

Wednesday 9 December 2020 at 6.00 p.m.

Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

Held in accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020; and conducted according to the Council's Standing Orders for Remote Meetings and those set out in the Council's Constitution.

Present

Councillor Bird	Leader of the Council
Councillor Andrew	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Perry	Deputy Leader and Resilient Communities
Councillor Martin	Adult Social Care
Councillor Wilson	Children's
Councillor Butler	Clean and green
Councillor Towe	Education and skills
Councillor Craddock	Health and wellbeing
Councillor Chattha	Personnel and business support

3639 Welcome

At this point, the Leader opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, and explaining the rules of procedure and legal context in which the meeting was being held. He also directed members of the public viewing the meeting to the papers which could be found on the Council's Committee Management Information system (CMIS) webpage.

3640 Minutes

Councillor Bird moved approval of the minutes of the meeting on 21 October 2020 which was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members

The motion subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved (unanimously)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2020 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

3641 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3642 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985

It was noted that a late item had been submitted seeking to participate in the Department for Work and Pension's Kickstart scheme and that the report would be taken at the end of the public session.

Resolved (by assent)

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.

3643 Petitions

Councillor Wilson advised that he had submitted the following on-line petition:
Leighswood Road – ban or restrict Heavy Goods Vehicles.

3644 Questions

No questions from the public had been received.

3645 Forward plan

The forward plan as at 2 November 2020 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

That the forward plan be noted.

**3646 Black Country Joint Committee Collaboration Agreement –
Supplementary Deed of Variation**

Councillor Bird presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Bird moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Andrew.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet authorises Walsall Council's entry into the Supplemental Deed of Variation Relating to the Collaboration Agreement in Relation to the Black Country Executive Joint Committee City Deal and Growth Deal dated the 7 May 2014, at **Appendix A** to this report and in doing so, that Cabinet approves the Governance Principles: Enterprise Zones (at **Appendix B**).
- (2) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council to conduct any negotiations and to make any minor amendments and to subsequently authorise the sealing of the Supplemental Deed of Variation Relating to the Collaboration Agreement in Relation to the Black Country Executive Joint Committee City Deal and Growth Deal dated the 7 May 2014 and the sealing or signing of any related documents

3647 Contract for the supply of IT goods and services

Councillor Bird presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Bird moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Craddock.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet award a contract to Specialist Computer Centres Plc for the Supply of IT Goods and Services. The initial contract shall be for 2 years and there will be two optional one year extension periods. The anticipated value of the contract over the 4 year period (05 March 2021 – 04 March 2025) could be up to £10,000,000.
- (2) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director of Resources and Transformation to sign the relevant agreements with the Framework Provider and Specialist Computer Centres Plc on behalf of the Council and to subsequently authorise signing of any associated contracts, deeds or other related documents.

3648 Draft Revenue Budget Feedback and Capital Programme 2020/21-2023/24

Councillor Bird presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Bird moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Perry.

In seconding the motion, Councillor Perry expanded on the proposals for the spend of the crisis fund monies which would also be informed by the outcome of the appraisal being undertaken into the Council's support for the vulnerable during the pandemic. He also clarified the position with regard to the provision of library services both during the pandemic to keep communities safe and the intention to continue to offer such services through the resilient communities model, including outreach, in conjunction with the voluntary and community sector.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was

Resolved

That Cabinet:

- (1) Notes the feedback from Overview Scrutiny Committees for consideration in preparation for final budget recommendations in February 2021.
- (2) Notes the main implications from the chancellors Spending Round announcement on 25 November 2020, and that any financial implications arising once the Provisional Settlement is received, will be included in the budget report to Cabinet on 10 February 2021.
- (3) Approves as a basis for consultation the current draft capital programme of £65.99m for 2021/22, and refers the draft capital programme to Overview Scrutiny Committees to enable comments to be considered by Cabinet on 10 February 2021.

3649 Corporate Financial Performance and Covid-19 update

Councillor Bird presented the report

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Councillor Bird commended the work of officers to support businesses during this difficult period and helping them to access the grants available to them.

Councillor Bird moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Towe.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

That Cabinet:

- (1) Notes the additional funding allocated to Walsall as set out in sections 4.4 and **Appendix 1** of this report, and that this will be sufficient to cover the additional costs of supporting the council's Covid-19 response in the short term, assuming the current position does not continue beyond current levels and into 2021/22.
- (2) Notes the forecast impact of Covid-19 to October 2020 as set out in section 4.6 to 4.14 and approve c£2.49m of additional costs in relation to looked after children placements.
- (3) Notes the forecast non Covid-19 position is an underspend of £195k.
- (4) Approves the amendments to the 2020/21 capital programme as set out in section 4.17.
- (5) Notes financial health indicator performance as set out in **Appendix 3**.

