

Cabinet minutes

Wednesday 28 February 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 Rachel Walker	Environment and street pride
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

1711 Apology

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

1712 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2007 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

1713 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

1714 Forward plan

The forward plan as at 19 February 2007 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the forward plan be noted.

1715 Library modernisation plan – BIG Lottery bid

Jamie Morris, Executive Director presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That an application be made to the BIG Lottery Community Libraries Programme for funding to remodel Bloxwich Library and Library Theatre to deliver a flexible facility for community use and to enhance cultural and learning opportunities for all residents of Bloxwich.
- (2) That Cabinet agree to delay the delivery of the refurbishment of Bloxwich Library from Year 1 to Year 3 of the Library Modernisation Plan.

1716 Arboretum restoration programme

Jamie Morris, Executive Director presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approve the submission of a Stage 1 application to the Heritage Lottery Funded (HLF) Parks for People Programme for a £5m grant towards the restoration of Walsall Arboretum;
- (2) That subject to a successful HLF Phase 1 award, it is proposed to employ a Project Manager on a fixed-term eighteen month contract from 1 October 2007, to develop a phase 2 bid over the next twelve months;
- (3) That the additional revenue implications be considered as part of the usual budget setting process for the 2008/9 financial year; and
- (4) That the Head of Leisure and Culture be authorised to act as the lead contact on the HLF application form.

1717 Arboretum Conservation Area management plan

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the updated Arboretum Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as set out in Appendix A of this report be adopted and noted it be that the Arboretum Conservation Area Appraisal was approved by Cabinet in March 2005.

1718 Caldmore Green Conservation Area management plan

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the updated Caldmore Green Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as set out in Appendix A of this report be adopted and it be noted that the Caldmore Green Conservation Area Appraisal was approved by Cabinet in March 2005.

1719 Church Hill Conservation Area management plan

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the updated Church Hill Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as set out in Appendix A of this report be adopted and it be noted that a draft of the Church Hill Conservation Area Appraisal was approved by Cabinet in March 2006.

1720 Darlaston Conservation Area management plan

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Darlaston Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as set out in Appendix A of this report be adopted.

1721 Walsall Locks Conservation Area management plan

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the updated Walsall Locks Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as set out in Appendix A of this report be adopted and it be noted that the draft of the Walsall Locks Conservation Area Appraisal was approved by Cabinet in March 2006.

1722 The Regional Spatial Strategy Phase 2 revision

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the proposed response to the spatial options consultation on the phase 2 revision of the Regional Spatial Strategy, summarised in this report, be approved by Cabinet for submission to the Regional Assembly.

1723 Supplementary planning document for education

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That approval be given to the responses to objections as set out in the Statement on Consultation, paragraph 1.7 of the report.
- (2) That the Supplementary Planning Document for Education be adopted.

1724 **LNP development plan**

Councillor Perry presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Local Neighbourhood Partnership development plan be agreed.

1725 **Modernisation of day care services for people with learning disabilities**

Councillor Paul presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the plan to modernise day services for people with a learning disability be endorsed.
- (2) That the Health and Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel be thanked for their work and support for these proposals.
- (3) That Health and Social Care Scrutiny and Performance Panel be provided with updates on progress together with being informed of any significant concerns expressed by service users or carers.

1726 **The reprovion of residential and day care services for older people**

Councillor Paul presented the report and informed Cabinet that the Housing Corporation had approved the Council's bid for £10.2m for the scheme. He also referred to a letter received from Unison requesting that the decision be deferred. However, he pointed out that the decision was not being made until the April Cabinet meeting:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the feedback from the statutory consultation be noted and agreement given to the action responses outlined in section 2.0 of this report.
- (2) That the proposed sites as set out in this report be agreed.
- (3) That the proposed leasing arrangements be agreed.

- (4) That approval be given to the continuation of negotiations with Housing 21 as the Council's preferred provider and move towards achieving an affordable scheme that demonstrates value for money based on a preferred TUPE transfer of staff.
- (5) That the proposed project timescale with an anticipated contract financial close in July 2007 be noted and a further and anticipated final report be received at the meeting on 18 April 2007.

1727 Corporate integrated planning and performance framework (CIPFF)

Councillor Longhi presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet endorse the revised Corporate Integrated Planning and Performance Framework and champion its further promotion and use of the framework by members in fulfilling their various roles.

1728 Beacon index – quarter 3 performance 2006/7

Councillor Longhi presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the delivery of key performance targets across the council as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be noted.

1729 Best value performance indicators – quarter 3 report 2006/7

Councillor Longhi presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of the report, including the performance figures and action being taken to improve performance be noted.
- (2) That all portfolio holders continue to work with executive directors to ensure that robust corrective action is taken to improve performance for all red measures.

- (3) That the various aspects of this report be referred to the relevant Scrutiny and Performance Panels for consideration.

1730 2006/7 Best value satisfaction performance indicators

Councillor Longhi presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the results be noted.

1731 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.

1732 Walsall markets review

(a) Report of Scrutiny and Performance Panel

The report of the Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the report of the Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel be noted.

(b) Report of portfolio holder

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet thank the Regeneration and Performance Scrutiny Panel and endorse their comments and recommendations in relation to Walsall Market.
- (2) That Cabinet request the Regeneration Scrutiny Performance Panel to appoint an independent expert (maximum of £10,000 to be made available) to assist in undertaking a detailed review of developer's proposals for the market.
- (3) That Cabinet request the Regeneration and Performance Scrutiny Panel to review the setting of the Market, particularly in relation to the public realm, including the review of Park Street.

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

The meeting terminated at 6.40 p.m.

Leader:

Date: