

FULL COUNCIL**7th MARCH 2022****BUTTERPARK**

The Market Consultation regarding Butterpark was discussed at the Full Council on 13th December 2021 (Item 21/090).

This completed on 14th February 2022 and two full responses were received.

Although we had hoped for a wider response, the two responses from different sectors, offered useful feedback.

From other tentative enquiries received, it seems the final process would see a much wider response. The Market Consultation questionnaire was quite hefty in order to gain the full breadth of information that was required, and so may have deterred others at this point.

The Town Clerk will now work with the Council's legal advisors to put together the next stage using the information from the consultation. It is currently being assessed if a full tender is required or if another mechanism, such as an option to purchase subject to planning, can be used instead to achieve a better outcome.

Any proposals now will be focussed on complying with the Council's procurement procedures whilst delivering the Council's clear desire for the site – delivering the homes for residents with a learning disability and maximising affordable housing provision whilst obtaining best value for residents.

The Town Clerk has asked the legal team to work with him to have the next stage ready for advertising to the market by the end of March 2022. Although a challenging deadline, the Town Council should be advertising the opportunity during April 2022.

The Town Clerk will hold a meeting with those residents engaged earlier in the process, including potential tenants to update them on the progress and what to expect going forwards.

Jonathan Parsons
Town Clerk