

# **Cabinet minutes**

**Wednesday 17 July 2019 at 6.00 p.m.**

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

## **Present**

Councillor Bird	Leader of the Council
Councillor Andrew	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Wilson	Children's and health and wellbeing
Councillor Harrison	Clean and green
Councillor Perry	Community, leisure and culture
Councillor Towe	Education and skills
Councillor Longhi	Health and wellbeing
Councillor Harris	Personnel and business support

## **3993 Apology**

An apology for non-attendance was submitted on behalf of Councillor Martin.

## **3994 Minutes**

### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2019 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

## **3995 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **3996 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.

### 3997 **Petitions**

The following petitions were submitted:

- Action on derelict garage sites on Queslett Road and Moreton Avenue (Councillor Andrew)
- Improve road safety on Coronation Avenue (Councillor Andrew)
- Station Road and Victoria Road, Pelsall – effectiveness of traffic calming measures (Councillor Perry)

### 3998 **Forward plan**

The forward plan as at 8 July 2019 was submitted:

(see annexed)

#### **Resolved**

That the forward plan be noted.

### 3999 **Budget framework 2019/20 to 2022/23**

Councillor Bird presented the report:

(see annexed)

#### **Resolved**

- (1) That the process and timetable for setting the 2019/20 to 2022/23 budget framework be noted and approved.
- (2) That the amendments to the Medium Term Financial Strategy be noted and approved.
- (3) That the amendments to the Tax Strategy and governance arrangements be noted and approved.
- (4) That Cabinet approve the use of general reserves of £773k to fund the extension to the dry mixed recycling contract for 2019/20 as detailed in section 4.5 of the report.
- (5) That Cabinet approve the earmarking of £110k of reserves to fund a 3-month extension to the trial of extended opening hours of the household waste recycling centres (from July 2019 to September 2019), as detailed in section 4.5 of the report.

#### **3400 Treasury Management annual report**

Councillor Bird presented the report:

(see annexed)

##### **Resolved**

That the Treasury Management annual report be noted.

##### **Resolved to recommend to Council**

That Council note (in line with the requirements of the Treasury Management Code of Practice (2017)), the annual report for treasury management activities 2018/19 including prudential and local indicators (Appendix A).

#### **3401 Walsall Town Centre Masterplan**

Councillor Andrew presented the report and the Executive Director, Economy and Environment, Mr S. Neilson gave a presentation which set out the vision for Walsall Town Centre over the next 20 years.

(see annexed)

It was noted that the decision on this matter would be made in the private session following consideration of a report containing confidential information.

#### **3402 Grass cutting of large open spaces, grass verges, tree maintenance and weed treatment**

Councillor Butler presented the report:

(see annexed)

##### **Resolved**

- (1) That Cabinet acknowledge the contents of this report and approve a review of the impacts and benefits achievable by the redesign of grass cutting, arboricultural and weed control operations.
- (2) That Cabinet approve additional one off revenue funding of £21k in 2019/20 for the provision of additional resource to re-design and optimise grass cutting routes and to implement an increased grass cutting regime in March 2020.

- (3) That Cabinet approve additional one off revenue funding of £160k for 2020/21 to increase grass cutting, arboricultural and weed control operations on a time limited basis from April 2020 to March 2021 as follows:
- (a) Increase the frequency of grass cutting on general highway verges across the borough to a frequency of circa once every three weeks.
  - (b) Re-introduce grass cutting on a circa three weekly basis on the selected highway verges and large open spaces (Appendix A) which were previously reduced to once per annum, where there is the requirement to do so.
  - (c) Increase the provision of arboricultural work from two operational gangs to three.
  - (d) Increase the frequency of weed spraying across the borough from once per annum to three times per annum.
- (4) That Cabinet consider a further report in Autumn 2020 considering the effectiveness of the changes and determining the benefits achieved from the investment made compared with other priorities the Council may have.

#### **3403 Healthy child programme for 0-19 year olds**

Councillor Longhi presented the report:

(see annexed)

##### **Resolved**

- (1) That Cabinet approve the scoping of alternative commissioning models for the future commissioning of the Healthy Child Programme 0-19, with consultation built into the commissioning process as required.
- (2) That Cabinet delegate authority for the Director of Public Health to enter into appropriate contract arrangements for the continued provision of Healthy Child 5-19 services, with Walsall Healthcare Trust, from 31 July 2020 for a period of up to 18 months, if required, in order to enable full scoping and potential implementation of alternative commissioning models, including s. 75 of the NHS Act 2006, for the Healthy Child Programme 0-19.

#### **3404 Young people's mental health working group**

Councillor Longhi presented the report which responded to a recommendation from the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Councillor Longhi extended his thanks to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in particular to the Chair of the working for their work on this matter.

### **Resolved**

That Cabinet notes the resolution and recommendations from the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and instructs officers and their partners to look at ways to ensure recommendations continue to be prioritised as set out in paragraph 4.3.

## **3405 Private session**

### **Exclusion of public**

### **Resolved**

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.

## **3406 Walsall Town Centre Masterplan**

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

### **Resolved**

- (1) That Cabinet support the Walsall Town Centre Masterplan (Appendix 1) and the accompanying Technical Masterplan (Appendix 2), which will promote the delivery of transformational change in the town centre.
- (2) That Cabinet note the emerging interventions and the suggested next steps for delivering these, medium and long-term projects as set out in the Catalytic Interventions Summary (Appendix 3) and paragraph 6 of the report, and support the delivery of further work that will test the deliverability of them including their alignment to the Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) and other policies and strategies of the Council.
- (3) That Cabinet note the potential financial implications of the emerging medium and long-term interventions, contained within the Masterplan and paragraphs 4.13-4.17 of this report, which will be subject to further Cabinet reports.

- (4) That Cabinet note that aspects of the programme, which require executive decisions, will be reported to Cabinet as the development of the programme progresses.
- (5) That Cabinet approve a 'First 6 month action plan'; a programme of short-term activity in Walsall Town Centre as set out in paragraphs 6.9 – 6.17 and delegates authority to the Executive Director for Economy and Environment to finalise the programme in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration.
- (6) That Cabinet approves the following budgets:
  - (a) a perpetual mainstream budget of £0.010m
  - (b) a one-off revenue reserve of £0.547m
  - (c) a capital budget of £0.070m to be funded from Capital contingencyto support delivery of the 'First 6 month action plan' for Walsall Town Centre as set out within paragraphs 4.18 – 4.23 and 6.13 – 6.19.
- (7) That Cabinet, as part of the 'First 6 month action plan', approve the inclusion of the Saddlers Shopping Centre car park within the Walsall Metropolitan Borough (Civil Enforcement Off – Street Parking Places) Order.
- (8) That Cabinet, as part of the 'First 6 month action plan', approve a 6 month reduction of all Council operated charged for car parking charges from the 1 August – 31 January 2020 as set out in 6.16 and agree to receive a further report at the 12 February 2020 Cabinet Meeting to review the impact of these car parking charges, as set in 6.17 and 6.18.

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

The meeting terminated at 6.50 p.m.

Chair:

Date: