

# **Cabinet minutes**

**Wednesday 17 January 2007 at 6.00 p.m.**

**in Conference Room 2 at the Council House Walsall**

## **Present**

Councillor Tom Ansell	Leader of the Council
Councillor Zahid Ali	Children's services
Councillor Louise Harrison	Leisure and culture
Councillor Adrian Andrew	Regeneration and enterprise
Councillor John O'Hare	Resources
Councillor Garry Perry	Safer stronger communities, partnerships and Vision 2021
Councillor Alan Paul	Social care, health and housing
Councillor Marco Longhi	Transformation and performance management

## **1681 Apology**

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

## **1682 Minutes**

### **Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2006 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

## **1683 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **1684 Forward plan**

The forward plan as at 19 December 2006 was submitted:

(see annexed)

### **Resolved**

That the forward plan be noted.

## 1685 **Outcome of consultation on future of King Charles Primary School**

Councillor Zahid Ali presented the report:

(see annexed)

In view of the public interest in this matter, the Leader invited members of the public to address the Cabinet.

Ward Councillors Madeley and Chambers both spoke in support of the federation option and urged the Cabinet to ensure that parents are kept informed of progress during the various stages of the process.

A further brief period of discussion took place, following which it was:

### **Resolved**

- (1) That Cabinet note the consultation responses received.
- (2) That Cabinet give King Charles and Bentley West Primary Schools an opportunity to explore the federation option (option 3) further.
- (3) That Cabinet request a progress report at the April meeting to enable members to assess the progress being made and, should this not be satisfactory, to consider whether to progress with option 1 or option 2.

## 1686 **Outcome of consultation on provision of Special School provision**

Councillor Zahid Ali presented the report:

(see annexed)

### **Resolved**

- (1) That Cabinet notes the consultation responses
- (2) That Cabinet approves the publication of statutory proposals to:
  - close Daw End School from 31 December 2007;
  - establish a new primary school for pupils with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties with 30 places (including 6 assessment places) for pupils aged 4 – 11 years at the Priory site from 1 January 2008;
  - establish a new secondary school for pupils with social, emotional and with behavioural difficulties with 56 places for pupils aged 11 – 16 years in the Manor Farm building from 1 January 2008.

## 1687 **Joseph Leckie Community College**

Councillor Zahid Ali presented the report:

(see annexed)

### **Resolved**

- (1) That Willmott Dixon be appointed as the framework contractor to deliver a design build scheme which will represent Phase 1 of the redevelopment programme for the School.
- (2) That Education Walsall, Property Services and Willmott Dixon work with Joseph Leckie Community Technical College representatives to develop proposals to replace the large number of temporary classrooms on the campus and to undertake other essential work within a maximum budget of £6m.
- (3) That a master plan be developed for the School to ensure that the Targeted Capital investment will compliment any future funding to be allocated under the provisions of the Building Schools for the Future programme. (Walsall is due to join the programme from 2011 onwards)
- (4) That a detailed report be provided when a concept scheme and feasibility costings are available.

## 1688 **Health care supplementary planning document**

Councillor Andrew presented the report. He advised the Cabinet that the Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel had considered the report and had recommended reference to a robust accountability and consultation framework.

(see annexed)

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the Cabinet agrees the responses to objections as set out in the Statement on Consultation (paragraph 1.8 of the report).
- (2) That the Cabinet adopts the Supplementary Planning Document for Healthcare.
- (3) That the Executive Director in consultation with the portfolio holder be authorised to agree with the tPCT an appropriate mechanism for collecting and distributing contributions.

**1689 Council Tax base 2007/2008**

Councillor O'Hare presented the report:

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That Council tax base for 2007/8 be set at 76,388 band D equivalents based on a collection rate of 98.5%.

**1690 Corporate financial performance 2006/7**

Councillor O'Hare presented the report:

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

(1) That the following currently predicted year end forecasts be noted:

- A net revenue overspend of up to £1.35m (0.22% of the current gross budget), which, if no further action were taken, would leave estimated general reserves of c £4.27m. However, actions are currently being implemented to seek to further improve this position;
- A surplus of c £6.43m on the capital programme which is largely expected to be carried forward into 2007/8.

(2) That action being taken to seek to improve the currently forecast position be noted.

**1691 Draft corporate revenue budget 2007/8 to 2011/12**

Councillor O'Hare presented the report:

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

(1) That the following be noted:

- (a) the report and its appendices;
- (b) the current draft net revenue budget of £212.301m and band D Council tax of £1,247.46, equivalent to a council tax increase (excluding precepts) of 3.94%;

- (c) the provisional formula grant entitlement for 2007/8 of £117.009m;
  - (d) that, at the time of despatch of this report, the precepting authorities (fire and police) had not notified the authority of their council tax increases;
- (2) That this report be referred to all scrutiny and performance panels requesting comments, to enable those comments to be considered by cabinet at a meeting in February 2007 as it makes budget recommendations to full Council.
  - (3) That the fees and charges increases from the effective dates set out in Appendix 1 of the report be endorsed.

**1692 Adults Social Care – star rating report 2006**

Councillor Paul presented the report:

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

- (1) That the findings of the performance review of 2005/06 be noted.
- (2) That the expectations of CSCI in relation to improvement planning arising from Walsall's "coasting" status be noted.
- (3) That it be noted that improvement plans across services are in place, pending the formal guidance to be provided by CSCI, which will identify their requirements.

**1693 Vision Pledges 2007/08**

Councillor Longhi presented the report:

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That Cabinet approve the set of vision pledges for the year 2007/08, for inclusion in the forthcoming Corporate Plan.

1694 **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.

1695 **Proposed headquarters 3rd Streetly Scout Group**

Councillor O'Hare presented the report:

(see annexed)

**Resolved**

That approval be given to the grant of a 99-year lease at a rent of £1 per annum in respect of the land shown edged bold on plan EPMS 2956 and extending to 2,396 square metres or thereabouts to the 3rd Streetly Scout Group, to facilitate the provision of a new headquarters.

[Exempt information under paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

The meeting terminated at 6.30 p.m.

Leader:

Date: