

# MINUTES OF CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2021

## PRESENT:

Councillors Lowe (Chairman), Mrs Crane, Miss Lawrence, Poole, Ms Robbins and Mrs Simpson-Vince.

Councillors Brader (substituting for Councillor Mrs O'Rourke) and Roodhouse were also in attendance.

## 30. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## 31. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors Mrs O'Rourke and Roberts.

## 32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

## 33. QUESTION TIME

In accordance with the Council's public question time procedure, the following question was received. Mr Mennell did not attend the meeting.

(a) Mr Mennell asked the following question of the Operations and Traded Services Portfolio Holder, Councillor Miss Lawrence:

"In view of the Climate Emergency and the need to consider the impact that waste has on the environment and the importance of reducing the amount of waste that has to be disposed of, can the Portfolio Holder explain what measures she intends to take to encourage residents to reduce and re-use waste materials. Also what measures will be taken this summer to encourage a reduction in litter and flytipping?"

Councillor Miss Lawrence, Operations and Traded Services Portfolio Holder, provided the following response:

"Can I firstly thank you for raising this important question. I am acutely aware of the need to ensure that we all play our part in minimising waste and ensuring that waste is dealt with in a responsible and sustainable manner. This is essential in addressing the Climate Emergency and also in ensuring that our Borough remains a place which we all take such great pride in.

As Portfolio Holder for Operations and Traded services, I have committed that these matters should be dealt with as a matter of priority and have held detailed conversations with the relevant service managers at the Council to progress our plans.

In relation to litter, I will be bringing forward scheme which recognises the many volunteer litter pickers who give up their own time to help address the issue of litter in our Borough. Not only will this seek to recognise the extraordinary efforts of existing litter picking groups and individuals, but it will seek to engage new volunteers who are keen to support us. I am particularly keen to engage with young people through schools and programmes such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme so that we can encourage responsible behaviour from an early age. These proposals will be finalised in the coming weeks.

In addition to highlighting the positive contributions which people make, the Council will be increasing efforts to engage, educate and enforce against poor behaviour. I am already working closely with my colleague (the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Regulation and Safety) to ensure that all enforcement options relating to litter and flytipping are investigated and where appropriate implemented. In addition to enhanced patrols and surveillance, he has brought forward proposals for innovation, for example through the use of drone technology.

In relation to recycling, I am working with officers to ensure that this Council is doing all that it can to support residents to manage their waste as set out within the Waste Hierarchy. In doing so, we are keen to work with residents to prevent waste by considering more sustainable options in the first place. Where this is not possible, we will support residents to re-use items to prevent them from entering into the waste stream. It is inevitable that there will be some waste that does not fall into these first two categories and in these cases - we will support our residents to recycle as much as possible.

I consider these areas to be amongst the highest priorities for my portfolio and I know that this Council is absolutely committed to working with our residents to address them together. I look forward to sharing more details in the very near future.”

### ***Growth and Investment Portfolio***

#### **34. PUBLIC CONSULTATION – RUGBY TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION**

Cabinet considered the report of the Executive Director (Part 1- agenda item 5) concerning the proposed public consultation with regard to the regeneration of the town centre.

#### **RESOLVED THAT -**

- (1) the Council undertakes a four-week public consultation as detailed within this report commencing in September; and
- (2) delegated authority be given to the Executive Director to agree the detailed timing and nature of the public consultation and such authority to include the requirements of inclusivity of engagement in accordance with the Council's equality and diversity requirements.

## ***Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance Portfolio***

### **35. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING 2021/22 – QUARTER 1**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1- agenda item 6) concerning the Council's financial and performance position as at the end of the first quarter of 2021/22.

#### **RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the Council's anticipated financial position for 2021/22 be noted;
- (2) the performance information and dashboards are under review and will form part of future reports as detailed in section 7 be noted;
- (3) supplementary General Fund revenue expenditure budget of £0.015m for 2021/22 for improvements at the Athletics Track, to be fully funded from Section 106 income be approved;
- (4) supplementary capital budgets for 2021/22 as detailed in section 6, be approved:
  - a. General Fund - £0.025m
  - b. HRA - £0.010m; and
- (5) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -
  - (a) the 2021/22 draw down of Revenue Carry forwards from earmarked reserves of £0.585m to meet existing commitments be approved;
  - (b) the use of £0.126m from the Hall of Fame reserve for 2021/22 to mitigate loss of income compared to budget following the closure of the attraction be approved;
  - (c) the use of the COVID-19 New Burdens revenue grants totalling £0.297m, held in the Revenue Grants reserve, for 2021/22 to mitigate existing service pressures be approved;
  - (d) supplementary capital budgets for 2021/22 as detailed in section 6, be approved:
    - a. General Fund - £0.225m
    - b. HRA - £0.341m; and
  - (e) HRA virements of £0.344m for 2021/22 as detailed in section 6 of the report be approved.

### **36. INITIAL REVIEW OF GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2022/23**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1- agenda item 7) concerning an initial review of the Council's General Fund budget for 2022/23.

**RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the initial financial and economic outlook and risks faced by the Council that will impact the General Fund Revenue budget position for 2022/23 be considered alongside the Council’s Medium-Term Financial Plan;
- (2) the Risk Assessment at Appendix 1 be noted;
- (3) the Council’s response to “The Future of the New Homes Bonus Consultation” at Appendix 2 be noted;
- (4) the Transformation Strategy at Appendix 3 be endorsed;
- (5) £0.050m of the transformation reserve is used to fund the operating model review as outlined in section 8 of the report, be approved; and
- (6) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT a further £0.050m of the transformation reserve be used to fund any additional costs of the operating model review and other schemes put forward, be approved.

**37. CONSTITUTION REVIEW WORKING PARTY**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance (Part 1- agenda item 8) concerning the re-establishment of the Council’s Constitution Review Working Party.

**RESOLVED THAT -**

- (1) the Constitution Review Working Party be reconstituted for the remainder of the 2021/22 municipal year; and
- (2) nominations from each political group be submitted to Democratic Services as soon as possible.

**38. MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC UNDER SECTION 100(A)(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**RESOLVED THAT** - under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of information defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

*Item considered en bloc*

**39. WRITE OFFS**

Cabinet considered the private report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 2 – agenda item 1) concerning write offs.

**RESOLVED THAT –** the schedule of write offs, as at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

**CHAIRMAN**

