**Farnsfield Parish Council**

**Agenda item**

**Farnsfield Parish Council Strategic Plan 2018/19**

**Introduction**

The parish council has a strategic plan that is reviewed annually and updated, based on existing and emerging priorities and objectives. Whilst the plan is not directly related to or dependent on capital funding, the major objectives for 2017/18 (as amended) are supported by s.106 and CIL funding, and include the village centre refurbishment and the young person's facility at Hadleigh Park.

Councillors will be aware of the fact that neither of those projects has developed to a point at which detailed specifications and firm cost estimates are currently available.

**Young person's facility at Hadleigh Park**

Recent events have given the council the opportunity to reappraise its position regarding the development. One of the factors for consideration that has emerged from recent discussions is that an approach based on financial ceiling will by its very nature produce an outcome that may be less than optimal.

At the last Committee meeting, it was agreed that the Chair would make an approach to RCAN to discuss the potential for support to deliver the project, as well as to explore the potential for further, external funding, to increase the potential for a first-class facility. That approach has been made and a meeting arranged do that. RCAN were optimistic that further funding could be identified. At a meeting with Mark Spencer MP on Friday 4 May, he offered to lend his support and weight to lobby RCAN to engage positively with us.

**Village Centre refurbishment**

The start of this project surveyor was engaged to look at the requirements associated with the village centre (VC) refurbishment. He subsequently produced a report that formed the basis of early discussions with potential suppliers to undertake various elements including:

* Roof overhaul
* Window replacement
* Improved door security
* Internal alterations to lower hall storage
* Internal alterations to improve meeting space within library annex
* Internal alterations to storage behind stage
* Heating repairs

More recently, an architect has been appointed to undertake plan drawings of the internal proposals, and to secure building regulations approval as appropriate. The original funds set aside for this work was £95,000.

**Strategic Plan 2018/19**

In spite of best efforts, the Council is still at a point at which the full financial implications of the above projects are unclear, albeit the monies already allocated provide a benchmark.

**Both projects remain key strategic priorities.**

The architect who drew up the plans has been asked to provide the Council with a fee-based service to support the VC refurbishment procurement exercise and ensure that the council secures both value for money, and is in compliance with financial and procurement regulations.

Pending discussions with RCAN, a project plan will be drafted and a procurement process entered into, subject to a revised capital allocation following the grant application.

As a result of the above, Council is asked to consider abstaining from introducing any further capital dependent objectives/projects beyond those already within the Plan, pending the outcomes of work with RCAN and the architect, at which point Council can reassess its position.

It should be pointed out that strategic plan objectives, as referenced above should not be driven or dependent on funding in order that they are adopted by the Council. At this point in time however the capital projects and strategic plan objectives are inextricably linked.

**Resolution**

It is proposed that the current Strategic Plan is carried forward into 2018/19, with a review after six months to reconsider the position based on information available at that time.

**Paul Woods**

**Chair**

**Farnsfield Parish Council**