



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 31st JULY 2014

PRESENT: Councillor D Cook (Chair), Councillors R Pritchard, S Claymore and M Greatorex

The following officers were present: Anthony E Goodwin (Chief Executive), John Wheatley (Executive Director Corporate Services), Rob Barnes (Director - Housing and Health), Andrew Barratt (Director - Assets and Environment), Nicki Burton (Director - Technology and Corporate Programmes), Jane Hackett (Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer) and Robert Mitchell (Director - Communities, Planning and Partnerships)

13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Doyle and M Thurgood.

14 CORPORATE UPDATE

The Chief Executive gave a presentation entitled Mental Health – Everybody's Business following which Cabinet endorsed the strategy and proposed it to the Community Safety Partnership.

15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2014 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor S Claymore)

16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

17 QUESTION TIME:

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

NO.1

Under Schedule 4, 13, Mr P Hill will ask the Portfolio Holder for Public Housing and Vulnerable People, Councillor M Greatorex, the following question:-

"Why is it that we are being asked to accept a sprinkler system that is all "ifs and buts", no one has the answers?"

Councillor M Greatorex gave the following reply:

During a recent consultation/open day at the high rise, staff from the Council and the fire service explained in some detail there has been as yet no firm design decisions made around the sprinkler installs at this stage, however there has been a Cabinet decision to install sprinklers to Council owned accommodation.

The purpose of this consultation meeting was to determine the key concerns held by residents with a view that these will aid and inform the overall design process.

From the consultation session we took away a number of key issues raised by residents, many of these were related to the aesthetic quality of the system, and will be addressed in the design of the sprinkler system itself.

Many of the other issues raised related to the operation and more technical elements, and will be able to be answered by providing residents with a more technical briefing once the system has been designed.

The next stage will be to work with the technical consultants to design a system that will serve the intended purpose and so far as we possibly can incorporate the design concerns raised by residents.

Once we have a detailed design this will be taken back to residents to provide much more detailed answers to any remaining concerns that have been raised.

Supplementary question:

You have looked at that and handed over leaflets. You have put the cart before the horse.

Councillor M Greatorex gave the following reply:

Cabinet decided to install the sprinkler system. We have consulted on the overall aspect at this stage but the design elements are to be decided. Once this is undertaken we will go back to residents and explain in more detail and answer the detail you require.

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

There were none.

19 ICT ACCESS FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Operations and Assets seeking to gain endorsement to release contingencies in order to procure hardware to enable efficient access to ICT systems, data and infrastructure for all Elected Members was considered.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agreed to release £15k from the Specific Contingency Revenue Budget, in order replace existing Members laptops with a new standard Council owned device.

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

20 ADOPTION OF REVISED LEGIONELLA AND ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLANS

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Operations and Assets seeking to update Cabinet on the revised Asbestos and Legionella management plans and seeking Cabinet's agreement to adopt the policy was considered.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet endorsed:

- 1 the revised and updated Asbestos Management Plan policy, and;
- 2 the revised and updated policy entitled Management Plan for the Control of Legionella Bacteria in Water Systems.

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor M Greatorex)

21 TAMWORTH ASSEMBLY ROOMS AND CREATIVE QUARTER UPDATE

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Education seeking to update members on the current position regarding the Tamworth Assembly Rooms redevelopment project and wider Creative Quarter Scheme was considered.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

1. agreed to withdraw its current Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Round 2 bid for the Assembly Rooms with a review to resubmitting following further work to secure additional external match funding;
2. authorised the re-opening of bookings for the buildings within the Creative Quarter for the period February 2015 until January 2016;
3. agreed that officers continue to assess the business case for prudential borrowing to support a future HLF Round 2 bid;

4. agreed to formally approach the County Council to ascertain their position in relation to the Creative Quarter project and their ability to contribute financially to it;
5. endorsed formal approval being sought from the Government and SSLEP on the Creative Quarter Bid;
6. endorsed an approach the GBSLEP and SSLEP to position the Creative Quarter as a fallback project within their respective SLGF programmes;
7. agreed to explore the opportunity for EU funding bids ahead of the call for projects expected in the Autumn 2014, and;
8. fully thank the MP for his support so far and ask him to support the project going forward.

(Moved by Councillor S Claymore and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

22 NORTH WARWICKSHIRE CORE STRATEGY MAIN MODIFICATIONS CONSULTATION AND SITE ALLOCATIONS PLAN CONSULTATION

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Education seeking to inform members and seek approval of the draft pre-submission Site Allocations Plan for North Warwickshire Borough Council currently available for public consultation and to inform and seek members of North Warwickshire's Core Strategy main modifications consultation was considered.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved comments from both the draft pre-submissions Site Allocations Plan and the Core Strategy main modifications for North Warwickshire Borough Council.

(Moved by Councillor S Claymore and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

23 TAMWORTH CASTLE ACCREDITATION REVIEW 2014

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Education seeking Cabinet approval for the adoption and implementation of documents relating to the 2014 accreditation review in respect of Tamworth Castle Museum and Collections was considered.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

1. approved and adopted the Collections Development Policy, the Care and Conservation Policy and Plan and the Forward Plan for Tamworth castle and Museum, and;

2. authorised the Director Communities, Planning and Partnerships in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder Economy and Education to progress the Castle's Museum Accreditation process and make minor changes to the documents if required.

(Moved by Councillor S Claymore and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

EXCLUSION OF 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 1 and 3, Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

24 SUPPORTING PEOPLE REVIEW

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Public Housing and Vulnerable People seeking to set out the implications for Tamworth's Sheltered and Extra Care services following Staffordshire County Council's review of the way in which Supporting People Grant funding is targeted was considered.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet endorsed the nine recommendations as contained in the report.

(Moved by Councillor M Greatorex and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

Leader