3650 Treasury Management mid-year position statement 2020/21

Councillor Bird presented the report

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

- (1) That Cabinet notes and forwards to Council, for consideration and noting (and in line with the requirements of the Treasury Management Code of Practice (2017)), the mid-year position statement for treasury management activities 2020/21 including prudential and local indicators (Appendix A).
- (2) That Cabinet notes and forwards to Council, for consideration and approval to utilise Link Asset Services to provide a Treasury Management training session via Microsoft Teams for all Members (Appendix A).

3651 Corporate Plan Delivery: Quarter 2 update

Councillor Bird presented the report

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

That Cabinet endorses the performance information provided in the appendix

3652 Town Deal Acceleration Programme

Councillor Andrew presented the report

(see annexed

Councillor Andrew moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet notes the success in gaining full approval of £750,000 for both Bloxwich and Walsall Towns Fund Acceleration programmes as set out in attachment 1, and grants approval to begin work as soon as possible to meet government funding requirements.
- (2) To ensure the submission of the Town Investment Plans for both Bloxwich and Walsall on or before the end of January; that Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director for the Economy, Environment & Communities in consultation with the Deputy Leader & Regeneration Portfolio holder, to agree the final contents of these Town Investment Plans, and to make their submission.
- (3) To ensure that all costs incurred by the council are recovered, that all development, consultancy and on-going management and evaluation costs are calculated and included within the individual project submissions, as part of the Town Investment Plan submissions to government.

3653 York's Bridge replacement scheme – replacement of common land

Councillor Andrew presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Andrew moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the progression of an application to deregister the areas of common land at Pelsall North Common detailed in this report and, delegate to the Director of Governance to prepare and submit applications under the relevant sections of the Commons Act 2006 to deregister, and if necessary, to undertake restricted works, on those parts of Pelsall North Common as detailed in **Appendix A** as necessary to facilitate construction of a new bridge.
- (2) That Cabinet approve the proposal to offer part of the Council owned land detailed in **Appendix B** as replacement land for the common land to be deregistered and delegate authority to the Head of Highways and Transport, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration to progress this exchange

3654 Additional Licensing Scheme for Houses in Multiple Occupation

Councillor Andrew presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Andrew moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves a public consultation exercise in line with the prescribed process for the Additional Licensing of the Wards of Paddock, Palfrey, Pleck and St Matthew's areas shown on Map 1: Appendix 1. This consultation to include proposed licensing conditions (Appendix 2) and associated fee levels (Appendix 3).
- (2) That Cabinet receives a further report following the above consultation.

3655 Adult Social Care market uplifts 2021/22

Councillor Martin presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Martin moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves option one: 1% uplift against existing rates is applied in 2021-2022 (as detailed in section 4.7 table 1). This will require an investment of £803,679 for 2021/22.
- (2) That Cabinet approves delegated authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the Portfolio Holder of Adult Social Care to enact these recommendations, including authorising any contract variations or other appropriate contractual arrangement to administer these uplifts, and to subsequently authorise the sealing or signing of any associated contracts, deeds or other related documentation.

3656 Adult Social Care providers during Covid-19 pandemic – extension to flexible arrangements

Councillor Martin presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Martin moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the continuation of the Adult Social Care recommended provider payment option of 'payment by plan' (except where there is no evidence of care having taken place) for domiciliary care services until the 31 March 2021 with an estimated total additional cost of £1,359,324 for 2020/21. This to be funded from the COVID-19 Response and Support Package funding provided by central government.
- (2) That Cabinet approves delegated authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the Portfolio Holder of Adult Social Care to enact these recommendations and subsequently

authorise the sealing or signing of any associated contracts, deeds, variations and other related documents.

- (3) That Cabinet approves delegated authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the Portfolio Holder of Adult Social Care and the S151 officer to extend the flexible arrangements subject to budget being available.

3657 **Walsall Allotments Boundary Review**

Councillor Butler presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Butler moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the £260k improvements to allotment boundaries, as identified in **Appendix A**.
- (2) That Cabinet recommends to Council an amendment to the capital programme of £260k to fund the allotment boundary improvement works.

3658 **Extension of Adult Social Care Public Health Contracts**

Councillor Craddock presented the report and gave his personal thanks to the team for their work

(see annexed)

Councillor Craddock moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care to enter into appropriate contractual arrangements until 31st March 2023, and subsequently authorise the sealing or signing of any associated contracts, deeds or other related documents for

the following contracts:

- Healthy Eating in Schools (Food for Life)
- Lifestyle Services
- Smoking Cessation
- Sexual Health Services

- (2) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director for Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing, to authorise any variations to the contractual arrangements for the services identified above, should this be required at any time during the term, in line with Public Contract Regulations and the Council's Contract Rules.

3659 New Apprenticeship Framework 2021

Councillor Chattha presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Chattha moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That following a procurement process, Cabinet approves the Council operating a Framework Agreement for apprenticeships with an estimated annual value of £800,000, for the period 1 February 2021 until 31 January 2024 and with the option to extend for 2 additional 12 month periods.
- (2) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director of Resources and Transformation to approve the initial awards to the successful bidders for their appointment to the new Apprenticeship Framework and to authorise the subsequent signing of all necessary documents for such appointments.
- (3) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director of Resources and Transformation to authorise all subsequent call offs from the new Apprenticeship Framework in accordance with the processes for doing so and terms and conditions of any such call offs that are set out in the new Apprenticeship Framework Agreement.

3660 Walsall Information Governance Policy

Councillor Chattha presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Chattha moved the approval of the recommendations which was duly seconded.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That the updated Information Governance Policy be approved
- (2) That cabinet approves the process for the creation, approval and implementation of supporting standards and or processes through FIGA.

3661 Revised Social Value Policy

Councillor Chattha presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Chattha moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the revised Social Value Policy attached as Appendix A to this Cabinet Report
- (2) That Cabinet approves the revised Social Value Charter attached as Appendix B to this Cabinet Report
- (3) That Cabinet approves the implementation of revised a Themes, Outcomes and Measures 'TOMs' Framework, aligned to Corporate Plan priorities, in accordance with the sample set out in Appendix C to this Cabinet Report
- (4) That Cabinet approves the Head of Procurement, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to make minor, non-material changes to the Social Value Policy, Charter and/or TOMS Framework, in order to ensure alignment with changes in procurement regulation and the Councils Corporate Plan

3662 Access and Inclusion Working Group – portfolio holder report

Councillor Towe presented the report

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

- (1) That the recommendations of the Education Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Access and Inclusion Working Group be approved.
- (2). That the actions taken to date to address the recommendations as set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report be noted

3663 Youth Justice – report of Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Wilson introduced the item.

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

- (1) That the Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Working Group be thanked for its work.
- (2) That a report be submitted to the next Cabinet meeting responding to the recommendations of the Working Group.

3664 Petition – Road Safety on Doe Bank Lane

Councillor Andrew presented the report

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

To approve the recommendations of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee: i.e.

1. To note the installation of additional repeater signage throughout the length of Doe Bank Lane and Bridle Lane to reinforce both the 20mph speed limit and the adjoining 30mph speed limit as part of the 2020/21 minor highway works programme.
2. That further engineering works on Doe Bank Lane be considered as part of the annual borough wide road safety review.

3665 **LATE ITEM Kickstart Scheme**

Reason for Lateness: Due to late confirmation by the DWP of some details of the scheme. Considered urgent as any delay would delay acceptance of the grant and impact on the delivery of the programme.

Councillor Andrew presented the report

(see annexed)

Councillor Andrew moved the approval of the recommendations which was seconded by Councillor Bird.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the Council's participation in the Department for Work and Pensions' Kickstart Scheme as a gateway organisation and approves acceptance of any grant from the Department for Work and Pensions for the purpose of creating paid work placements with private sector employers and within Walsall Council, if appropriate.
- (2) That Cabinet approves acceptance of the Kickstart Scheme grant from the Department for Work and Pensions, for the administration and set up, wrap around employability support and wage costs for young people whilst on work placement.
- (3) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director for Economy Environment and Communities in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration to sign, amend and enter into the appropriate grant agreements with the Department for Work and Pensions together with any subsequent discussions as required to receive the grant funding.

Private session

3666 **Exclusion of public**

Resolved (by assent)

That during consideration of the remaining item on the agenda, the Cabinet considers that the item for consideration is 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 the item in private.

3667 **Walsall Allotments Boundary Review**

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Butler moved the approval of the recommendations which was duly seconded.

The motion was put to the vote by way of a roll-call of Cabinet members and subsequently declared carried and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the disposal of the Alexandra Road allotment site, subject to consultation and subject to Secretary of State approval.
- (2) That Cabinet note that any future capital receipt arising from the sale of the Alexandra Road site could be used to fund site improvement works, including boundaries and paths, and any remaining sum be used to provide additional plots to meet identified demand.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

The meeting terminated at 7.30 p.m.

Chair:

Date: