

Chair - Councillor A T A Godfrey

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

Councillors:

R P Cooke	-	Resources Portfolio
I D Fordham	-	Environment Portfolio
J Hood	-	Community Portfolio
G P K Pardesi	-	Leisure Portfolio
A N Pearce	-	Climate Action and Nature Recovery Portfolio
A F Reid	-	Economic Development and Planning Portfolio

Also present - Councillors B McKeown and D P Rouxel

Officers in attendance:

C Forrester	-	Deputy Chief Executive - Resources
J Aupers	-	Head of Transformation and Assurance
W Conaghan	-	Press and Communications Manager
J Dean	-	Democratic Services Officer

#### **CAB51 Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2024 as published on 6 December 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

#### **CAB52 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Kenney and Tim Clegg, Chief Executive.

#### **CAB53 Stafford Brooks Update**

RESOLVED:- that the item be deferred and be considered at the next meeting of the Cabinet.

#### **CAB54 Proposed Development of Rowley Park Sports Stadium Play Facilities**

Received a report considering the allocation of Section 106 funding towards the provision and enhancement of play facilities at Rowley Park Stadium, Stafford, and seeking permission to spend capital monies, following public consultation, on a masterplan design and the procurement of the required project works.

The Cabinet Member, Leisure Portfolio, was delighted to introduce the report and noted the detail as set out in paragraphs 3 and 5 before concluding her comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

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

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

That:-

- (a) the allocation of existing off-site contributions under the terms of S106 agreements for the amount of £265,881 as detailed in paragraph 3.1 of the report be approved for the enhancement of the above open space in Rowley Park;
- (b) that permission to spend the above sum as detailed in paragraph 5.3 of the report be recommended to Council;
- (c) it be agreed that a master planning exercise be undertaken alongside a suitably qualified external consultant and a two-stage public consultation be undertaken, as detailed in paragraph 5.7 of the report.

Councillor D P Rouxel, Rowley Ward Member, was pleased to see the matter had gained Cabinet approval.

#### **CAB55 Re-development of Alleyne's Swimming Pool Site**

Considered a report requesting a change of use in approved capital funding for 2024/25. Currently £430,000 had been authorised to be used on the decommissioning of the swimming pool hall at Alleyne's Sports Centre. This funding was now proposed to be used in the demolition of the hall and the subsequent redevelopment of the site.

The Cabinet Member, Leisure Portfolio, introduced the report noting the detail as set out in paragraphs 3 and 5 before concluding her comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

Councillor J Hood detailed how much Stone Old Alleynian's Football Club had grown to become the largest provider of community football in West Midlands. The Club were great ambassadors for the Borough, championing diversity and equality whilst working with other partners, including the Football Association and Stoke City Football Club. The proposed facility would be a welcome addition to the area. Councillor Hood thanked the Cabinet Member for bringing this matter to fruition.

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

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

That:-

- (a) the use of £430,000 to demolish the pool building and contribute to redevelopment of the site at Alleyne's Sport Centre for a new facility be approved;
- (b) the funds be allocated once all the necessary planning consents for the project have been approved.

### **CAB56 Grassland Management Protocol**

Considered a report seeking approval from to implement a new Grassland Management Protocol for Council owned grassland areas.

The Cabinet Member, Environment Portfolio, introduced the report noting the detail as set out in paragraphs 1, 3 and 5, and the list of proposed sites as set out on page 67 of the agenda which remained open to approaches from other locations. Councillor Fordham concluded his comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

Councillor A N Pearce very much welcomed the report which would contribute to the Council's commitment to support biodiversity and nature recovery within the Borough.

Councillor A F Reid supported the proposal and was pleased to see the involvement of local communities in this area of work.

The 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 Grassland Management Protocol be approved and it be recognised that this would direct the management of Council owned grassland areas.

CHAIR