

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

CABINET

These minutes are draft until confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting.

Wednesday, 13th July, 2016

Present:

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| Councillor Liz Richardson | Cabinet Member for Homes and Planning |
| Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones | Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Conservative Deputy Group Leader Bath |
| Councillor Charles Gerrish | Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency, Conservative Deputy Group Leader North East Somerset |
| Councillor Vic Pritchard | Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health |
| Councillor Anthony Clarke | Cabinet Member for Transport |
| Councillor Martin Veal | Cabinet Member for Community Services |
| Councillor Michael Evans | Cabinet Member for Children's Services |
| Councillor Paul Myers | Cabinet Member for Policy, Localism & Partnerships |

9 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair was taken by Councillor Charles Gerrish, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

10 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Senior Democratic Services Officer drew attention to the evacuation procedure as set out in the Agenda.

11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Tim Warren, Leader of the Council, had sent his apologies for this meeting.

12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

13 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was none.

14 QUESTIONS FROM PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS

There was one question from a Councillor and one question from a member of the public.

[Copies of the questions and responses have been placed on the Minute book at Democratic Services.]

15 STATEMENTS, DEPUTATIONS OR PETITIONS FROM PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS

Susan Charles read out a statement *[a copy of which has been placed on the Minute book at Democratic Services]* where she expressed her concerns that there was no warm water pool in the area.

Nicolette Boater read out a statement *[a copy of which has been placed on the Minute book at Democratic Services]* expressing concerns about the way in which the Park & Ride East decision is being taken.

16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CABINET MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 4th May 2016 and Wednesday 29th June 2016 be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chair.

17 CONSIDERATION OF SINGLE MEMBER ITEMS REQUISITIONED TO CABINET

There were none.

18 MATTERS REFERRED BY POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY BODIES - UPDATE ON P&R EAST OF BATH AND RESPONSE TO CTE PANEL'S RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SCRUTINY DAY ON 22ND MARCH 2016

Annie Harman read out a statement *[a copy of which has been placed on the Minute book at Democratic Services]*.

Councillor Dine Romero made a statement by asking for rationale of the update report and requested some sort of clarification on Park and Ride timescales. Councillor Romero also said that transport solutions were not considered as per initial plan and that the whole matter had been diluted into Park and Ride at one of the two sites. Councillor Romero welcomed that a number of smaller sites on the Box Road had been considered. Councillor Romero concluded her statement by asking for clarification on where further £400k would be spent on.

Councillor Anthony Clarke said that an update on Park and Ride east of Bath had been presented to the Cabinet on the work being undertaken to identify a preferred location for a new P&R to the east of Bath, together with a response to the recommendations from the Scrutiny Inquiry day held on 22nd March 2016. Councillor Clarke thanked all contributors who made their statements at the meeting. Councillor Clarke also thanked officers, Local Development Framework group and

Communities Transport and Environment PDS Panel for their contribution on this matter. The Cabinet would be making a decision on Park and Ride in near future.

Councillor Anthony Clarke moved that the Cabinet note the update on the work being undertaken to identify a preferred location for a new P&R to the east of Bath and agree with a response to the recommendations from the Scrutiny Inquiry Day held on 22nd March 2016.

Councillor Charles Gerrish seconded the motion.

Councillor Martin Veal said that he was pleased that the Cabinet had received an update and response to the recommendations from the Scrutiny Inquiry Day. Councillor Veal felt that whole process had been engaging and reflective and that he supported recommendation to increase the use of the Lansdown P&R to use together with a smaller site or sites east of Bath to provide sufficient spaces for current and future need recognising the concerns of the population around the Meadows proposals. Councillor Veal concluded by saying that the Cabinet was well aware of his concerns to the P&R east of Bath, and for those reasons he would not support the motion.

Councillor Liz Richardson said that a response to Scrutiny Inquiry Day recommendations was appropriate and fair and within the required timescale.

Voting: 7 in favour. Councillor Martin Veal abstained from voting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Cabinet noted the work currently being undertaken by officers to progress this important issue and agreed with the Cabinet's response to the recommendations from the Communities Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel's Scrutiny Inquiry Day. The next meeting of the Panel is on 25th July 2016 to which Councillor Anthony Clarke would present Cabinet's response.

