

Chairman - Councillor P M M Farrington

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

Councillors:

F Beatty	Economic Development and Planning Portfolio
J M Pert	Deputy Leader and Community Portfolio
J K Price	Climate Change Portfolio
C V Trowbridge	Leisure Portfolio
M J Winnington	Environment Portfolio

Also present Councillor M Phillips

Officers in attendance:-

Mr T Clegg	Chief Executive
Mr C Jordan	Interim Head of Development
Mr W Conaghan	Press and Communications Manager
Mr J Dean	Democratic Services Officer

Prior to commencing the meeting, the Leader of the Council informed all present that Councillor R M Smith was recuperating at home following his recent illness and passed on his and his Cabinet colleagues best wishes for a speedy recovery.

CAB8 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2022 as published on 8 July 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

CAB9 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R M Smith.

CAB10 Treasury Management Report - Increase in Money Market Funds

Considered a report updating Members on treasury management activity and requesting an increase to the monetary limits with MMFs (Money Market Funds) from £6m to £9m.

On behalf of Councillor R M Smith, the Leader of the Council introduced the report and highlighted the detail contained within Paragraphs 3 and 5 before concluding his comments by recommending that the proposal as set out in Paragraph 2 be approved.

The Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

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

That monetary limits with MMFs be increased from £6m to £9m.

CAB11 Housing Assistance Shared Service - Disabled Facilities Grants

Considered a report seeking approval for Stafford Borough Council to accept delegated authority from South Staffordshire District Council to proceed with the implementation of an in-house shared service for the delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants on behalf of both Stafford Borough and South Staffordshire District Councils.

The Deputy Leader noted the statutory nature of this matter and detailed the process to be employed with South Staffordshire District Council to deliver the service.

Councillor Pert subsequently referred his Cabinet colleagues to Paragraph 2 of the report where the proposals were recommended for approval.

Cabinet duly voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

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

That:-

- (a) In exercise of their powers under the Local Government Act 2000, supplemented by other relevant legislation, and all other relevant enabling powers Stafford Borough Council (SBC) agrees to establish and participate in joint arrangements with South Staffordshire District Council (SSDC), for the provision of services in respect of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG);
- (b) SBC will be the host authority for this shared service, discharging delegated functions on behalf of both SBC and SSDC by providing services to their residents in respect of DFG and ancillary services (subject to SSDC receiving formal approval of their proposal to delegate authority to SBC for the provision of DFGs via their Cabinet);

- (c) In line with the Council's Constitution the Head of Development (or such designate) exercise delegated authority, in Matters under the Regulatory Reform Order - Housing Assistance and Matters under the Housing, Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 on behalf of both Stafford Borough Council and South Staffordshire District Council. The relevant delegations are set out in the appendix to the report. Further, in respect of onward delegation, the Head of Development shall be entitled in their absolute discretion to authorise officers within their area of management (identified by post) to exercise all or some of their delegated functions (to include those members of the team dedicated to DFG delivery who will be situated within the Health and Housing Service where these delegated functions are assigned as appropriate);
- (d) Delegated authority be given to the Head of Development (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community) to approve and execute a side agreement with SSDC to specify the delegation of SSDC functions to SBC and set out the scope of service functions and the specific legislation under which these will be carried out. The side agreement will determine the financial arrangements between the two authorities and ensure the service provision does not exceed the Authorities' combined grant envelope;
- (e) The related plans to procure external providers of specialist and skilled services be noted (external services will include works contractors, equipment suppliers and Occupational Therapy services to provide suitable assessments for home adaptations, all of which are essential and will support the shared DFG service).

CAB12 Rough Sleeper Initiative 5: Permission to Spend

Considered a report updating Cabinet on a successful funding bid and requesting permission to spend said allocation.

The Deputy Leader highlighted Paragraphs 3 and 5 of the report and reiterated the Council's commitment to tackling homelessness in the Borough.

Councillor Pert praised the associated partner organisations for their efforts in this area of work before referring Cabinet colleagues to Paragraph 2 of the report where the proposal was recommended for approval.

Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

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

That permission be given to spend the funding allocation in line with the proposal submitted to Government with authority delegated to the Head of Development (in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community) to spend the sum of £672,947.

The Cabinet commended the work of Councillor Pert and the associated Officers for their continued success in addressing this complicated issue.

CAB13 Government Grant Funding Stafford Borough Garden Community Proposals

Considered a report seeking extensions to the previously approved delegation arrangements associated with the grant funding secured for 2019/20 and 2021/22 to support the proposed Meecebrook garden community and to secure identical delegation arrangements for additional grant funding received in 2022.

The Cabinet Member highlighted the proposed extension to the previous arrangements as set out in Paragraph 1 of the report.

Cabinet colleagues were subsequently referred to Paragraph 2 where the proposals were recommended for approval.

Cabinet duly voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

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

That:-

- (a) Authority to spend the remainder of the Ministry of Homes Community and Local Government (MHCLG) Garden Communities grant of £750,000, received in 2019 be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Meecebrook Programme Board;
- (b) Authority to spend the remainder of the Ministry of Homes Community and Local Government (MHCLG) Garden Communities grant of £360,000, received in

2021 be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Meecebrook Programme Board;

- (c) Authority to spend the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Community (DLUHC) Garden Communities grant of £360,000, received 25th March 2022 be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Meecebrook Programme Board.

CAB14 Stafford Station Gateway - Strategic Regeneration Framework

Considered a report updating Cabinet on progress made with the Stafford Station Gateway project and to seeking approval to consult on the Strategic Regeneration Framework that will guide design and quality of development across the site.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that the consultation period associated with the project would be extended to 6 weeks.

In concluding her comments Councillor Beatty highlighted Paragraph 2 of the report where the proposals were recommended for approval.

Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

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

That:-

- (a) Consultation on the draft Strategic Regeneration Framework set out in the appendix to the report be carried out to support the potential future adoption of the document by the Council;
- (b) The Cabinet Member (in consultation with the Head of Development) be authorised to agree any minor amendments to the text and visual representations in the draft SRF prior to consultation, to more accurately reflect updated information;
- (c) The revised governance arrangements be noted.

The Leader of the Council and his Cabinet colleagues were pleased to see this and other large scale projects across the Borough reaching fruition and continuing to demonstrate that the Borough was an attractive destination in terms of investment, employment, education and housing.

CAB15 Scrutiny of the Waste Contract 2021-22

Considered a report providing Cabinet with the Veolia Annual Report and Service Improvement Plan (attached as an appendix to the report) to scrutinise. The Annual Report and Service Improvement Plan had been received by the Council and covers the period from April 2021 to March 2022 in respect of the Recycling and Waste Collection Services and Processing of Dry Recycling contract that Veolia manage on behalf of the Council. The Annual Report and Service Improvement Plan had been written by Veolia.

The Cabinet Member reaffirmed the continuing strong partnership the Council enjoyed with Veolia, noting the detail as set out in Paragraph 5 of the report.

Councillor Winnington referred his Cabinet colleagues to Paragraph 2 of the report where the proposal was recommended for approval.

Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

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

That the content of the report be noted.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COMMUNITY WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON 22 SEPTEMBER 2022.

CHAIR