

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE WORKING GROUP ON 10 DECEMBER 2020

PART A : REPORT

SUBJECT: Place St Maur, Bognor Regis

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DATE: November 2020

EXTN: 37946

PORTFOLIO AREA: Neighbourhood Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the public realm project at Place St Maur, Bognor Regis.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

This is an information paper.

1. BACKGROUND:

1.1 Project Background

Public realm improvements to Place St Maur in Bognor Regis are intended to make a positive impact to the town and strengthen the connection between the seafront and town centre. Enhancements will create a flexible and functional active space and encourage visitors to stay longer and spend more, which will benefit local businesses and boost the local economy. Design proposals and traffic studies for the Esplanade will also explore the potential to close a section of the carriageway to vehicles at certain times of the year to support larger events.

1.2 Progress Update

Following Full Council on 22 July 2020 (minute 114) a procurement process for the appointment of landscape consultants was undertaken. Land Use Consultants (LUC) were the successful consultant and will prepare design proposals for delivery at Place St Maur and concept designs for a section of the Esplanade.

Survey work is being undertaken on site and the results will be used to inform the designs.

1.3 External Funding Bid

Following the submission of a full business case at the end of August in support of the 'Getting Building Fund' bid, the project team was asked to present to Coast to Capital's Investment Committee in November. The funding application for £1.2m with £370K of

ADC partnership funding has been provisionally approved, subject to final checks and due diligence.

To secure the funding it will be necessary to comply with a range of terms and conditions and enter into a funding agreement with Coast to Capital. Authority is required for this and to draw down the external funding.

Cabinet Decision (C/032/16112020) approved the project proposal (attached in Appendix 1) which sets out the structure the project team will work to in delivering the project, and that the designs will be presented at future Cabinet meetings; Cabinet will sign off the final designs. It also recommended to Full Council that a supplementary estimate of £370K be approved for Place St Maur, funded from the unallocated capital/project earmarked reserve, and that authority is given for the Council to enter into a funding agreement with Coast to Capital and approve the drawdown and expenditure of external funding.

1.4 Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement is the next priority to seek knowledge and ideas from local stakeholders. This exercise will be undertaken using Covid-secure measures and the outcomes will assist the design team in preparing proposals. Members have been invited to share their views on the future of Place St Maur which will feed into the design process. Wider public consultation will take place in January 2021.

2. **PROPOSAL(S):**

N/A

3. **OPTIONS:**

N/A

4. **CONSULTATION:**

Stakeholder Engagement and public consultation will take place as part of the design development process for the project.

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify)		✓
5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)	YES	NO
Financial	✓	
Legal	✓	
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability	✓	

Asset Management/Property/Land	✓	
Technology		✓
Other (please explain)		✓

6. IMPLICATIONS:

- Financial – A Council commitment will be required to finance part of the scheme.
- Legal – Should the Government bid be successful a legal agreement will be required.
- Sustainability – Sustainability is a factor when sourcing materials for the scheme.
- Asset Management/Property/Land – ADC will retain responsibility for the land on completion and therefore its maintenance.

7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:

N/A

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

[Full Council 15 July 2015 – Minute 96 refers](#)

[Full Council 11 November 2015 – Minute 315 refers](#)

[Full Council 20 July 2016 – Minute 145 refers](#)

[Full Council 8 March 2017 – Minute 494 refers](#)

[Full Council 10 January 2018 – Minute 366 refers](#)

[Full Council 18 July 2018 – Minute 108 refers](#)

[Cabinet 8 July 2019 – Minute 76 refers](#)

[Cabinet 9 March 2020 – Minute 499 refers](#)

[Full Council 22 July 2020 – Minute 114 refers](#)

[Cabinet 16 November 2020](#)