STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEMBER/OFFICER REPORT

Brimscombe Port

BRIEF REPORT:

Introduction 1

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the current position and progress with the redevelopment of Brimscombe Port following the last Strategy and Resources committee on 12 July 2022 where the selection of St Modwen Homes as the preferred tenderer was approved.

2 St Modwen Homes

- 2.1 Following Strategy and Resources Committee approval on 12 July, St Modwen Homes was notified of its successful bid on 13 July, with the standstill period ending on 25 July 2022.
- A press release was issued on 27 July to confirm who the chosen Developer is and to 2.2 announce the first public consultation event on 10 August 2022.
- 2.3 An online All Members briefing with St Modwen Homes was held on 28 July following the end of the standstill period.
- 2.4 An introduction meeting with Brimscombe and Thrupp Parish Council and the Developer took place on 2 August, and more detailed discussions around the community facility are now underway.
- 2.5 Final drafting of the Development Agreement is progressing well and is anticipated to be finalised before the New Year, including agreements with SVCC with regard to the canal works and transfer back.
- 2.6 St Modwen Homes is in the process of arranging for ground Investigations which are due to start before Christmas.

Community Engagement & Comms Plan 3

3.1 The first public consultation event held on 10 August was attended by over 200 people and the designs were positively received. Feedback from this event will be taken on board for the design development stage.



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- 3.2 Focus group meetings are taking place throughout October and November with a wide range of stakeholders and local organisations to seek specific feedback on various topics such as nature and the canal.
- 3.3 A second public consultation event will be taking place in the New Year once more detailed plans have been drawn up following all the feedback from the first public consultation, the focus group sessions currently being held, the South West Design Review Panel and the Planning pre-app meeting.
- 3.4 A list of Frequently Asked Questions from the first public consultation has been published on our website and emailed out to those who have signed up to be kept up to date on the Brimscombe Port redevelopment.

4 Homes England - Loan Agreement

- 4.1 The current £2million Homes England Funding Agreement is being reviewed with Homes England, and we are now agreeing the final amendments with the Agency in order to clarify certain clauses and formalise the changes previously approved.
- 4.2 The Development Agreement also requires Homes England approval, which is being sought before the Development Agreement has been finalised.
- 4.3 It is expected that the Development Agreement and amendments to the Funding Agreement will be completed by the end of December/beginning of January.

5 Current Estimated Key Milestones

Activity	Estimated date
Technical handover of information to Developer	Oct 2022
Individual consultation meetings between Developer and key stakeholders. (9 groups set up based on feedback from drop-in events with some sub divided into smaller groups)	Oct - Dec 2022
Development Agreement – finalisation and signing (including contracts with SVCC and Homes England approval)	Nov – Dec 2022
South West Design Review Panel workshop (Homes England requirement)	Nov 2022



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Pre-App consultation (with SDC's Development Management officers)	Nov/Dec 2022
Public consultation event – showing revised design reflecting feedback	Jan/Feb 2023
Planning Application Submitted	May/June 2023
Opportunity for objections / support to be submitted from the local community and other stakeholders	May/June – June/July 2023
Planning Decision (subject to 3rd party consultees)	Nov 2023
Start on Infrastructure if planning approved	Jan 2024

REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Celeste Dauncey, Project Manager
DATE	16/11/2022