



## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 30th NOVEMBER 2023**

**PRESENT:** Councillor T Jay (Chair), Councillors A Cooper, S Smith, P Thompson, M Summers and T Clements

The following officers were present: Andrew Barratt (Chief Executive), Anica Goodwin (Executive Director Organisation), Rob Barnes (Executive Director Communities), Rebecca Smeathers (Executive Director Finance (S151)), Joanne Goodfellow (Assistant Director Finance), Tina Mustafa (Assistant Director Neighbourhoods), Paul Weston (Assistant Director Assets), Michael Buckland (Head of Revenues), Karen Moss (Head of Active Wellbeing) and Tracey Pointon (Legal Admin & Democratic Services Manager)

### **79 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence

### **80 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October and 9<sup>th</sup> November were approved as a correct record.

*(Moved by Councillor A Cooper and seconded by Councillor M Summers)*

### **81 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

### **82 QUESTION TIME:**

None

### **83 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE CABINET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES**

None

### **84 DRAFT BASE BUDGET FORECASTS 2024/25 TO 2028/29**

Reports of the Leader of the Council to inform Members of the re-priced base budget for 2024/25, base budget forecasts for the period 2024/25 to 2028/29 (the 5 Year Medium Term Planning Period) and the underlying assumptions and to consider the future strategy to address the financial trends.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

1. Approved the technical adjustments and re-priced base budget figures for 2024/25 and indicative budgets to 2028/29 (as attached at Appendix B, C, D, E, F, G and H);
2. Considered the proposed Policy Changes and Capital Programmes, as detailed within the report;
3. **considered the planned changes to Council Tax and Housing Rent for 2024/25, as detailed within the report; and**
4. **Noted that the Leader's Budget Workshop was due to consider the budget proposals contained within this report on 29th November 2023 in compliance with the Constitution of the Council.**

*(Moved by Councillor P Thompson and seconded by Councillor M Summers)*

## **85 NATURE RECOVERY DECLARATION**

Report of the Leader of the Council to declare that nature is in crisis and to commit to the recovery of nature across the Borough and wider Staffordshire.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

Agreed to the Borough Council making a Nature Recovery Declaration, (Appendix 1).

*(Moved by Councillor T Clements and seconded by Councillor A Cooper)*

## **86 LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2024/25**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Operations and Finance to recommend that Cabinet and Council approves the implementation of a revised Council Tax Reduction scheme with effect from the 1 April 2024.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

Approved the introduction of a new income banded/grid scheme for working age applicants with effect from 1 April 2024 to reduce the administrative burden placed on the Council by the introduction of Universal Credit and to increase the overall level of support for the lowest income

families.

*(Moved by Councillor M Summers and seconded by Councillor A Cooper)*

**87 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY MID-YEAR REVIEW REPORT 2023/24**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for to present to Members the Mid-year Review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy.

RESOLVED: That Council

approved the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy Mid-year Review Report 2023/24.

*(Moved by Councillor P Thompson and seconded by Councillor S Smith)*

**88 ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME POLICY UPDATE 2023**

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health and Community Partnerships to consider proposals for amendments to environmental crime fixed penalty levels outlined in the Government ASB Action Plan.

Cabinet asked for regular updates on progress throughout the year. It was agreed that information be added to the Quarterly Performance report that is reported to Scrutiny and Cabinet.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

1. Considered the proposals for environmental crime outlined in the Government Plan
2. approved proposals (following recommendation from Infrastructure Safety and Growth Scrutiny meeting 21st November 2023) for the increase to maximum fixed penalty levels to £500 (early payment £250) for Tamworth in relation to littering, graffiti, flyposting.
3. approved proposals for the fixed penalty level for fly-tipping to increase to the maximum level of £1000 (early payment £500) in line with the ASB Action Plan
4. approved the introduction of the maximum fixed penalty levels of £600 (following recommendation from Infrastructure Safety and Growth Scrutiny meeting 21st November 2023) for household waste duty of care offences in line with the

ASB Action Plan (early payment £300); and

5. approved delegation to the Portfolio Holder Environmental Health and Community Partnerships to include environmental crime in the review of the Corporate ASB policy by March 2024 and report on wider implications.

*(Moved by Councillor M Summers and seconded by Councillor A Cooper)*

Cabinet thanked volunteer litter pickers and Street scene for their hard work clearing litter and fly tipping.

## **89 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That members of the press and public be now excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

*(Moved by Councillor M Summers and seconded by Councillor A Cooper)*

## **90 UPDATE ON COMMERCIAL LEASE**

RESOLVED That Cabinet

Approved the recommendations set out in the report.

*(Moved by Councillor P Thompson and seconded by Councillor M Summers)*

## **91 ERINGDEN TENANCY SERVICES - RESIDENT SUPPORT**

RESOLVED That Cabinet

Approved the recommendations set out in the report.

*(Moved by Councillor S Smith and seconded by Councillor T Clements)*

## **92 HOMELESSNESS STATUTORY ON-CALL & OUT OF HOURS ARRANGEMENTS**

RESOLVED That Cabinet

Approved the recommendations and agreed a change to recommendation 2

*(Moved by Councillor S Smith and seconded by Councillor Paul Thompson)*

**93 LEISURE STRATEGY UPDATE**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

Approved the recommendations set out in the report.

*(Moved by Councillor A Cooper and seconded by Councillor M Summers)*

**94 SWIMMING SUBSIDY**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

Approved the recommendations set out in the report

*(Moved by Councillor A Cooper and seconded by Councillor S Smith)*

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Leader