

**MINUTES OF LONGRIDGE ASSETS WORKING GROUP – 13 APRIL 2021 at 2.00pm**

PRESENT

Cllr R Thompson (Chair)	Marshal Scott, Chief Executive
Cllr J Rogerson	John Heap, Director of Community Services
Cllr J Clark	Nicola Hopkins, Director of Econ Dev and Planning
Cllr S Hore (2.07pm)	Mair Hill, Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Cllr A Knox	Colin Hirst, Head of Regeneration and Housing

APOLOGIES

None received.

Cllr S Carefoot was not in attendance.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2021 were approved as a correct.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations for this meeting other than Cllr Rogerson being President of Longridge Band (prospective facility user).

FEEDBACK FROM MEETING WITH LONGRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Nicola Hopkins informed the group that a positive meeting had taken place with Steve Ashcroft, Mayor of Longridge regarding the Town centre Action Plan that is part of the Economic Plan and how it can be taken forward. She reported that LTC are keen to deliver but a little frustrated that it has been delayed. Two negative points were those surrounding highways and drainage around new developments although LCC and UU have been involved with all planning applications. There remains a mistaken belief that Preston parishes have received CIL monies where LTC haven't despite regular clarifications being given.

Steve Ashcroft had requested officers to have a meeting with Love Longridge to get their views. This was scheduled for later in the week.

FEEDBACK – LCC ASSETS IN LONGRIDGE

Fire Station Building

Colin Hirst had spoken with Mary Stones at Youth Services who had confirmed that the building was being utilised more instead of the Civic Hall as there was smaller rooms that could be used for discreet services. It was not being used for exclusion use or as an alternative education venue. They would be looking to extend the current lease on its expiration.

## Library

This service works well in Longridge – there are no plans to move out or re-locate. LCC own the building. A meeting has been arranged to discuss the overall service provision.

## Over 60's Club

No response had been made to the enquiry although it was known that the club had not met for some time and numbers were declining. The building was also showing signs of deterioration. Colin Hirst would ask the Partnership Officer to follow up her contact to find out the current position with the club.

## COMMUNITY USES IN DEMAND

Nicola Hopkins was still talking to stakeholders about their aspirations for Longridge as well as what was actually happening.

She suggested that a bid be made to the Levelling Up Fund for a project either at the Civic Hall or the High Street. The closing date for this was June and she had already made some tentative investigations with external partners. Costings would be required. This would show Longridge that effort was being made by the Borough Council and the external influence may well bring new ideas for forward looking schemes.

## DEPOT SITE

John Heap had done a preliminary search for available employment sites in Longridge. He would meet with Colin Hirst to discuss.

## TERMS OF LEASE – YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Mair Hill gave members an update on the terms of the lease and the legal position of the Council. It was felt that a negotiation should be explored with the tenant.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

## ELSEC

Mair Hill gave members an update on discussions with the companies and works which had been carried out.

Although the outcome for the use of this building would be a RVBC decision, feedback from both Love Longridge and Longridge TC would be welcome.

## **NEXT STEPS - ACTIONS:**

- 1. Colin Hirst and Nicola Hopkins to report back on the meeting with Love Longridge regarding the Service Centre Action Plan;**
- 2. Colin Hirst to report back on his meeting with LCC Library staff and ask the Partnership Office to pursue the Over 60's Club.**

- 3. Nicola Hopkins to obtain costings for putting together a bid to the Levelling Up Fund and report back to the working group via email.**
- 4. John Heap to prepare a report for the working group on the value to the Council of the works depot site in Longridge; and**
- 5. Mair Hill to enter into negotiations with the tenant about a rent review.**

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for Tuesday 11 May 2021 at 2.00pm.

The meeting closed at 2.52pm.