

Single Member Cabinet Decision

Executive
Forward Plan
Reference

E3223

Midsomer Norton High Street – Renewal Programme

Decision maker/s	Cllr Dine Romero – Leader Cllr Joanna Wright – Cabinet Member Cllr Paul Crossley – Cabinet Member Cllr Tim Ball – Cabinet Member
The Issue	A £2 million funding package to support Midsomer Norton High Street and to deliver a renewal programme has been secured. A number of successful grant applications have been made working closely with key stakeholders in the town. This report outlines the sources of funding, the key terms of the spend, funding approval mechanisms and key deliverables and outputs anticipated.
Decision Date	Not before 22 August 2020
The decision	<p>The Cabinet Members agree to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.1 Delegate approval for John Wilkinson, Director of Economy and Growth to accept the £793k High Street Heritage Action Zone grant from Historic England, to be spent over a four-year period to March 2024, and submit the required Delivery Plan to secure the funding by 1st September 2020 (Appendices 2 & 3), in consultation with the s151 officer, and the Leader of the Council.1.2 Note the scheme funding as set out in section 5 of the report.1.3 Agree to incorporate Midsomer Norton High Street Renewal Programme into the 2020/21 capital programme and allocate provisional capital budget of £913k to be funded from Historic England Grant (£793k), Midsomer Norton Town Council (£45k), Midsomer Norton Town Trust (£25k) and transfer of £50k from the provisional capital budget item CIL – Public Realm.
Rationale for decision	<p>The report seeks approval to accept the grant funding and agree the Delivery Plan.</p> <p>The proposals for Midsomer Norton High Street are focused on three project areas: (1) Improvement scheme at the Island: Market Place scheme and improvements to the Town Hall and adjacent shop fronts; (2) Pedestrian Passageway between car park and high street (3) High Street shopfront and signage improvement scheme. Funding is also allocated to pilot activities such as pop-up shops, outdoor markets and community and business engagement.</p>

Financial and budget implications	£2.014m funding for Midsomer Norton High Street Renewal Programme is outlined in the Report.
Issues considered	Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Human Resources; Property; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Human Rights; Corporate; Health & Safety; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Ward Councillor; Cabinet colleagues; Town Council; Other B&NES Services; Community Interest Groups; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
How consultation was carried out	<p>The Historic England funding has been through two phases of competitive grant applications, both received express support from the Chief Executive of the Council, Councillors, local business and community groups also wrote letters of support for the project. The Town Council and Town Trust included match funding offers as part of the funding bids.</p> <p>The detail of the delivery plan will be subject to further consultation and engagement as part of the 4 year programme, funding to support a cultural programme of events and activities to engage the wider community can also be accessed once the grant is accepted through a parallel fund administered by Historic England. Undertaking the grant applications and supporting work was agreed by the s151 officer, Chief Executive, Cabinet and Senior Management, however, until the grant awards were made there was no decision to be taken.</p>
Other options considered	The alternative option is to not accept the Historic England grant funding, or other elements of the funding package and to not progress the renewal programme for Midsomer Norton High Street.
Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:	None
Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:	

Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s	Cllr Dine Romero Cllr Joanna Wright Cllr Paul Crossley Cllr Tim Ball
Date of Signature	1st September 2020
Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision	