

Cabinet minutes

Wednesday 8 June 2011 at 6.00 p.m.

in Conference Room 2 at the Council House Walsall

Present

Councillor Bird	Leader of the Council
Councillor A. Andrew	Deputy Leader and regeneration
Councillor Arif	Business support services
Councillor R. Andrew	Children's services
Councillor Ali	Communities and partnerships
Councillor Towe	Finance and personnel
Councillor Harris	Leisure and culture
Councillor McCracken	Social care and health
Councillor Ansell	Transport and environment

2652 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2011 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

2653 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2654 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985

Resolved

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items set out in the private part of the agenda for the reasons set out therein and Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

2655 Forward plan

The forward plan as at 6 May 2011 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the forward plan be noted.

2656 Walsall Partnership, programmes and resources

Jamie Morris, Executive Director presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the variance requests and the carrying forward of Working Neighbourhoods Funds from 2010/11 into future years, as set out in section 3.5 and captured in table 1 of the report, be approved.
- (2) That the total amount of the reserve for Working Neighbourhoods Fund available on the Council's balance sheet, at the commencement of 2011/12 (£4,366,837) be noted.
- (3) That the re-profiling of under-spends from 2010/11, for re-use by existing projects, as set out in section 3.6 and captured in table 2 of the report, be approved.
- (4) That the reinvestment of available resources into alternative projects as set out in table 2 and further detailed in section 5 of the report, be approved.
- (5) That it be noted that Walsall Lifelong Learning Alliance will not be able to continue committing and commissioning expenditure on the Working Neighbourhoods Fund Skills Programme, due to concerns about the adequacy of their governance arrangements and to approve Walsall Council to commission further activity in line with the Skills Target Action Plan, as detailed in sections 3.6.3 and 3.6.4.
- (6) That it be noted that a proposal will be developed to evaluate the overall Working Neighbourhoods Fund Programme, utilising the under-spend from the Capacity Building Manager (£10,875) and the un-allocated funding (£38,761), as detailed in section 3.6.5 of the report.
- (7) That the reinvestment of available resources into alternative projects as set out in table 2 and further detailed in section 3.6 of the report, be approved.
- (8) That retrospective approval be given for the Workwise project to continue to operate from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012.

- (9) That the amalgamation of the Data Analyst, Local Economic Assessment and Child Poverty programmes into one Economic Intelligence funded Service / Programme, as set out in section 3.8 of the report, be approved.
- (10) That the carry forward of £16,036 to support the Be Safe programme, and £28,323 in support of the Enterprise Business Support programme during 2011/12, as detailed in section 3.9.1 of the report, be approved.
- (11) That the change in use of funds for the 'Be Safe' project, as detailed in section 3.9.2 of the report, be approved.
- (12) That the variations to the management arrangements, as set out in section 8 of the report, including the transfer of the Partnership for Walsall Enterprise and Regeneration Manager post and the movement of three projects in to the Enterprise programme be approved.
- (13) That the revised strategic outcomes / outputs, as detailed in section 3.11 of the report, be approved.

2657 Walsall Local Economic Assessment

Councillor A. Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That approval be given to the Walsall Local Economic Assessment, the Executive Summary of which is attached as Appendix A of the report, to be submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government.
- (2) That the key growth sectors identified in the Growth Sector Analysis Summary Paper, attached as Appendix B and summarised in section 3.6 of the report be approved.
- (3) That the broad priorities that will form the starting point for the development of the Walsall Economic Framework as set out in 3.7 of the report, be approved.
- (4) That officers be tasked to develop the Walsall Economic Framework, based on the findings of the Local Economic Assessment.

2658 Review of Local Development Scheme

Councillor A. Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That approval be given to the preparation of:
 - (a) A Site Allocations Development Plan Document, to allocate sites for development for housing, employment and other uses across the borough (except for town centres);
 - (b) An Area Action Plan for Walsall town centre, to allocate sites for development and to propose improvements to support the town centre; and
 - (c) An Infrastructure Plan and a Charging Schedule, to support the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy regime.
- (2) That Cabinet endorses the approaches to plan-making, programming, staffing and resources set out in this report, including the spending of an estimated £90,000-£130,000 on evidence, consultation and public examination of the proposed plans.
- (3) That Cabinet endorses the amended Local Development Scheme attached as Appendix A to this report, and agrees that it should be submitted to the Secretary of State and that it should come into effect in 28 days if he does not intervene.
- (4) That the Head of Planning and Building Control be authorised to amend the Council's Statement of Community Involvement and to commence work on the proposed plans.
- (5) That reports be received to a future meetings on revision of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement to bring it up-to-date with current regulations, and the review of the Council's Supplementary Planning Documents pending the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

2659 Sanstone House, the Limes and former Darlaston Multi-purpose centre

Councillor A. Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Executive Director for Regeneration in conjunction with the portfolio holder for Regeneration be delegated authority to approve the terms for the disposal of the freehold interest in the land and properties shown:

- (i) edged in red on plan number EPMS 2040/2 Appendix A, extending to 7,749 square metres (or thereabouts);

- (ii) plan number EPMS 2036/3 Appendix B, extending to 4,300 square metres (or thereabouts); and
- (iii) plan number EPMS 3117 Appendix C, extending to 8,403 square metres (or thereabouts)

provided these terms include the price satisfying the best consideration principles of Section 123 Local Government Act 1972, the purchaser bearing the Council's surveyor's fees and legal costs and the transaction not reaching legal completion until the purchaser has obtained detailed planning permission from the Local Planning Authority.

2660 Replacement of office stationery framework

Councillor Arif presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That approval be given to award of the Office Stationery Contract, following a stringent benchmarking and tender process.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director Resources, in consultation with the portfolio holder, to undertake the necessary arrangements to award contracts to ensure continuity of supply.

2661 Primary school places

Councillor R. Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the schedule of primary school places as set out in Appendix A of this report be noted.
- (2) That Cabinet approves consultation on the proposal to significantly enlarge Caldmore Primary School and increase the intake from 30 to 60 places from 1 September 2012.
- (3) That Cabinet approves consultation on the proposal to significantly enlarge Leighswood Primary School and increase the intake from 75 to 90 places from 1 September 2012.

- (4) That it be noted that a further report regarding the provision of primary school places in the Willenhall, Short Heath, Bentley and Darlaston North areas will be brought to a future meeting.

2662 Education capital programme

Councillor R. Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That approval be given to the schemes and budgets set out in of this report, including permission to seek tenders and appoint contractors to undertake the work identified.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Children's Services in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder authority to award contracts (including authorising execution/signature of the contract and ancillary documents) to the most suitable contractors having regard to Best Value for the works/services as set out.
- (3) That decisions regarding the future movement of mobile units on school sites and to/from the Council depot authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Children's Services in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder.
- (4) That approval be given to the option to use an appropriate form of procurement and contracting arrangements determined by the head of Property Services to provide the most efficient and value for money means of delivering the projects. This shall include consideration of traditional procurement and EU compliant frameworks available to local authorities.

2663 Charges for street naming and numbering services

Councillor Ansell presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved to recommend to Council

- (1) That pursuant to Paragraph 25 of Schedule 14 to the Local Government Act 1972, the provisions of Sections 17-19 (inclusive) of the Public Health Act 1925 relating to the naming of streets and Sections 64 and 65 Town Improvement Clauses Act 1847, relating to the numbering only of streets, be adopted and apply throughout the area served by Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council.

- (2) That approval be given to the introduction of charges in relation to street naming and numbering services as detailed in Appendix A of the report.

2664 Personalisation

The reports of the Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel and portfolio holder were submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Cabinet endorse the recommendations made by the Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny and Performance Panel, and note the response to those recommendations as set out in paragraph 3 of the report.

2665 Childhood obesity

The reports of the Children and Young People Scrutiny and Performance Panel and portfolio holder were submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet note the actions that have been implemented in response to the recommendations of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel as set out in paragraph 3.4 of the report.

2666 Private Session

Exclusion of public

Resolved

That during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda, the Cabinet considers that the items for consideration are exempt information by virtue of the appropriate paragraph(s) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, and accordingly resolves to consider those items in private.

Summary of item considered in private session

2667 Electrium Point, Willenhall

Councillor A. Andrew presented the report:

Cabinet approved the taking of a lease of Office Suite B and Industrial Units 3 and 4 Electrium Point, Forge Road, Willenhall from Hortons' Estates Ltd. for occupation by Links to Work and Social Care and Inclusion.

The meeting terminated at 6.25 p.m.