Minutes of the Cabinet held at the
Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford on
Thursday 7 November 2019

Chair - Councillor P M M Farrington

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

Councillors:
F Beatty Economic Development and Planning Portfolio
J M Pert Community and Health Portfolio
J K Price Environment Portfolio
R M Smith Deputy Leader and Resources Portfolio

Also present Councillors R P Cook, A T A Godfrey and B Mckeown.

Officers in attendance:-

Mr T Clegg Chief Executive
Mr R Simpson Interim Head of Operations
Miss M Smith Strategic Business Manager – Development
Mr P Gammon Neighbourhood Services Group Manager
Mr W Conaghan Press and Communications Manager
Mr A Bailey Scrutiny Officer

CAB43 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2019 were submitted and signed.

CAB44 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C V Trowbridge.


Considered a report presenting the updated financial forecast for the Council for the next three years, together with a forecast outturn for 2019-20, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

The Deputy Leader referred to the uncertainty facing Local Government funding and highlighted the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 of the report, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendations.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Deputy Leader be approved as follows:-
That:- (a) No specific details exist in relation to the levels of funding the Council will receive from the Government with effect from 2021-22 be noted. The proposed new funding regime had been delayed a year with the effect that the 2020-21 Budget effectively represented a roll over of the 2019-20 settlement as adjusted for inflation. The Financing element of the Financial Plan thereafter 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 CAB45/19(a):-

(i) The Financial Plan 2019-20 - 2022-23, and the various scenarios that exist in relation to individual funding streams, be noted;
(ii) The forecast outturn for 2019-20, be approved;
(iii) The draft Capital Programme 2019-20 - 2022-23, 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 2020-21 budget, be adopted;
(vi) note that the inflation parameter for fees and charges for 2020-21 be set at 3%

(c) The submission made to the Secretary of State for Local Government for an extension of the Business Rates pilot to 2020-21, be noted. The Council and all members of the pilot continued to Lobby for an extension with only Devolution pilots currently approved to roll forward to 2020-21. In the event that the request was not successful the Council was seeking that pooling arrangements, with a similar membership, remained in place to avoid a levy on growth being applied in 2020-21.

(d) That the Financial Plan be updated as further details of the Governments proposed changes to its funding became available during the budget process.
Revenue and Capital Bids - Confidential

Considered a confidential report concerning the proposed Revenue and Capital bids, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Deputy Leader be approved as follows:-

that the proposed Revenue and Capital bids, be noted.

Performance Reporting 2019 - 2020

Considered a report providing an update regarding performance (Resources) for Quarter 2 of 2019-2020, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

The Deputy Leader set out the proposal in paragraph 2 of the report, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendation.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Deputy Leader, be approved as follows:-

that the information as set out in the report be noted.

Fees and Charges Review 2020

Considered a report proposing the Fees and Charges for 2020 to the Council, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

The Deputy Leader set out the proposal in paragraph 2 of the report, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendation.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Deputy Leader, be approved as follows:-

that the proposed Fees and Charges for 2020 be recommended to Council for approval.
CAB49  **Fees and Charges Review 2020 - Leisure Contractor**

Considered a report proposing the Fees and Charges in relation to Freedom Leisure for 2020, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

The Deputy Leader set out the proposal in paragraph 2 of the report, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendation.

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

that the proposed Fees and Charges for Freedom Leisure for 2020 be recommended to Council for approval.

CAB50  **Recycling and Waste Collection - Future Service Options**

Considered a report outlining potential changes to the Recycling and Waste Collection Service, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

The Cabinet Member - Environment Portfolio introduced the report and set out the proposals contained within paragraph 2.

The Leader of the Council reported that he had written to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and Local Members of Parliament seeking clarification over the long term future of the Local Government Settlement and he was aware that the letter had also been copied to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Cabinet then moved directly to voting on the recommendations.

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

The following changes to the Recycling and Waste Collection Service be approved and introduced at the given timescales:
(i) Option 1 Removal of Recycling Collection Sites;

(ii) Option 2 Introduction of Additional Kerbside Capacity for Mixed Fibre Material;

(iii) Option 3(b) Introduction of Chargeable Garden Waste Collection Service.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO THE RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 18 NOVEMBER 2019.

CAB51  **Public Spaces Protection Orders**

Considered a report seeking approval to pursue application(s) for Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO’s) under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 in Stafford Borough, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

The Cabinet Member - Community and Health Portfolio introduced the report and drew Cabinet’s attention to the tabled revised plan number 41a and the need for further revisions to plan numbers 25a and 43a. He then set out the proposal in paragraph 2 of the report, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendation.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Community and Health Portfolio, be approved as follows:-

That the report be noted and approval to conduct the formal consultation exercise to implement Public Space Protection Orders in Stafford Borough, be granted.

CAB52  **HS2 Design Principles**

Considered a report that updating Cabinet on the work being undertaken by the Trent-Sow Parklands and Cannock Chase AONB HS2 Group and request authority to agree the Design Principles document be delegated to the Head of Development, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

The Cabinet Member - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio whilst introducing the report endorsed the continuous process in design and supported the recommended enhancements. She then set out the proposal in paragraph 2 of the report, to which the Cabinet moved directly to voting on the recommendation.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio, be approved as follows:-
That authority be delegated to the Head of Development to agree (at the appropriate time) the content of the Trent-Sow Parklands and Cannock Chase AONB HS2 Group’s document ‘A Design Guide to HS2 - Part 1 Design Principles’ prior to submission to HS2 Ltd.

Recording of the meeting was suspended at this time.

CAB53 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED:- that pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting whilst the next following item of business be discussed, on the grounds that it includes the disclosure of exempt information of the type specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

CAB54 Staffing Proposals - Confidential

Considered a confidential report regarding staffing proposals for the Economic Development Team, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 261 of 8 November 2019.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio, as set out in paragraph 2.1 of the Confidential Report, be approved.

CHAIR