



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 1st FEBRUARY 2024

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

The following officers were present: Andrew Barratt (Chief Executive), Joanne Sands (Assistant Director Partnerships), Leanne Costello (Senior Scrutiny and Democratic Services Officer) and Laura Sandland (Democratic and Executive Support Officer)

120 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Oates and Councillor P Thompson.

121 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

It was noted that Councillor Clements has a Business that is named as having signed up to the Business Connector Scheme in item 5.

122 QUESTION TIME:

There were none.

123 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE CABINET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES

Report of the Chair of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee. To notify Cabinet of the report and recommendations from the Future High Street Fund item that was discussed at the meeting of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee on the 1st February 2024.

Resolved that Cabinet

1. Agreed to look at the feasibility of a trial to strategically site some dual use bins around the town with ongoing communications to explain and encourage the correct use.

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

124 BUSINESS COMMUNITY CONNECTOR SCHEME

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health and Community Partnerships. To Consider the Council formally signing up to the Community Together CIC Business Community Connector Scheme.

Resolved that Cabinet

1. Endorsed the Council formally signing up to the Business Community Connector Scheme.
2. Endorsed the circulation of the directory for all staff and councillors to signpost to support available in the community.

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

125 COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY GRANTS REVIEW

Report of the Portfolio Holder Environmental Health and Community Partnerships. To outline proposals for a revised Councillor grant scheme. To outline proposals to contract with The Community Foundation of Staffordshire to manage the council's Community Grants and Councillor Grants schemes from April 2024 to 31 March 2025 whilst the current Grants and Funding Officer is on secondment.

Resolved that Cabinet:

1. Approved an increase to the Councillor Grant fund budget (GS1002 34537) from £9000 to £30,000 from 1 April 2024 by:
 - Retaining the current £9000 Councillor Grant GS1002 34537
 - Permanent virement of £15,000 Environmental Grant GX180134537 to GS1002 34537 Councillor grants from 1 April 2024
 - Permanent virement of £3000 Festive grant fund GY1603 34537 to GS1002 34537 Councillor Grants from 1 April 2024
 - Permanent virement of £3000 from the Community Grants budget GS1002 31551 which will reduce this budget to £15,590 to GS1002 34537 Councillor Grants, recognising that retained funding will be available as per recommendation 2.
2. Approved the retention of any underspend of Councillor environmental grant, Councillor Grant, Community Grant funding and Councillor Special Project Fund 2023/24 (where total in each budget line is above £5000) to be ringfenced in a retained budget for additional community grant/match funding for any emerging theme projects, e.g., Cost-of living crisis.

This fund to be retained for up to 5 years (April 2029).

3. Approved the retention of any underspend on the Councillor and Community grant funds from 2024/25 (where it exceeds £5000) be retained for up to 5 years as per recommendation 2
4. Decommissioned the Councillor Special Project Grant Scheme with effect from 31 March 2024, but retain the budget (PM1685 - £5,318) as detailed in recommendation 2. This budget code will be retained and any future underspend as per recommendation 2 and 3 will be vired to this retained budget for up to 5 years.
5. Approved delegation to the Portfolio Holder Environmental Health and Community Partnerships/AD Partnerships/AD Environment, Culture and Wellbeing to manage the retained funds.
6. Approved the updated criteria for Councillor grant funding attached as Appendix 1.
7. Considered and approved management of Councillor grants and Community grants through Staffordshire Foundation with continued reporting to the Grants and Nominations Committee from 1st April 2024 to 31 March 2025 whilst the current Grants and Funding Officer is on secondment, enabling further review of Tamworth Borough Council grant funding and support for the voluntary sector
8. Delegated approval to the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health and Community Partnerships and AD Partnerships to consider options for community grant funding going forward for future Cabinet consideration.

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

Leader