#### **HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Title/Subject Matter: Community Infrastructure Levy Spend Allocation

Meeting/Date: Cabinet – 18th November 2021

**Executive Portfolio:** Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning

**Report by:** Service Manager Growth

Ward(s) affected: All

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a planning charge, introduced by the Planning Act 2008 as a tool for local authorities in England and Wales to help deliver infrastructure to support the development of the area. It came into force on 6 April 2010 through the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010. Huntingdonshire District Council became a CIL charging authority in May 2012.

Local authorities must spend the levy on infrastructure needed to support the development of their area. This helps to deliver across a number of the Council's Corporate Plan priorities for 2018 – 2022 but specifically:

- Support development of infrastructure to enable growth.
- Improve the supply of new and affordable housing, jobs and community facilities to meet current and future need.

In October 2020 Cabinet approved a revised approach to the governance arrangements for allocating the funds held by Huntingdonshire District Council as the 'Strategic Portion'. Under these arrangements Cabinet is to consider applications received seeking over £50,000, as required by the governance arrangements approved by Cabinet in October 2020. Any requests of £50,000 or less have been agreed in line with delegated powers. This is the first of a two funding rounds planned for the 2021/2022 financial year. A second round is expected to be held in the Winter. An update on the projects authorised for CIL spend prior to this current round is given in the report.

The latest funding round was launched on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 with a closing date of 27th September 2021. Bids received within that round for CIL funding towards infrastructure projects have been assessed by officers to reach the recommendations within this report.

#### Recommendation(s):

The Cabinet/Committee is

#### **RECOMMENDED to:**

- a) Note the information on projects previously allocated or in receipt of funding commitments and the updates on their delivery. (see Appendix 1)
- b) Agree officer recommendation for projects submitted in this round for over £50,000 CIL funding as detailed in Appendix 2.
- c) Note the bids submitted in this round for £50,000 or less CIL funding and the approvals in line with delegated authority (see Appendix 3).
- d) Delegate authority to the Corporate Director (Place) and Service Manager Growth, in consultation with the Executive Leader and Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning, to make final agreements for contracts to be issued on projects allocated CIL monies in principle subject to provision of necessary evidence.
- e) Approve the funding for the Special School at Alconbury Weald which, due to the scale of funding offered was approved in principle by Cabinet on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (See Minute 53) and, following submission of additional information, is reported back to Cabinet for final approval.
- f) Agree an extension of time until 31st July 2022 for Warboys Village Hall project.

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to invite the Cabinet to consider recommendations relating to infrastructure projects seeking funding in whole or in part by an amount of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies received to date.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was first referred to in the Planning Act 2008 and was formally introduced through the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended). The CIL spreads the burden of paying for infrastructure to all developments, not just major ones, as it is a requirement across all developments.
- 2.2 The Huntingdonshire Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was adopted in December 2011 with the CIL Charging Schedule being approved in April 2012 by full Council and implemented with effect from 1st May 2012.
- 2.3 Detail on CIL receipts and expenditure can be found in the <u>Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Funding Statement 2019-2020</u>. An updated Infrastructure Funding Statement is due to published in December 2021.
- 2.4 The requirement for infrastructure to support new development is a high priority and CIL continues to be implemented across the country with government enabling and directing local authorities to obtain contributions by charging a Community Infrastructure Levy on new development, in addition to negotiating Section 106 planning obligations with a developer where applicable.
- 2.5 Up to 5% of CIL receipts each financial year may be retained for administration costs. 15% 25% of CIL receipts the 'meaningful proportion' are passed to parish/town councils in line with the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) and the Localism Act 2011 and the total amount transferred to parish/town councils has increased each year in line with receipt increases. The remaining 70-80%, the Strategic Portion, is available for Huntingdonshire District Council as the Charging Authority to spend on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area.
- 2.6 Under approved governance arrangements, the Cabinet is to consider applications for CIL funding over £50,000. Any requests of £50,000 or less have been considered and approved in line with delegated authority and are detailed at Appendix 3.
- 2.7 There are to be two funding rounds in each financial year of CIL spend. This report relates to the first funding round for the 2021/22 financial year. A further round will be held before the end of the financial year. Where Projects demonstrate and provide evidence that they have a significant role to play in addressing key infrastructure requirements to meet the

needs of future growth, the Cabinet may consider applications outside of this time for exceptional circumstances in line with the governance process agreed. This report includes one such application, received prior to the current round for Reduced Speed Limits and Moving Vehicle Activated Sign for Winwick but due to timing is to be considered as part of this funding round. It should be noted that the Winwick does not have a Parish Council at this time and this bid is in relation to its 'meaningful proportion' spend, not the Strategic portion, although it is dealt with through the same process.

- 2.8 An update on the projects allocated CIL funding previously can be found at Appendix 1. This includes progress on the project approval in principle by Cabinet in July 2019 for Warboys Village Hall as this was given an 18month period to address outstanding matters, which has now been passed. In addition, the Special School at Alconbury Weald, a detailed update on which can be found at Appendix 4.
- 2.9 There is circa £23m of CIL receipts now currently available for spend on further infrastructure projects.

#### 3. ANALYSIS

- 3.1 In September 2021, stakeholders were invited to submit proforma applications for funding from the Strategic Portion, in line with guidance issued. Projects submitted have been reviewed to ensure they meet the criteria for CIL funding.
- 3.2 The levy is intended to focus on the provision of new infrastructure and should not be used to remedy pre-existing deficiencies in infrastructure provision unless those deficiencies will be made more severe by new development. It can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing existing infrastructure if that is necessary to support development.
- 3.3 In considering spend allocation, the potential support a number of strategic infrastructure projects may need in the near future should be noted, i.e. if all the money received to date is allocated to other projects, it may not be possible to provide these strategic projects with the funding they may need over the next few years to be delivered. As required under legislation, the Council has stated in the Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) 2019-2020 that CIL funds would be approved in line with the governance process and could be allocated towards:
  - Strategic Transport including items such as:
    - A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements
    - A141 Huntingdon
    - A14 Improvement Scheme
    - A1 Improvement Scheme
    - East West Rail Bedford to Cambridge opportunities
    - Edison Bell Way

- Supporting the delivery of growth in the District, as identified in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) and HDC's Corporate Plan.
- 3.4 Detail on the bids submitted in response to the current round for over £50,000.00 CIL funding, which require Cabinet approval as outlined in para 2.6 above, along with the officer recommendations can be seen in Appendix 2. Project bids for £50,000.00 or less were considered at a meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 in accordance with delegated authority, also outlined in para 2.6 above. Information on these bids can be found at Appendix 3 to this report, including the decisions reached, and is for Members to note.

#### 4. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

- 4.1 The Panel discussed the Community Infrastructure Levy Governance report at its meeting on 3rd November 2021.
- 4.2 The Panel heard from Councillor Chapman that the St Neots museum had applied for CIL funding in order to apply for matched funding from other organisations.
- 4.3 Councillor Chapman suggested that an agreement of funding in principle be applied to this application rather than it being declined to allow for other funding applications by the museum to be progressed.
- 4.4 The Panel heard that the reasons for declining the application were clearly detailed within the report and that the museum would be able to apply for funding again in future funding rounds.
- 4.5 The Panel were informed that applications were considered in line with other funding and investment already committed to by the Council to ensure a fair distribution of funds across the district. It was brought to the Panel's attention that in excess of £5 million CIL funding was being invested in St Neots under the Future High Streets Fund and the St Neots Riverside Park.
- 4.6 The Panel heard that an annual return, the Infrastructure Funding Statement, is available which details CIL funding to date.
- 4.7 In response to a question from Councillor Wakeford, it was confirmed that any organisation is able to apply for CIL funding.
- 4.8 The Panel heard that the project at Godmanchester Mill Weir detailed in Appendix 1, had a funding shortfall but the project continues to be delivered and the shortfall is being addressed.
- 4.9 Councillor Morris informed the Panel of potential delays to the Buckden to Brampton cycleway due to the pandemic.
- 4.10 The Panel welcomed the report and encourage the Cabinet to endorse the recommendations contained within the report.

#### 5. KEY IMPACTS / RISKS

5.1 The key impact from not considering the CIL spend will be the potential for certain infrastructure projects not being delivered and match funding lost.

#### WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN

- 6.1 Projects bids submitted will be notified of the outcome of the decision made by Cabinet. Next steps as appropriate are noted below:
  - 1. Notify applicants of outcome of Cabinet meeting and provide feedback.
  - Prepare and initiate contracts for approved projects.
  - 3. Issue funds in accordance with agreed milestones.
  - 4. Commence quarterly monitoring of projects approved.
  - 5. Provide an update for members at next funding round (rounds held twice each financial year).

### 7. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 This helps to deliver across several the Council's priorities for 2018 -2022 but specifically:
  - Support development of infrastructure to enable growth.
  - Improve the supply of new and affordable housing, jobs, and community facilities to meet current and future need.
- 7.2 It will also support the strategic priorities to:
  - Create, protect and enhance our safe clean built and green environment.

#### 8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Regulation 59 (1) of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) requires a charging authority to apply CIL to funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area. It may also, under Regulation 59 (3), support infrastructure outside its area where to do so would support the development of its area.
- 8.2 Passing CIL to another person for that person to apply to funding the provision, improvement, replace, operation and maintenance of infrastructure is also permitted under Regulation 59 (4).
- 8.3 Section 216 (2) of the Planning Act 2008 as amended by Regulation 63 of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010 (as amended) stated that infrastructure 'includes [and is therefore not limited to]:
  - (a) roads and other transport facilities,
  - (b) flood defences,

- (c) schools and other educational facilities,
- (d) medical facilities,
- (e) sporting and recreational facilities,
- (f) open spaces.'
- 8.4 The levy may not be used to fund affordable housing.

#### 9. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 CIL money can only be spent to deliver infrastructure, in accordance with the legal restrictions on the spending of CIL receipts.
- 9.2 Staff resource to administer and monitor the allocation of the CIL. This is funded, in part, by the administration costs permitted from the CIL receipts.
- 9.3 Staff resource from elsewhere in the Council will be used in preparing funding bids and implementing successful cases.
- 9.4 The allocations for projects seeking £50,000 or less total £95,000, excluding the Winwick bid for funding using the parish 'meaningful proportion'. This would leave circa £20m remaining to spend on strategic transport infrastructure and other infrastructure needs as stated in the Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Funding Statement and noted at para 3.3 above.

#### 10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 10.1 The projects identified have been considered in terms of how they support growth, deliverability and risks, benefits and outputs and extent of match funding being provided. The current stage of development of the project has also been considered. A summary of the key issues noted by officers in assessing each application request for over £50,000 CIL funding is noted in Appendix 2. Recommendations are for one of the following:
  - Approve to agree CIL funding subject to the completion of a contract, provision of further documentation necessary in line with delegated authority, as noted in the report recommendations.
  - Decline to decline the project for receipt of CIL funding.
- 10.2 It is considered that the one scheme submitted does not meet the criteria for CIL funding and is, therefore, recommended to be declined.
- 10.3 In regard to the Cambridgeshire County Council application for funding towards a special education needs school at Alconbury Weald, further information as requested has now been received. As outlined in Appendix 4, it is now recommended that the application for £4million be approved.
- 10.4 As detailed in Appendix 1, the Warboys Village Hall project has not progressed to a stage where funding can be confirmed. It is requested that the £200,000 funding that was approved in July 2019 can remain earmarked for this project and that an extension of the period for matters

to be resolved to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022 be agreed. This will enable Warboys Parish Council to progress the project through planning.

#### 11. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Update on Projects previously approved to-date.

Appendix 2 – Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Project Bids submitted in September 2021 round for greater than £50,000.00

Appendix 3 - Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Project Bids submitted for consideration in the September 2021 round for £50,000.00 or less - Decisions

Appendix 4 – Alconbury Special School Update

#### 12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Section 216 of Planning Act 2008

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan

http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2694/infrastructure-delivery-plan.pdf

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan – Infrastructure Schedule <a href="http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2693/infrastructure-schedule.pdf">http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2693/infrastructure-schedule.pdf</a>

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan Addendum <a href="http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2861/infrastructure-delivery-plan-addendum.pdf">http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/2861/infrastructure-delivery-plan-addendum.pdf</a>

Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Funding Statement 2019 -2020 <a href="https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/4980/infrastructure-funding-statement-2019-20.pdf">https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/4980/infrastructure-funding-statement-2019-20.pdf</a>

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### APPENDIX 1 - Update on Projects previously approved to-date

Project Name	Description	Project cost	CIL funding offered	Update
Godmanchester Roman Gate Doctor's surgery  Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	Extension of existing GP surgery to create 3 new consulting rooms and a treatment room with new waiting rooms/ reception and a platform lift	£1,200,000.00	£107,341.00	Completed.
Godmanchester Mill Weir area green space improvements Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	Godmanchester Mill Weir area green space improvements	£470,000.00	£200,000.00	There is still a funding shortfall of around £65,000 due to additional works that were needed to remove two large boulders from the riverbed. This shortfall will be met from HDC Operations' budget. The works are due to recommence once supply chain issues have been resolved, in November - there has been a national shortage of aluminium which has delayed the fabrications of the larinier section, which is the last part of the fish pass section to complete the connection between the water levels.
Little Paxton Zebra crossing at Mill Lane near Marble White Court	Installation of a new zebra crossing on Mill Lane near Marbled White Court. General	£45,604.00	£26,000.00	Completed.

Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019				
Ramsey 3G Pitch  Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	Build a full sized 3G ATP on Ramsey Abbey Foundation land adjacent to OLR.	£600,000.00	£120,000.00	Completed.
St Ives Outdoor Centre gym  Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	To use the underutilised badminton courts and provide further fitness provision and specifically "functional training" or "cross-fit" style facilities.	£500,000.00	£50,000.00	Completed.
St Ives Park Extension  Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	The provision of Benches/Interpretation and a feasibility study on the commercial opportunities through the park when fully available plus first years' maintenance due to early release	£80,000.00	£80,000.00	Work on site is now 90% complete, with cycle path lighting columns all finished and adopted. Completion of street furniture and signage is all that is now awaited.
St Neots Improvements to path/cycle route at Riverside Park	Improvements to the path and cycle route at Riverside Park, originated from a pedestrian audit.	£445,000.00	£445,000.00	HDC (Operations) is now leading this project in partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council. Emergency work was done on the first section. Remaining works are still being procured for completion this year subject to contractor availability and any delays caused by Covid-19.

Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019				
St Neots Market Square Bicycle parking facilities  Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019	New facilities in market square	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	Completed.
Warboys Village Hall Approved by Cabinet - 18th July 2019l	Funding towards a new facility	£1,000,000	£200,000.00	This was approved subject to full funding being achieved and commencement within 18 months of the decision. Significant progress has been made but full funding is being finalised. An architect has been appointed and a planning application has been submitted but is incomplete due to several reports being awaited. An updated business case and application proforma has been provided. Costs are to be confirmed once quotes received. The programme is on track for Commencement on site is due July 2022. Extending the period for these matters to be resolved to 31st July 2022 is recommended.
Edison Bell Way	Road build project and compensation to landowners	£10.7m	£5,396,476.10	Completed.

Fenstanton Village Hall  Approved by Cabinet - 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	Funding towards a new village hall in Fenstanton	£880,000	£75,000	The Trust has acquired the land. Costings and design are being reviewed. Planning application for reserved matters submitted Aim to start on site by the end of the year.
Raised zebra crossing, B645, Kimbolton  Approved by Cabinet - 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	Zebra crossing on B645	£48,000	£20,000	Ongoing.
Alconbury Weald Special school to serve Huntingdonshire, located at Alconbury Weald	Alconbury Weald Special school	£20,000,000 - see updated info at Appendix 4	£4,000,000	See Appendix 4
Approved by Cabinet – 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2020				
New length of cycle/footway and safer crossing point on Buckden Road, Brampton	Cycleway between Buckden and Brampton	£188,391.50	£100,000	An alternative route option is being considered by CCC and the applicant to include a section along existing roads in the MoD site outside of the public highway. This would enable users of the route to travel

Approved by Cabinet - 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2021				away from the main road on a quieter route.  MoD consent is required.
The Valley, Buckden – land management programme	Land management programme of The Valley	£469,775	£450,000	Contract signed and sealed, works commenced. First instalment is due imminently.
Approved by Cabinet – 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2020				
Great Paxton Play Area - 3 items of Adult Gym Equipment and a replacement trapeze bar for the children's play area.	Play and adult gym equipment	£5,539.87	£2,540	Contract signed and sealed 6.10.21. Work due to commence imminently.
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				
Replacing old street lights owned by Great Staughton PC.	Street lights	£2,145	£1,072	Completed.
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				

Additional equipment for older children and adult fitness equipment at Hail Weston playing field.	Play and equipment		itness	£35,177.64	£28,071	Completed.
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020						
A "hub" providing community space and designated office space for Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council.	Village hall			£100,500	£49,500	Contract required. An architect has been appointed and drawings are being prepared ready for going out to tender. The expectation is that tenders will be in January 2022.
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020 Extension and	Cemetery	landscaping	and	£137,408.40	£30,600	Contract signed and sealed, works
landscaping of Little Paxton Cemetery	extension	. 3		,	,	commenced. The Parish Council is waiting for confirmation that the land has been transferred. Contractors are ready to
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020						commence as the boundary fence has to be completed within 12 weeks of land transfer.

Creation of an entry road, turning point and area of hardstanding for 22 vehicles at Spaldwick Allotments with entry gates.  Delegated approval	Allotments access and gates	£29,000	£15,000	Completed.
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				
Boatshed at Huntingdon Sailing Club, St Ives	Boatshed	£168,554	£50,000	Works due to be commenced this year.
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				
Redesign a lobby and male change area into a larger village (to cater for increased capacity post-COVID) and separate gender changing areas for school use at One Leisure St Ives.	Swimming pool changing rooms	£400,000	£150,000	Completed.
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				

New mains power supply in Priory Park, St Neots  Delegated approval	Power supply to Priory Park	£15,500	£15,500	Ongoing.
3rd March 2020 Improvements to the external recreation space, replacement of lighting and renew the white lining at Stilton Community Hall.	External improvements to grounds at Stilton Community Hall	£23,190	£18,552	Completed.
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				
Purchase of land for use as informal open space, Warboys	Purchase of land for open space	£52,400	£20,000	Exchange of contracts re. purchase of the land is imminent.
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				
Purchase of verti- draining equipment for Warboys Sportsfield	Purchase of equipment for drainage of sports field.	£30,000	£18,500	An order for the equipment has placed.
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				

Safe crossing point at the junction of Broadway and Mere view, Yaxley	Pedestrian crossing point	£31,746.65	£10,000	Completed – funds to be transferred upon evidence of spending
Delegated approval 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020				
B1040 Wheatsheaf Road/Somersham Road Accident Reduction Scheme	Junction safety improvements	£1,200,000	£500,000	A signal-controlled option has been agreed as the preferred approach by CCC's Highways and Transport Committee on 7th September 2021. Detailed design work is being commissioned. The business case and
Approved by Cabinet - 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2021				funding for the scheme is being reviewed by CCC, as is the associated programme.

APPENDIX 2 - Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Project Bids submitted in September 2021 round for greater than £50,000.00

Project proposed	Bid submitted by	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL request as % of total	Amount officers suggest is offered	Recommendation and comments
St Neots Museum - Redevelop the old museum building and rebuild it as a new 'fit-for- purpose' museum while keeping its historic facade and important historic features (including the Edwardian prison cells). The project addresses the serious deficiencies in the current museum building, including:  Disabled and special needs facilities.  Public spaces for events and activities.  Environmentally controlled display and storage space for the Museum's collections.  Lack of displays which tell the story of the town post 1960 and make the Museum relevant to new and		£2,580,000	£750,000	29.07%	£0	<ul> <li>The project will provide low value for money.</li> <li>Importance in terms of infrastructure needs - Desirable infrastructure that is not a policy need. Although the project includes community spaces, it does not significantly expand provision, i.e. as a dedicated community hall would. Cultural infrastructure is not covered in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP).</li> <li>Match funding and level of it – Poor with potential to be very good (70.93%) (£1,830,000 required; £250,000 from St Neots Town Council (SNTC) – shortfall of £830,000 if CIL allocation granted) – at present however only £385,000 appears to be secured funding which presents a significant risk if a CIL allocation were offered at this stage.</li> <li>Likely impact on new growth it will support: Modest impact as St Neots is part of the St Neots Spatial</li> </ul>

Project proposed	Bid by	submitted	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL request as % of total	Amount officers suggest offered	is	Recommendation and comments
newly arriving residents.								Planning Area, where growth will be focussed. The museum is a key cultural facility in the town and linked to the regeneration of the town centre. Cultural facilities are not listed specifically in the IDP. It is considered that the community element does not address the shortfall set out in the IDP as it is existing provision.  The project is not currently deliverable as match funding has not been secured and has not been through feasibility stage. There are concerns about the viability of the Museum going forward if reliant on the annual SNTC grant for revenue and the detail of the new 35-year lease is not known.  In addition, the land / building is owned by SNTC – the surveyor's report submitted with the application flags concerns about the existing maintenance of the building, therefore, going forward HDC will need to be assured that if CIL were granted a building management and maintenance plan is in place and followed.

Project proposed	Bid submitted by	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL request as % of total	Amount officers suggest is offered	Recommendation and comments
						St Neots has already been allocated in excess of £5m CIL funding towards FHSF and the St Neots Riverside Park.

# APPENDIX 3 - Huntingdonshire Infrastructure Project Bids submitted for consideration in the September 2021 round for £50,000.00 or less - Decisions

Project Proposed	Bid Submitted by	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL requested as a proportion of total (%)	Amount to be offered	Recommended
Ramsey Skate Park - A plaza style concrete skate park, enabling inclusive and disabled sports access.	Ramsey Neighbourhood s Trust & Ramsey Town Council	£130,000.00	£50,000.00	38.46%	£50,000.00	<ul> <li>Approved</li> <li>Importance in terms of infrastructure needs - essential infrastructure that is a policy need; funding is committed/identified; funding does not cover 100% of the costs.</li> <li>Match funding and level of it (%) – high - 61.54% / £80,000</li> <li>Likely impact on new growth it will support: Good impact as Ramsey is part of the Ramsey Spatial Planning Area, where growth will be focussed. The new open space serving new development. It addresses a current deficit in addition to meeting needs arising from growth.</li> <li>What development has there been – 244 dwellings (2011-20) and</li> <li>What is planned for the next five years: 308 dwellings**.</li> <li>Growth as a proportion of settlement size – 3830 at 2018 + 66 (18/19) +37(19/20) = no. of houses at</li> </ul>

Project Proposed	Bid by	Submitted	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL requested as a proportion of total (%)	Amount to be offered	Recommended
							2020 - 3933 dwellings, which as a proportion = 2.69% growth (to-date – does not include planned growth).
							*3933-3830 = 103 103/3830=0.0269x100 = 2.69% **figures based on includes Ramsey TC area only.
Dadwood Chood	Minu	ial. Daviah	247.746.40		22.000/	- Lla - 4a	Approval is recommended to be subject to  (a) provisions of detailed costings once the tender process has been completed and clarification re. VAT position – if unable to reclaim VAT the project should be led by Ramsey Town Council (RTC) to enable VAT to be reclaimed and keep project costs within budget  (b) land has been transferred to RTC by the developer  (c) confirmation of Big Local Lottery Funding and timescale for spend.  The project directly supports delivery of growth within the town and addresses a deficit in open space provision for older children in the town.
Reduced Speed Limits and Moving Vehicle Activated Sign	Winw Coun		£17,716.42	Up to £6,000	33.86%	Up to £6,000	Approve  The project is for essential highways infrastructure.
2.3							Winwick is a non-parished area, so this allocation is for money held by HDC on its behalf and is not

Project Proposed	Bid Submitted by	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL requested as a proportion of total (%)	Amount to be offered	Recommended
						drawn from the Strategic Proportion held by HDC. Winwick has a fund of £12.5k set aside to be spent on its projects. In accordance with CIL governance, a decision is required to be taken at this meeting.
						The project identified has the support of CCC has been through the relevant feasibility and design stages and costed. It has been delayed due to Covid-19. Matchfunding from CCC's Local Highways Investment Plan (LHIP) fund has been agreed. The applicant has asked for up to £6,000 as at present the project needs a further £5,512.82, however, it expects that there may have been a cost increase since the last update from CCC in relation to its contractors' costs. It wishes to avoid further delays securing more funding if so, having been delayed significantly already. Only the amount required to deliver the project will be paid if approved.
Community Nursery - Installation of Classroom, public	Godmanchester Town Council	£250,000 (as part of a larger project)	£45,000.00	18.00%	£45,000.00	Approve  The project will provide a very good degree of value.
toilets, café and office.						<ul> <li>Importance in terms of infrastructure needs</li> <li>Essential Infrastructure that is an operational need; funding is not</li> </ul>

Project Proposed	Bid by	Submitted	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL requested as a proportion of total (%)	Amount to be offered	Recommended
							committed/identified; a specific project is identified  • Match funding and level of it Excellent - (87.23%) – £245,000  • Likely impact on new growth it will support: Significant impact as Godmanchester is part of the Huntingdon Spatial Planning Area, where growth will be focussed. The land is part of a key green space in the town.  What development has there been – 498 dwellings (2011-20) and
							What is planned for the next five years: 446 dwellings. Growth as a proportion of settlement size – 3180 at 2018 +approx. 147 (18/10) +115(19/20) = no. of houses at 2020 - 3442 dwellings, which as a proportion = 8.23%* growth.  *Calculated as: (3442-3180)= 262/3180=0.082x100=8.23%
							Approval is recommended to be subject to confirmation of (a) match funding secured, (b) legal ability to put buildings on site

Project Proposed	Bid Submitted by	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL requested as a proportion of total (%)	Amount to be offered	Recommended
						<ul> <li>(c) confirmation of costings for the third building once tender process has been completed.</li> <li>(d) if costs are less than what has been set out in the business plan, the CIL offer will be reduced accordingly</li> <li>The scheme supports delivery of growth by contributing to green space and community space serving the town and its growing population. This project was previously one led by HDC and supported. This is taking the project forward more.</li> </ul>
Playing Field - Additional car park & installation; disabled access to playing field; and installation of electric charging points.	Hail Weston Parish Council	£61,100	£25,000.00	40.90%	£0	<ul> <li>Declined</li> <li>The project will provide low value for money.</li> <li>Importance in terms of infrastructure needs         <ul> <li>potentially desirable</li> </ul> </li> <li>Match funding and level of it (%) —                 Potentially good - (59.08%) £36,100 match funding from PC, community fundraising, and Salix (subject to confirmation of applying for an interest free Salix loan and it being granted).</li> <li>Likely impact on new growth it will support:</li></ul>

Project Proposed	Bid by	Submitted	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL requested as a proportion of total (%)	Amount to be offered	Recommended
							What development has there been – 13 dwellings (2011-20) and What is planned for the next five years: 0 dwellings* Windfalls- Planning applications for 1 dwelling approved since 2018 and 5 pending decisions.  Growth as a proportion of settlement size – 260 at 2018 +0 (18/10) +0 (19/20) = no. of houses at 2020 - 260 dwellings, which as a proportion = 0% growth.
							The project is not required to meet the needs of growth and as such, does not meet the test for allocating CIL. It is also unclear from the application whether the project is deliverable as there is a funding shortfall – it is not clear if an application for Salix funding has been made and, if so, was successful. The applicant needs permission from Fields in Trust to undertake this project.
							Hail Weston received an allocation under the 2020 CIL round for £28,071 towards its project for playing field development (Double A frame swing, 2 cradle 1 flat Swing, inclined press, body flexer & flex wheel, hand bike, free runner & cross trainer, supply & install wet pour, and supply & lay mot stone upon removal of bark in prep for installing wet pour).

Project Proposed	Bid Submitted by	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL requested as a proportion of total (%)	Amount to be offered	Recommended
'Welcome to Huntingdonshire' District Signage - 40 x 'Welcome to Huntingdonshire' Signs at various locations across the district.	Huntingdonshire District Council	£64,000.00	£29,000.00	45.30%	£0.00	The proposal is not for infrastructure that supports growth of the District, as identified in the Local Plan 2036, and as such is not eligible for funding from CIL. Whilst it is accepted that it will support the economic growth of the area by creating a clear brand and identity, this is not the purpose of CIL. It is also not considered a priority for infrastructure delivery in the district.  The project will provide a low value based on:  Importance in terms of infrastructure needs – N/A it is not infrastructure under CIL (Sec 216 (2) Planning Act 2008 and Reg 58 CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended))  Match funding and level of it (%) good – 56.7% - £35,000 (MTFS funding is confirmed).  Likely impact on new growth it will support: Minimal – unless a sign relates to a strategic growth location.  Some of the replacement signs are proposed as they have deteriorated due to lack of maintenance. Whilst CIL can be used 'to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing

Project Proposed	Bid s	Submitted	Project Cost	CIL funding requested	CIL requested as a proportion of total (%)	Amount to be offered	Recommended
							infrastructure, if needed to support the needs arising from development', as it is not development related to growth this not applicable. It is advised that going forward maintenance will be funded via a capital bid.  The project does not support development in the District and so it is recommended that it be declined.

#### **APPENDIX 4 – Alconbury Special School Update**

On 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 Cabinet considered a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding allocation round. One of the bids was from Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC). This bid was approved in principle to be committed for a new special education needs school located at Alconbury Weald. The funding allocated and offered was for £4,000,000 however, this was subject to clarification of certain details (see below) and was to be reported back to Cabinet for a final decision:

- a) Final costings, as detailed design work is still underway;
- b) Full business plan;
- c) Information as to whether Huntingdonshire's needs could be met on the existing sites in Huntingdonshire that are subject to separate projects, and whether these existing sites are at capacity due to take up from outside of the district:
- d) Evidence supporting the amount asked for in relation to needs arising from Huntingdonshire, e.g. price per pupil, how this equates to capacity; how it relates to provision specifically to meet the needs of children resident in Huntingdonshire; and
- e) Information about other funding sources such as from the other Local Authorities whose pupils may attend the school.

The £4m being offered equated to 26.67% of project cost, and was subject to clarifying the details, above, costs and match funding.

CCC has subsequently provided clarity relating to the project, as detailed below:

#### (a) Final costings.

CCC has confirmed that the project has now been costed at £20m, therefore the proportion of CIL is reduced to 20%, as CCC has confirmed it is meeting the cost of the budget increase. The increased costs reflect the inclusion of specialist unit for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the school. The cost is based on detailed designs that have been through the CCC Milestone 2 stage. The cost is anticipated to be funded by:

- Special Education Needs (SEN) Department for Education (DFE) Grant -£2,709,000
- CIL £4,000,000
- Prudential Borrowing £13,291,000

It should be noted that the land is provided by the developer of Alconbury Weald.

#### (b) Full Business Plan

A full business plan has been provided. The overall project cost is listed as £21.6m. The amount of CIL sought has not been increased, so the proportion of CIL to the total project cost reduces.

(c) Information as to whether Huntingdonshire's needs could be met on the existing sites in Huntingdonshire that are subject to separate projects, and whether these existing sites are at capacity due to take up from outside of the district.

Although Alconbury Weald will not generate the demand for a special school in its own right, it is considered likely by CCC that between a quarter and a third of the pupils attending the school could be residents of the new development.

The school will be located in the education campus at the core of the community and will contribute to towards creating community cohesion and place making at the early stages of the Alconbury Weald development providing early benefits to those requiring places and the wider community.

CCC's strategy for delivering special needs is based on a district wide approach, rather than defined catchment areas. Whilst the location will benefit Alconbury Weald, good access to the rest of the District will also ensure that provision is accessible to those requiring special needs education.

The level of new development across Huntingdonshire, as identified in the Local Plan and will result in an increased need for special school places. It is forecast that the Local Plan will result in an increase of 11,562 children and young people in Huntingdonshire. Approximately 1% of these children will require a special school place, this equates to 115 addition children requiring a special education needs school place as a result of the new development as identified in the Local Plan to 2036. This school is therefore essential to ensure that there is sufficient specialist provision in Huntingdonshire for the growing population.

### (d) Clarification as to whether the existing sites are at capacity due to take up from outside of the district.

CCC has advised that there are currently two Area Special Schools in Huntingdonshire. Samual Pepys has capacity for 115 pupils and Spring Common has capacity for 195 pupils. Both schools are full, and it has been evidenced that Huntingdonshire's needs cannot be met by the capacity of these existing schools.

Although a number of school places are taken up from children located in other parts of the county with a small number of pupils from out of County (4), a number of children in Hunts attend a special school located either outside Hunts (34) or in another LA (8). The number of out of area children taking a place in a Hunts special school is 79 and the number of Hunts children taking a place at a special school outside Hunts is 42.

The determination of which school a child with special needs attends is not solely based on the area of the County of Home location. Factors such as parental

preference and which school can best meet the child's needs also play an important role.

As noted above, it is anticipated that up to 115 additional children may require a special education needs school place as a result of the new development as identified in the Local Plan to 2036, however, CCC is seeing an increase in the number of children with ASD requiring a school place, therefore, the number may be higher.

## e) Information about other funding sources such as from the other Local Authorities whose pupils may attend the school.

CCC has explained that that the determination of which school a child with special needs attends is not solely based on the county location of their home. Factors such as parental preference and which school can best meet the child's needs also play an important role. It has shown that each Local Authority in Cambridgeshire is contributing to the provision of SEND education though delivery of schools on strategic sites across the County funded by developer contributions (S106 and / or CIL).

#### Conclusion

Considering the additional information provided by CCC, it is recommended that the offer of £4,000,000 toward the project from the Council's Strategic CIL is approved. The project is supported, as it will increase the capacity of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) schooling in district, meeting the needs arising from growth. The site has been allocated as part of the Alconbury Weald development.