

# MINUTES OF CABINET

6TH FEBRUARY 2017

## PRESENT:

Councillors Stokes (Chairman), Leigh Hunt, Mrs Parker, Ms Robbins and Mrs Timms.

Councillors Mrs A'Barrow, Cranham, Ms Edwards, Gillias, Lewis, Mrs O'Rourke, Roodhouse and Sandison.

## 88. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## 89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 11 of Part 1 – Coventry and Warwickshire Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) – Councillor Mrs O'Rourke (non-pecuniary interest as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors by virtue of being a NHS employee).

Item 1 of Part 2 – Terms and Conditions of Employment and Pay Benchmarking - all officers present at the meeting declared an officer interest by virtue of potential implications of the proposed terms and conditions.

All officers (with the exception of Mrs Waleczek, who remained to record the proceedings of the meeting) left the meeting during the item in which they had declared an interest.

## 90. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

*Item for consideration not within a specific portfolio*

## 91. DRAFT CORPORATE STRATEGY 2017 - 2020

Cabinet considered the report of the Leader of the Council (Part 1 – agenda item 5) concerning the proposed draft Corporate Strategy for 2017-2020 being submitted for public consultation.

**RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT –**

- (1) the proposed draft Corporate Strategy 2017-20 attached at Appendix 1 be submitted to a six week public consultation period; and
- (2) the results of the public consultation be reflected in the final draft of the Corporate Strategy 2017-20 to be brought to Full Council for approval in April 2017.

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

#### **92. WORLD RUGBY HALL OF FAME VISITOR ATTRACTION – UPDATE AND CHARGING**

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Growth and Investment (Part 1 – agenda item 6) concerning progress on the World Rugby Hall of Fame and proposals for charging admission from April 2017.

#### **RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT –**

- (1) the operational performance of the Hall of Fame to date and the position on sponsorship be noted;
- (2) all non-borough visitors be charged to the Hall of Fame in line with the charging schedule set out in Appendix 1 but allow all children (under 16 years) free entry to the attraction from April 2017;
- (3) an Overview and Scrutiny Committee further considers the current and future operation of the Hall of Fame as described in section 5 of this report; and
- (4) a cross-party Visitor Economy Cabinet Members' Working Party be established in order to provide guidance and overview on matters relating to tourism, destination marketing and the town centre.

**Note: this decision is not subject to call-in.**

### ***Corporate Resources Portfolio***

#### **93. DRAFT GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2017/18 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2017-20**

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 7) concerning the draft General Fund revenue and capital budget position for 2017/18 alongside the Council's 2017-20 Medium Term Financial Plan.

#### **RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the draft General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget position for 2017/18 be noted alongside the Council's 2017-20 Medium Term Financial Plan;
- (2) Cabinet continues to consider the key decisions detailed within the report and identifies alternative income/savings sources to replace any items that are not to be included within the 2017/18 revenue budgets; and
- (3) a detailed scheme by scheme review of the items in the Capital Programme be continued in order to rationalise the overall programme in terms of affordability and sustainability.

#### **94. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING 2016/17 – QUARTER 3**

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 8) concerning the Council's anticipated financial position for 2016/17 together with performance monitoring information for the third quarter of 2016/17.

##### **RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the Council's anticipated financial position for 2016/17 be noted;
- (2) the Council's performance monitoring information for the third quarter of 2016/17 be noted;
- (3) a supplementary General Fund revenue budget of £2,000 for 2016/17 only, to be used to aid the Rugby Edible Action Partnership be approved, fully funded by a contribution from Warwickshire County Council;
- (4) a General Fund revenue budget virement to Corporate Savings of £25,000 from Customer & Business Support Services be approved, resulting from vacant posts;
- (5) a General Fund revenue budget virement to Corporate Savings of £30,000 from Refuse and Recycling be approved, in relation to savings achieved through reduced charges from October and November 2016;
- (6) a General Fund revenue budget virement to Corporate Savings of £30,000 from Miscellaneous Highways be approved, due to underspends on the budget for Great Central Way Bridges;
- (7) a General Fund revenue budget virement to Corporate Savings of £40,000 from the Executive Director budget be approved, resulting from the management restructure; and

