



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 19th OCTOBER 2017

PRESENT: Councillor D Cook (Chair), Councillors R Pritchard (Vice-Chair), S Claymore, S Doyle, J Goodall and M Thurgood

The following officers were present: Andrew Barratt (Chief Operating Officer), Stefan Garner (Director of Finance), Anica Goodwin (Director - Transformation and Corporate Performance), Michael Buckland (Head of Revenues), Joanne Sands (Head of Community Safety) and Paul Weston (Head of Asset Management - Property Services)

42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies

43 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2017 were approved and signed as a correct record

(Moved by Councillor M Thurgood and seconded by Councillor J Goodall)

44 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

45 QUESTION TIME:

None

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

None

47 FUTURE DELIVERY OF THE DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT PROGRAMME

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Assets and Finance to inform Cabinet on the proposed service delivery mechanism for the future of the Disabled Facilities Grant process and seek approval to participate in the County wide agreements and sets out arrangements for the appointment of a new County wide service provider.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet

1. Approved proposals for the future delivery of the Disabled Facilities Grant process from April 1st 2018 for a period of up to 7 years.
2. Approved Tamworth Borough Council's participation in the County wide arrangement for delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants, subject to the outcome of the competitive tender process.
3. Agreed to invite competitive tenders through a process to be administered by Staffordshire County Council participation agreement.
4. Delegate authority to Portfolio Holder for Assets & Finance and Chief Operating Officer to enter into an agreement for the appointment of a County wide service provider following a competitive procurement process administered by Staffordshire County Council, subject to the outcome of the competitive tender process being favourable to Tamworth Borough Council.

Or

1. Delegate of authority to Portfolio Holder for Assets & Finance and Chief Operating Officer to withdraw from the County wide arrangement should it be found that following procurement process it would not be financially viable for Tamworth Borough Council to participate.

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

48 STAFFORDSHIRE PILOT FOR 100% BUSINESS RATES RETENTION IN 2018/19

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Assets and Finance to provide Cabinet with details of the potential for the Council to participate in a Business Rates Pilot in 2018/19 and to outline the Business Case and relevant risks and rewards from pilot arrangements. The report will also update Members on the implications to existing pooling, and membership of Local Enterprise Partnerships, resulting from membership of a pilot and present the draft governance arrangements (Memorandum of Understanding) for the new pool. The report notes the “No Detriment” requirements of the pilot application.

RESOLVED: That approval was granted for the participation in the Expression of Interest to form a Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Pool based upon piloting the 100% Business Rates Scheme based upon all eleven Authorities covering the full Staffordshire Geography.

Subject to

- a) Notifying the GBSLEP pool of the Council’s intention to be part of a pilot application and if successful leave that pool;
- b) in the event of the pilot application not being successful, continue membership of the GBSLEP pool;
- c) in the event of the pilot application being successful, continue to support a GBSLEP ‘virtual’ pool through a voluntary contribution;

and

- d) in the event of the pilot application not being successful and the GBSLEP pool being dissolved, take appropriate action to join the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Pool.

Authorising the Chief Operating Officer and Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder to submit a firm Expression of Interest to be a member of one of the above pools.

(Moved 5 votes to 1 by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

49 MANDATORY AND DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Assets and Finance to seek Cabinet approval of the proposed Discretionary Rate Relief Policy (Appendix A) with effect from 1 April 2017.

RESOLVED: That Members:

- 1 Noted the Government Funding for Supporting Small Business Rate Relief and Public House Relief.
- 2 Endorsed the Council's proposed Local Discretionary Rate Relief Scheme which has been subject to consultation with major preceptors.
- 3 Approved the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy which will be applied with effect from 1 April 2017.

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

50 PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS (RENEWAL OF DOG CONTROL AND DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE ORDERS)

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Communities to consider the implication of the automatic renewal of Designated Public Place and dog control orders in Tamworth orders as Public Space Protection Orders under the ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014.

RESOLVED: That Members

1. Approved the automatic conversion of the current Tamworth Dog Control Orders to Public Space Protection Orders based on continued need and proportionality
2. Approved the automatic conversion of the current Designated Public Place orders in the town Centre and Amington to Public Space Protection Orders based on continued need and proportionality

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

51 COUNCIL TENANTS FIRE SAFETY STRATEGY

The Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing Services to consider the Council's policy statement with regard to fire safety in its Council Owned housing stock.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- 1 Approve The Fire Safety Policy

- 2 Delegate authority to the Portfolio Holder of Housing; in consultation with the relevant Directors; to approve development of associated action plan and procedural arrangements to deliver key policy commitments.
- 3 Endorse the involvement of Health & Well-being Scrutiny to inform the policy development, details of presentations and FAQs emerging are shown on the Councils dedicated web area for landlord fire safety. <http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/fire-safety>
- 4 Include an annual review of fire safety on the relevant scrutiny work-plan

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

52 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

The report of the Portfolio Holder for Communities to secure Members' approval to adopt the proposed Corporate Anti-Social Behaviour policy which outlines a "whole Council" approach to tackling Anti-Social Behaviour.

RESOLVED: That Members approve:

- 1 The revised Corporate Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) policy.
- 2 A corporate mandate to progress towards integration of ASB procedures within the Council and with partners subject to future reports on this matter as appropriate.

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

53 FESTIVE WARD GRANT PROPOSAL

The report of the Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer to consider a proposal for Festive Grants across the Borough in each Ward to replace the Mayoral Hamper Scheme.

RESOLVED: That

- 1 The scheme be administered by the Cabinet Grants Sub Committee

- 2 agreed to support the proposals for £300 per ward
- 3 Authority be delegated to Portfolio Folder for Assets & Finance & Head of Paid Service & Solicitor to consider Governance arrangements

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

Leader