

Chair - Councillor P M M Farrington

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

Councillors:

J M Pert	Community and Health Portfolio
R M Smith	Deputy Leader and Resources Portfolio
C V Trowbridge	Leisure Portfolio

Also present Councillors J Hood and R Kenney

Officers in attendance:-

Mr T Clegg	Chief Executive
Dr T Redpath	Corporate Business and Partnerships Manager
Mr J Dean	Democratic Services Officer

Prior to commencement of the meeting, the Leader of the Council referred to receipt of correspondence from the Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP, Secretary of State for Transport regarding the recent announcement from Central Government concerning the future of HS2. Councillor Farrington reported that he had written to both Mr Shapps and the Prime Minister seeking confirmation of the proposed Handsacre junction. It had been duly confirmed that the said junction would be retained as part of the wider HS2 project. The Leader reaffirmed the Council's position on the matter and confirmed that he would continue to make representations to Government relating to HS2 on behalf of residents.

CAB86 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2020 were submitted and signed.

CAB87 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors F Beatty and J K Price.

CAB88 Planning Obligations Allocation - Yarnfield

Considered a report considering the re-allocation of Section 106 funding in Yarnfield, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 265 of 6 March 2020.

The Cabinet Member, Leisure Portfolio highlighted the proposal as set out 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 delegated authority to re-allocate and use an existing off site contribution under the terms of a Section 106 agreement for the amount of £16,800 (planning application 13/19226/OUT refers) be granted to the Head of Development (in consultation with the Leisure Portfolio holder and Swynnerton Ward Councillors).

CAB89 Taxi Licensing Policy and License Conditions 2017 – Review and Amendment

Considered a report setting out the review and amendments made to the Taxi Licensing Policy and License Conditions 2017, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 265 of 6 March 2020.

The Cabinet Member, Community and Health highlighted the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 of the report, noting that the Council had a duty to its residents to provide safe forms of travel. The Cabinet then voted on the recommendations.

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

- that:-
- (a) the review and amendments to the Policy and Condition to be consulted on be approved;
 - (b) the proposed consultation (as set out in paragraph 5.6 of the report) be approved;
 - (c) authority to make minor modifications to reflect changes in legislation or case law or to promote efficient administration in the licensing function (without any other consultation, if appropriate) be delegated to the Head of Operations (in consultation with the Head of Law and Administration and the Cabinet Member for Environment).

CAB90 Proposals for an Increase in Fares: Hackney Carriage Vehicles

Considered a report setting out a request from Stafford Taxi Association on behalf of Hackey Carriage proprietors for an increase in taxi fares, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 265 of 6 March 2020.

The Deputy Leader noted that said fees had not increased since 2014 and that the proposals had been agreed to by the local Taxi Association. He then highlighted the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 of the report, to which the Cabinet voted on the recommendations.

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

- that:-
- (a) the revised scale of charges (as set out in appendix 1 of the report) for Hackney Carriages licensed by the Council be approved;
 - (b) in accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 the revised charges be advertised;
 - (c) subject to any objections arising the revised charges be implemented as soon as possible.

CAB91 Hopton and Coton Neighbourhood Area Application

Considered a report seeking approval to designate Hopton and Coton Parish as a Neighbourhood Area for the purpose of producing a Neighbourhood Plan, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 265 of 6 March 2020.

The Leader of the Council 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 proposals of the Cabinet Member, Economic Development and Planning Portfolio be approved as follows:-

- that:-
- (a) Hopton and Coton Parish be designated as a Neighbourhood Area;
 - (b) upon designation the publishing of the information below be authorized and brought to the attention of people who live, work or carry out business in said area:-
 - (i) the name of the neighbourhood area;
 - (ii) a map identifying the area;

- (iii) the name of the relevant body who applied for the designation.

CAB92 Sale of Land Adjacent to Stanley House, Fancy Walk, Stafford

Considered a report seeking approval to sell Council owned land, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 265 of 6 March 2020.

The Leader of the Council highlighted the proposal as set out 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 the land at Fancy Walk (as detailed in the report) be sold to Nexus Property Solutions Limited or an associated company.

CAB93 Stone Neighbourhood Plan – Progressing to Referendum

Considered a report seeking approval to proceed to a referendum for the Stone Neighbourhood Plan, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 265 of 6 March 2020.

The Leader of the Council 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 subject to minor presentational and typographical amendments the proposals of the Cabinet Member, Economic Development and Planning Portfolio be approved as follows:-

that:- (a) incorporating the Examiner’s recommended modifications and further amendments suggested by the Council the Stone Neighbourhood Plan proceed to referendum;

(b) the decision statement (as set out in appendix 2 of the report) be approved and published with the Examiner’s Report.

CAB94 Stafford Station Gateway – Part Confidential

Considered a report updating progress regarding Stafford Station Gateway and seeking agreement for the next steps to deliver the Gateway

Masterplan Vision, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 265 of 6 March 2020.

The Leader of the Council highlighted the proposal as set out in paragraph 2 of the report and confirmed that the Council were looking to progress the matter, especially in light of the recent announcement regarding the future of HS2. The Cabinet then voted on the recommendation.

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

that the Task Agreement for business case development with Staffordshire County Council and London and Continental Railways (as set out in the confidential appendix to the report) be agreed.

CAB95 Revenues and Benefits Collection Report – Quarter 3 – Part Confidential

Considered a report informing Cabinet of the Revenues and Benefits Service regarding:-

- collections of Council Tax during the first three quarters of the financial year;
- collections of Business Rates during the first three quarters of the financial year;
- the recovery of overpaid Housing Benefit during the first three quarters of the financial year;

together with seeking approval for the writing off of the arrears as detailed in the confidential appendix of the report, as set out in Section 2 of Digest No 265 of 6 March 2020.

The Deputy Leader reiterated the Councils commitment to pursuing outstanding debts before highlighting the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 of the report. The Cabinet then voted on the recommendations.

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

- that
- (a) the information regarding collections be noted;
 - (b) the arrears listed in the confidential appendices to the report be written off.

CHAIR