

# Special Cabinet minutes

**Thursday 18 May 2017 at 6.00 p.m.**

**in a Conference Room at the Council House, Walsall**

## **Present**

Councillor S. Coughlan	Leader of the Council
Councillor Jeavons	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Nawaz	Children's services and education
Councillor J. Fitzpatrick	Community, leisure and culture
Councillor Jones	Clean and green
Councillor Robertson	Health
Councillor D. Coughlan	Social care
Councillor Shires	Agenda for change/Personnel and business support

## **3640 Declarations of interest**

Councillor S. Coughlan and Councillor D. Coughlan declared an interest in item 5 – The future of Walsall Adult and Community College.

## **3641 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**

There were no items to be considered in private session.

## **3642 Localities delivery model**

Councillor Shires presented the report:

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Councillor Shires provided some initial feedback from the consultation with all elected members on the proposals for the new model which he said had been, in the main, supportive.

## **Resolved**

- (1) That the four-locality footprint for delivery (as shown in figure 1 of the report) be approved.
- (2) That Council be recommended to approve the necessary changes to the Constitution to dissolve the six Area Panels.

- (3) That the purpose and required elements for a revised Locality Delivery Model are approved, notably:
- The enhancement of multi-agency, operational working, through locality panels;
  - The establishment of strategically-focused locality partnership boards;
  - The development of Locality Plans, aligned to the Partnership's strategic borough-wide priorities;
  - The important role of the voluntary and community sector and the need to strengthen community engagement.
- (4) That officers continue to work with partners from across the public, private and voluntary sectors to implement the new localities delivery model.

Having declared an interest Councillors S. Coughlan and D. Coughlan left the room during consideration of the following item. Councillor Jeavons took the chair for the item.

### **3643 The future of Walsall Adult and Community College**

Councillor Nawaz presented the report:

(see annexed)

#### **Resolved**

- (1) That Cabinet approve that Walsall Adult and Community College merges with another Skills Funding Agency (SFA) grant funded organisation which is not the Council, namely Walsall College. The SFA then novate the Adult Education contract to Walsall College with whom WACC has merged, subject to the recommendations set out in (2).
- (2) That Cabinet approve that a merger proposal report is presented to Cabinet by 31 October 2017, and the report identifies:
- the contracts, staff, and assets of Walsall Adult and Community College be transferred to the identified SFA grant funded organisation, namely Walsall College
  - WACC cash reserves to be returned to the Council
  - how the Council continues to ensure SFA investment in the Borough grows and that adult skills provision meets Walsall residents current and future needs
  - a merger plan for WACC with the College and, the novation of the SFA contract - completion by 31 March 2018
  - a memorandum of understanding setting out the Council's ambition and expectation for the delivery and provision of adult education within the Borough.

- (3) That Cabinet approve any pension deficit, and any other costs relating to the transfer of WACC to the new body is fully funded from WACC's reserves.
- (4) That Cabinet approve that the operation currently carried out by Walsall Adult and Community College continues until the final Cabinet decision is made.

#### 3644 **Broadway North site**

The report of Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee was submitted together with a copy of a report setting out the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee:

(see annexed)

Councillor Jeavons thanked the Scrutiny Committee for their consideration and noted the resolution to recommend a different course of action to Cabinet. He pointed out that there appeared to be some incorrect information in the community which suggested that the site was bequeathed to the people of Walsall along with restrictive covenants on its use. He asked for the minutes to show that the site was not bequeathed to the Council but that the Council purchased the site in 1950 and the only restriction placed upon it was to prevent the sale of alcohol at the site. Therefore the Council was free to dispose of its asset how it so chooses. Councillor Jeavons reminded the meeting that the asset was listed as an Asset of Community Value the implications of which were set out in the Cabinet report. He said that he had already mentioned at the previous Cabinet meeting and at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that officers have already been asked to work alongside Park Hall Community Association to explore their future actions.

At this point, Councillor Martin submitted a petition containing 335 signatures which called on NHS England and Walsall Council stop the Jabez Cliff Health Centre proposals and to deliver a Health and Community Centre at Broadway North. The Leader declined a request from Councillor Martin to address the Cabinet.

The Leader said that he had had a positive discussion with Mrs Barbara McCracken from the Park Hall Community Association and was confident that this matter could be moved forward in a professional manner with a joint determination within the timescales set out in the original Cabinet decision.

It was **moved** by Councillor Jeavons, seconded by the Leader and:

**Resolved**

That having considered the recommendations of the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet affirms its previous decision.

The meeting terminated at 6.27 p.m.

Chair:

Date: