership (Note: only in relation to due regard to eliminating unlawful discrimination)	N/A			

Name and signature of Officer completing the EIA	Bern Timings
Name and signature of Assistant Director	
Name and signature of Directorate Equalities Champion	

If you would like any equalities support or advice on this completed document, please contact the Equalities Team on 01926 412370 or equalities@warwickshire.gov.uk

NEXT STEPS ONCE COMPLETED:

- 1. Go to File – Rename, and enter a new document name (e.g. Title of the EIA followed by - EIA)**
- 2. Go to Share (top right hand corner) Add Assistant Director and the Directorate Equalities Champion with ‘can edit’ option to gain their signatures and for recording purposes**
- 3. Once signed off, ensure the completed EIA is saved in a secure place**