##### **IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -**

- (8) the carry forward to 2017/18 of a £268,780 General Fund capital budget for the purchase of vehicles capital scheme be approved;
- (9) a supplementary HRA capital budget of £75,060 for 2016/17 for the Property Repairs Team vehicles be approved, to be funded from HRA capital balances;
- (10) the carry forward to 2017/18 of a £10,000 HRA capital budget for the Property Repairs Team vehicles be approved;
- (11) the carry forward to 2017/18 of the following HRA capital budgets be approved:
  - a) Patterdale Sheltered Scheme Improvements £262,500;
  - b) Roof Refurbishments – Rounds Gardens £283,930;
  - c) Roof Refurbishments – Biart Place £204,860; and
  - d) Housing Window Replacement £700,000.

**95. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992 – COUNCIL TAX ON EMPTY PROPERTIES**

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 9) concerning proposals to reduce the discount periods currently offered for council tax on empty properties.

**RESOLVED THAT** – this item be deferred pending further consultation with the National Landlords' Forum and other stakeholders.

***Communities and Homes Portfolio***

**96. ALLOCATIONS POLICY REVIEW**

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Communities and Homes (Part 1 – agenda item 10) concerning a review of the Council's Allocations Policy.

**RESOLVED THAT** – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT the revised Allocations Policy be approved.

**97. COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION PLAN (STP)**

Cabinet considered the report of the Communities and Homes Portfolio Holder (Part 1 – agenda item 11) concerning an update on progress of the Coventry and Warwickshire Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).

**RESOLVED THAT** - IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) the current progress of the Coventry and Warwickshire Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) be noted;
- (2) Rugby Borough Council is unable to give its support to or endorse the Coventry and Warwickshire STP at the present time since there has been no public consultation and there appears to have been no account taken of the impact on the services of other agencies, such as the Borough Council, or indeed of the part the Council has to play in promoting health and wellbeing and preventing the escalation of issues in order to avoid pressure on primary care and other health services;
- (3) the statement contained in paragraph 1 and the course of action set out in paragraph 2 of the resolution of Warwickshire County Council, included as Appendix 2 to this report, be endorsed;
- (4) the Local Strategic Partnership be tasked with setting up a Working Party to oversee the development of the STP and its potential impact within the Borough of Rugby; and
- (5) notwithstanding the decision on Recommendation 2 above, the Council wishes to participate constructively in all future discussions and negotiations regarding the STP.

***Items considered en bloc***

**98. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2017/18 – 2019/20**

Cabinet considered the report of the Corporate Resources Portfolio Holder (Part 1 – agenda item 12) concerning the Council's treasury management strategy for 2017/18 – 2019/20.

**RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT –**

- (1) the Treasury Management Strategy for 2017/18 – 2019/20 be approved;  
and
- (2) the Prudential and Treasury Management indicators for 2017/18 – 2019/20 be approved.

**99. APPROVAL OF NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES RETURN – NNDR1 2017/18**

Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 13) concerning approval of the Council's national non-domestic rates return (NNDR1 form) for 2017/18.

**RESOLVED THAT –** the National Non-Domestic Rates Return - NNDR1 2017/18 be approved.

**100. 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 item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of information defined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

***Corporate Resources Portfolio***

**101. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND PAY BENCHMARKING**

Cabinet considered the private report of the Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer (Part 2 – agenda item 1) concerning proposed changes to the Council's terms and conditions of employment and pay benchmarking.

**RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT –**

- (1) the cost of £100,500 per year be included in the draft 2017/18 General Fund and Housing Revenue Account budgets, from 1 April 2017. This is in respect of market supplements where we are currently paying below the lower quartile pay benchmark. This is split between General Fund: £23,400 and Housing Revenue Account: £77,100. These costs to be included in the draft 2017/18 budget reports;

- (2) the recommended changes to employment terms and conditions are implemented, which will, by 2019/20 provide annual savings of £48,000 approximately; and
- (3) the additional cost of £43,000 for 2017/18 and 2018/19 during the car allowances protection period be included in the draft General Fund and Housing Revenue Account 2017/18 budget. This is split between General Fund: £23,000 and Housing Revenue Account: £20,000.

## **CHAIRMAN**