Minutes of the Cabinet held at the Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford on Thursday 1 November 2018

Chairman - Councillor R M Smith

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:-
F Beatty - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio
F A Finlay - Environment Portfolio
J M Pert - Community Portfolio
K S Williamson - Resources Portfolio

Officers in attendance:-
Mr T Clegg - Chief Executive
Mrs T Redpath - Corporate Business and Partnership Manager
Mr J Dean - Democratic Services Officer

CAB27 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2018 were submitted and signed.

CAB28 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P M M Farrington.

CAB29 Financial Plan 2018-19 - 2021-22

Considered a report presenting an updated financial forecast for the Council for the next three years, together with a forecast outturn for 2018-19, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 248 of 2 November 2018.

The Cabinet Member detailed paragraphs 3.3 - 3.5 of the report noting uncertainties regarding future government funding levels. The Deputy Leader echoed the Cabinet Members’ comments by referring to table 6 as set out in paragraph 5.5.3 and the associated draft financial plan on pages 20 - 22 before highlighting the proposals as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet voted on the recommendations:-

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:-
that:- (a) as no specific details existed in relation to the levels of funding the Council would receive from the Government with effect from 2020-21, the Cabinet noted the financing element of the Financial Plan therefore represented this authority’s interpretation of how new funding regimes, yet to be finalised, would impact on existing forecasts, as compared to actual indicative funding levels provided by the Government;

(b) subject to CAB29/18(a):-

(i) the Financial Plan 2018-19 - 2021-22, and the various scenarios that exist in relation to individual funding streams be noted;
(ii) the forecast outturn for 2018-19 be approved;
(iii) the draft Capital Programme 2018-19 - 2021-22 be noted;
(iv) the General Fund working balance be set at a minimum of £1.0 million;
(v) the principles set out in the Council’s Financial Plan and Budget Strategy in finalising the preparation of the 2019-20 budget be adopted;

(c) the Financial Plan be updated as further details of the Governments proposed changes to its funding become available during the budget process.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 8 NOVEMBER 2018.

CAB30 Fees and Changes Review 2019

Considered a report proposing the Fees and Charges for 2019 to the Council, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 248 of 2 November 2018.

The Cabinet Member noted that any proposed increases were broadly based on 3% inflation rates. The Deputy Leader noted that there were no proposed increases to car parking charges before highlighting the proposal as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet voted on the recommendation:-
RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the proposed Fees and Charges for 2019 be recommended to Council for approval.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 6 NOVEMBER 2018, RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 8 NOVEMBER 2018, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 13 NOVEMBER 2018, AND COUNCIL ON 20 NOVEMBER 2018.

CAB31 Risk Management Report

Considered a report setting out the details of the Council’s Strategic Risk Register (as at 30 September 2018), as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 248 of 2 November 2018.

The Cabinet Member noted paragraph 3.1 of the report and the associated Appendix 1 before highlighting the proposal as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet voted on the recommendation:-

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member - Resources Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that the Strategic Risk Register be approved, and progress made in the identification and management of strategic risks be noted.

CAB32 Statement of Community Involvement - Adoption

Considered a report noting the schedule of representations received in respect of the matter, and requesting approval of the Statement of Community Involvement prior to submission to Council.

The Cabinet Member highlighted the proposal as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendation:-

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that having taken account of the responses in the Schedule of Representations to the Draft Statement of Community Involvement the amended version of the Statement of Community Involvement be approved and referred to Council.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COUNCIL ON 20 NOVEMBER 2018.
CAB33  Proposed Development of Charnley Road Open Space

Considered a report providing an update on progress regarding the proposed development of Charnley Road Open Space, seeking approval of detail of the concept plans, and requesting delegated authority to Officers for approval of the final design, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 248 of 2 November 2018.

The Deputy Leader noted paragraph 3.2 of the report, the plan as set out on page 90 and the indicative timeline on page 98 before highlighting the proposals as set out in paragraph 2, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendations:-

RESOLVED:-  that the proposals of the Cabinet Member - Leisure Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that:-  (a) progress made to date be noted;
(b) permission to progress to procurement based on the concept design developed through public consultation and available within the master Plan and final proposals be granted;
(c) delegated authority be granted to the Head of Development (in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture) to approve the final plans developed by the successful contractor and any further amendments required through planning permission to enable the project to be delivered within timescales.

CHAIRMAN