

# MINUTES OF CABINET

8 JANUARY 2024

## PRESENT:

Councillors Poole (Chair), Daly, Picker, Ms Robbins and Willis.

Councillor Roodhouse was also in attendance.

## 73. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2023 were approved and signed by the Chair.

## 74. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors Miss Dumbleton, Mistry, Moran and Ms Watson-Merret.

## 75. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

## 76. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

*Item considered not within a specific portfolio*

## 77. CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive (Part 1 – agenda item 6) concerning the findings of the Council’s Corporate Peer Challenge carried out by the Local Government Association (LGA) in October 2023.

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

- (1) the final report of the Local Government Association team that undertook a Corporate Peer Challenge for the Council in late October 2023 be noted;
- (2) an action plan to address the recommendations set out in the Corporate Peer Challenge report be produced and published by 12 March 2024; and
- (3) it be noted that the Local Government Association will be undertaking a “Six Month Check-In” in 2024 to update on the Council’s progress against the action plan and discuss next steps.

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

#### **78. SOUTH WEST RUGBY MASTERPLAN SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT UPDATED APPENDIX K – PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Growth and Investment (Part 1 – agenda item 6) concerning a proposed four week public consultation on an amended appendix to the South West Rugby Masterplan.

#### **RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the amended South West Rugby Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (Appendix 1 to this report) be approved for four weeks' public consultation in accordance with Regulations 12, 13 and 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) (as amended); and
- (2) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment to make minor grammatical and presentational amendments as necessary to the document before it is published for public consultation.

### ***Leisure and Wellbeing Portfolio***

#### **79. PARKS AND OPEN SPACES SECTION 106 PROJECTS**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing (Part 1 – agenda item 7) concerning capital and revenue budget requests for the use of Section 106 funding for parks and open spaces projects as confirmed within approved legal agreements.

#### **RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) a 2023/24 supplementary capital budget of £19,000 for identified health and safety improvements at Aspen Road Play Area to be fully funded through section 106 be approved; and
- (2) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -
  - (a) a 2024/25 capital budget of £44,350 for green gym equipment replacement at Cawston NEAP to be fully funded through section 106 funding, be approved;
  - (b) a capital budget of £80,200 for Brindley Road/Lennon Close Play Areas and Hillmorton Recreation Ground as per legal agreement, to be fully funded through Section.106 income for 2024/25 be approved;
  - (c) a capital budget of £70,800 for the development of community allotments at Centenary Park, Newbold, to be fully funded through Section.106 income, be approved for 2024/25;
  - (d) a capital budget of £93,000 for the required refurbishment and installation of the Betony Road Play Area following transfer from the developer as per the planning permission to be funded through section 106 income for 2024/25 be approved;

- (e) a capital budget request for play equipment refurbishment and youth provision of £50,000 from 2024/25 and onwards annually to be funded from section 106 income be approved; and
- (f) a capital budget of £70,000 for accessibility improvements to footpaths as part of the Park Connector Scheme from 2024/25 to be funded from section 106 income be approved.

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

## **80. RUGBY TOWN CENTRE GUIDES**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing (Part 1 – agenda item 8) concerning the reallocation of funding to develop the Rugby Town Guides programme

**RESOLVED THAT** - the reallocation of bicentenary of the Game underspend to develop the Rugby Town Centre Town Guides programme, be approved.

*Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance Portfolio*

## **81. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2024/25, DRAFT GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024-28**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 9) concerning the Council's draft revenue and capital budget for 2024/25 together with its medium term financial plan for 2024-28 and the Council Tax base for 2024/25.

**RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the draft General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget position for 2024/25 alongside the Council's 2024-2028 Medium Term Financial Plan be noted;
- (2) the Council Tax Base 2024/25 as detailed in Appendix 2 be approved; and
- (3) subject to consultation with the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and the Leader of the Council, delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance to amend the Council Tax Base, subject to the details of the final funding allocations for 2024/25 having an impact on the calculation used in this report.

## **82. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2024/25**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance (Part 1 - agenda item 10) concerning the Council's calendar of meetings for 2024/25.

**RESOLVED THAT –** the calendar of meetings for 2024/25, as at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

**83. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP OF WORKING GROUPS 2023/24**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance (Part 1 - agenda item 11) concerning proposed changes to the membership of the Climate Emergency Working Group and the Grants Working Group for the remainder of the 2023/24 municipal year.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the changes to the membership of the Climate Emergency Working Group and the Grants Working Group, as outlined in the report, be approved for the remainder of the 2023/24 municipal year.

***Communities, Homes, Digital and Communications Portfolio***

**84. DRAFT HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS 2024/25 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024-28**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Communities and Homes and the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 12) concerning the Council's draft Housing Revenue Account (HRA) position for 2024/25 together with an HRA medium term financial plan and a summary of reserves.

**RESOLVED THAT** - the draft revenue, approved capital budgets for 2023/24 and the updated medium term financial plan in Appendices A, B, C and D be noted.

**85. 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 involves the likely disclosure of information defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

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

**86. ELECTION OF MAYOR AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2024/25**

Cabinet considered the private report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance (Part 2 – agenda item 1) concerning the election of the Mayor and the appointment of the Deputy Mayor for 2024/25.

**RESOLVED THAT** – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT, subject to the councillors concerned continuing to be Members of the Borough Council in that year,

- (a) Councillor Ward be nominated for election as Mayor for 2024/25; and
- (b) a Councillor, to be nominated, be appointed as Deputy Mayor for 2024/25.

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

**CHAIR**