EX71. Kinneil Walled Garden Masterplan

The Executive considered a report by the Acting Director of Development Services which presented the Masterplan for Kinneil Walled Garden for approval.

A vision for the Walled Garden had been formulated based on site analysis along with comments and ideas put forward during public consultation conducted between June 2019 and March 2020. The vision presented was intended to create a better and healthier place to live, work and visit with opportunities for improving health and well-being, reducing carbon emissions and enabling post-Covid recovery. The proposal accorded with the delivery of 20-minute neighbourhoods – giving local people the ability to meet most of their daily needs within a 20-minute walk from home. The Walled Garden project was anticipated to help deliver the following for the Bo'ness community:-

- Lifelong learning opportunities;
- Local employment opportunities
- Safe spaces, community gardens and green spaces; and
- Walkability and safe cycling networks (site is adjacent to John Muir Way and National Cycle Network route 76).

The site was large (1 hectare) and the plan for the site was deliberately flexible to allow for a range of uses, changing community requirements and available funding that may evolve over time. The masterplan set out a spatial framework, rather than a fixed masterplan for the site. This would allow the creation of an adaptable space that could accommodate a range of uses and be developed in phases.

Councillor Meiklejohn seconded by Councillor Garner, moved that the Executive agrees: -

- (1) the proposed plan as the Council's preferred vision for Kinneil Walled Garden;
- (2) that officers proceed to work with partners to deliver this vision, and

(3) that it is important that future plans for the walled garden are part of the Kinneil Estate masterplan. It is the centenary year next year of Kinneil Estate being in public ownership, this is the ideal time to ensure that the masterplan reflects the hopes and aspirations of Bo'ness residents, the Friends of Kinneil and other stakeholders, to ensure that the walled garden space is developed accordingly, it's requested that a report be brought back next spring with definite plans for Kinneil estate including options for a potential Heritage Lottery Bid.

As an amendment, in substitution for the motion, Councillor Bissett, seconded by Councillor Black, moved that the Executive agrees:-

(1) that the work of the Friends of Kinneil and Sustainable Thinking Scotland, are valued by the community and wider public, and should be commended, it is agreed to proceed with the works at section 6 of the report on page 139:-

Phase 1 enabling infrastructure works totalling £132,604; Phase 2 structural alterations £28,161, and Phase 3 other services £79,056.

(2) that it is important that future plans for the walled garden are part of the Kinneil Estate masterplan. It is the centenary year next year of Kinneil Estate being in public ownership, this is the ideal time to ensure that the masterplan reflects the hopes and aspirations of Bo'ness residents, the Friends of Kinneil and other stakeholders, to ensure that the walled garden space is developed accordingly, it is requested that a report be brought back next spring with definite plans for Kinneil estate including options for a potential Heritage Lottery Bid.

The Executive adjourned at 1.15pm and reconvened at 2.00pm with all members present as per the sederunt.

In terms of Standing order 22.1, the vote was taken by roll call, there being 11 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (5) – Councillors Alexander, Bouse, Garner, Hughes, and Meiklejohn.

For the amendment (6) – Councillors Bissett, Black, Coombes, Harris, Kerr and Munro.

Decision

The Executive agreed the amendment.