19 SINGLE MEMBER CABINET DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE PREVIOUS CABINET MEETING

The Cabinet agreed to note the report.

20 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S WASTE & RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE

Councillor Dine Romero made an ad-hoc statement by expressing her concerns on potential increase in Anti-Social Behaviour; on reduced hours of operation for recycling sites; on consultation; and that wheeled bins would not be suitable for some areas across the authority. Councillor Romero suggested that the Communities Transport and Environment PDS Panel should be more involved and also that the Council should run a pilot scheme to test effectiveness of wheeled bins.

Councillor Martin Veal said that the Cabinet were asked to implement in 2017, following a period of public engagement, a new waste & recycling collection service using tried and tested methodology, which would prioritise a weekly recycling service and most closely would meet the Council's objectives detailed within the Waste Strategy. Councillor Veal also said that current methods of waste collection did not encourage residents to maximise recycling, and had contributed negatively to street cleansing issues. In the current financial climate, with the ending of central government funding subsidising our collection service, the Council must assess alternative options to keep the service affordable, and to meet objectives to recycle as much waste as possible whilst reducing litter on our streets.

Councillor Martin Veal moved the recommendations.

Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones seconded the motion and said that the Council would be working with much more emphasis towards recycling, aiming to recycle 80-90% of waste. Councillor Anketell-Jones also emphasised the importance of public engagement.

Councillor Charles Gerrish welcomed the introduction of wheeled bins so that waste could be stored and presented safely for collection, whilst also being better protected from gulls and other scavengers to reduce problems with littering. Councillor Gerrish also said that the Council would need to improve residents' education on recycling food waste.

RESOLVED (unanimously) that the Cabinet decided:

- 1) To implement in 2017, following a period of public engagement, a new waste & recycling collection service using tried and tested methodology, which prioritises a weekly recycling service and most closely meets the Council's objectives detailed within the Waste Strategy.
- 2) To ensure the retention of a weekly collection service, continuing to deliver one of the most comprehensive recycling services in the UK which includes the following items:
 - Food waste
 - Plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays
 - Glass
 - Paper and cardboard
 - Aluminium and steel cans
 - Aerosols
 - Foil
 - Tetrapaks
 - Textiles
 - Batteries
 - Small electrical and electronic items
 - Spectacles/mobile phones/used engine oil.
- 3) To provide residents with additional recycling containers (lidded green boxes and lockable food waste containers) as required, to enable easy storage and collection of this material. To clearly mark the boxes so it is easy to understand what can be collected.

- 4) To phase out the current blue bag for cardboard over time, and replace with a recycling box to help with storage and collection for residents.
- 5) To continue with the opt-in fortnightly garden waste recycling service.
- 6) To collect the small amount of non-recyclable waste that remains after all of these materials are recycled, every other week (detailed in section 6) in containers provided by the Council.
- 7) To issue residents with a wheeled bin (at properties that can accommodate them), so that waste can be stored and presented safely for collection, whilst also being better protected from gulls and other scavengers to reduce problems with littering.
- 8) To issue all other properties (those which are unable to accommodate a wheeled bin, or are within an area deemed unsuitable for wheeled bins) with reusable, durable and pest-proof rubbish bags (where practical) to help reduce street litter.
- 9) To agree that the default size for wheeled bins should be 140 litres, whilst recognising that a 'one size fits all' approach is not possible in a diverse district with a multitude of housing types, and to therefore instruct the Divisional Director of Environmental Services to work up alternative proposals that will enable households with larger families/ occupancies to request a larger bin, with the details and criteria of the scheme to be delegated to the Divisional Director of Environmental Service in consultation with the Cabinet member for Community Services.
- 10) To delegate and instruct the Divisional Director of Environmental Services in consultation with the Cabinet member for Community Services, to enter negotiations for a short term extension (up to 2 years) to the recycling contract with Kier (pending site consolidation for the refuse and recycling services) - subject to agreement on the financial and staffing arrangements. Failing this agreement, the Divisional Director of Environmental Services are instructed to make arrangements to bring the kerbside recycling service in-house.
- 11) To agree that the Divisional Director of Environmental Services to carry out further detailed work into vehicle & plant replacement on the recommended option, and to report back to Cabinet members to enable decisions to be taken to release the capital required.
- 12) To agree a neutral budget movement through implementation of strategic review proposals initially highlighted within the Place Directorate Plan in November 2015.

21 REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN 2015/16

Councillor Charles Gerrish said that this report had provided information about the Council's financial performance against its revenue and capital budgets in 2015/16. The report had identified that after carry forwards and transfers to reserves, the Council had underspent by £270,000. This had represented a significant achievement in the context of the continuing government's public sector deficit recovery plan which had resulted in a revenue savings requirement of over £9.7

million for 2015/16. In addition to this, a further £1.695m of in-year rebasing was actioned removing the requirement to use reserves to balance the 2015/16 budget. The capital spend in 2015/16 was £39.999m against a budget of £61.455m giving a variance of £21.456m, primarily reflecting the delivery time to complete projects moving into future financial periods. Of this variance, £20.296m was requested for carry forward to 2016/17 to cover re-phased costs of capital projects.

Councillor Charles Gerrish moved the recommendations.

Councillor Paul Myers seconded the motion by saying that this was a significant achievement and a testament to this administration's financial prudence. Councillor Myers paid tributes to Councillor Gerrish and officers for this report.

RESOLVED (unanimously) the Cabinet agreed that:

1. The revenue budget outturn underspend of £270,000 for 2015/16 is noted.
2. The revenue carry forward proposals and write-off requests are approved.
3. Transfers to Earmarked Reserves are agreed.
4. The revenue virements for 2015/16 are approved.
5. The resulting reserves position is noted and that unearmarked reserves remain at the target level of £10.5m (excluding Invest to Save drawdowns).
6. The provisional outturn of the 2015/16 capital programme, and the funding as laid out in the report is noted.
7. The capital rephasing and write-off of net underspends are approved.
8. The adjustments to the 2015/16 to 2020/21 capital programme, and the final capital programme for 2015/16 are noted.

22 TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2015/16

Councillor Charles Gerrish said that this was a routine, though pre-Brexit report which sets satisfactory position of the Council. Councillor Gerrish also said that officers would continue to monitor interest rates and act appropriate to the management of short and long term borrowings.

Councillor Charles Gerrish moved the recommendations.

Councillor Vic Pritchard seconded the motion by paying tributes to Councillor Gerrish and to officers for this report.

RESOLVED (unanimously) the Cabinet agreed that:

1. The 2015/16 Treasury Management Report to 31st March 2016, prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Code of Practice, is noted.
2. The 2015/16 Treasury Management Indicators are noted.

23 FUTURE OF ADOPTION SERVICES; ADOPTION WEST PROPOSALS AND ENGAGEMENT

Councillor Charles Gerrish informed the meeting that this report may be discussed in exempt session, and the public may be asked to leave the room during duration for this item only if the Cabinet debate is likely to disclose information contained within confidential section of the report.

Councillor Michael Evans said that improvement of adoption services was a priority of central Government and part of the manifesto from the current administration. This proposal would involve formal collaboration with six local authorities to establish a Regional Adoption Agency in line with Government requirements. This proposal would meet the requirements placed upon the Council to develop a new form of service to deliver our statutory adoption functions. The preferred model would secure best outcomes for children, prospective adoptive families and it would enable the Council to ensure that its excellent record and reputation in relation to adoption is secured into the future.

Councillor Michael Evans moved the recommendations.

Councillor Liz Richardson seconded the motion by saying that adoption was one of the best forms of permanent care for children who cannot remain with their birth family. Nationally, the Government have placed a priority on improving local authority adoption performance with a view to securing more adoptions and speeding up the process.

RESOLVED (unanimously) that the Cabinet:

1. Agreed the outlined proposal for the development of a Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) in the form of a Local Authority Controlled Company.
2. Agreed public and stakeholder engagement and consultation to secure this development.
3. Agreed to receive a further report on a final proposal in Autumn 2016.

The meeting ended at 5.00 pm

Chair _____

Date Confirmed and Signed _____

Prepared by Democratic Services