

Council – 10th January 2022

Decision note

| Item | Decision |
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| 1. Person to preside if Mayor and Deputy Mayor are absent | Not applicable as the Mayor was in attendance |
| 2. Apologies | Councillors Ali, C. Bott, P. Bott, Gultasib, Jeavons, Johal, Murphy and A. Nazir. |
| 3. Minutes | That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 th November, 2021 and Extra Ordinary meeting held on 17 th November, 2021 , copies having been sent to each member of the Council, be approved as a correct record |
| 4. Declarations of interest | Councillor Rattigan – Item 13 – Notice of Motion – Bus Lane |
| 5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act | There were no items in private session |
| 6. Mayor's announcements | Received. |
| 7. Petitions | Councillor Elson - Pooles Lane, Lichfield Road and the Forest Gate Estate– Improving Road Safety |
| 8. Questions | None. |
| 9. Recommendation of Audit Committee - Appointment of external auditors | Approved recommendation of Audit Committee:- To accept the Public Sector Audit Appointments' (PSAA) invitation to 'opt in' to the sector led option for the appointment of external auditors for five financial years commencing 1 April 2023. |
| 10 (a). Recommendation of Cabinet – Treasury Management | Approved recommendation of Cabinet:- To note the mid-year position statement for treasury management activities 2021/22 including prudential and local indicators |
| 10 (b). Recommendation of Cabinet – Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme | Approved recommendation of Cabinet:- To approve the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme as set out in Appendix 1 and detailed in Appendix 2 to the report (appended), adopting the principles |

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| | approved by Cabinet in September. Taking account of recent changes in the provision of welfare support nationally and having given regard to the equality impact assessment and consultation comments. |
| 10 (c). Recommendation of Cabinet – Food Law Enforcement Plan | <p>Approved recommendation of Cabinet:-</p> <p>That the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan for the year 2021/22 be approved and adopted.</p> |
| 11(a) Portfolio holder briefing – Education | The Portfolio Holder (Deputy Leader and Regeneration) gave a presentation and answered questions from members thereon. |
| 11(b) Portfolio holder briefing – Adult Social Care | The Portfolio holder (Adult Social Care) gave a presentation and answered questions from members thereon |
| 12. Notice of Motion – Section 9 Nationality and Borders Bill | <p>Amended notice of motion approved:-</p> <p>Section 9 of the Nationality and Borders Bill currently being debated through parliament by the Conservative Government has created anxiety, alarm and real fear amongst the people of Walsall including those from a BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) heritage and others with dual nationality.</p> <p>Many have contacted their local councillors and fear what this will mean to them.</p> <p>This Council, taking note of the concerns of these communities in Walsall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expresses its opposition to Section 9 of this bill • Asks for this section to be completely removed from the bill; • Stands with our dual nationality communities - British Citizens-who are scared of being removed from the United Kingdom without notice , the right of appeal or the right of legal representation; and • Instructs the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the opposition to jointly write to the relevant Minister informing him/her of our borough's opposition to this section of the bill. |

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| 13. Notice of Motion - Bus Lane Restriction – Wolverhampton Street | Motion Lost. |
| 14. Notice of Motion – Reimbursement of by election costs | <p>Approved motion as set out:-</p> <p>This Council condemns the indulgent waste of tax payers money forced on the residents of this Borough by the Labour Party as they:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Called a By-Election for December, 2021 in the Pleck Ward, for a seat that had been vacant since July 2021. This seat would have been filled on May 5th, 2022, as part of the usual Election cycle; and • Selected a candidate who was ineligible to stand as they were an employee of Walsall Council and so could not take the seat. <p>This Council therefore calls on officers to write to the Labour Party requesting that they reimburse Walsall MBC and Walsall Council tax payers for these aborted costs cira. £20,000.</p> |