

Cabinet minutes

Wednesday 15 March 2017 at 6.00 p.m.

in a Conference Room at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor S. Coughlan	Leader of the Council
Councillor Jeavons	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Burley	Children's services and education
Councillor J. Fitzpatrick	Community, leisure and culture
Councillor Jones	Clean and green
Councillor Robertson	Health
Councillor Nawaz	Personnel and business support
Councillor Shires	Agenda for change

3602 Apology

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

3603 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2017 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

3604 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3605 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.

3606 **Petitions**

There were no petitions submitted.

3607 **Questions**

There were no questions.

3608 **Forward plan**

The forward plan as at 6 March 2017 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the forward plan be noted.

3609 **West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan and Capital Programme**

Councillor Jeavons presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet notes the West Midlands 2017/18 Block Allocations as set out at Table 1 in Section 6 of this report.
- (2) That Cabinet approves the Walsall Transport Capital Programme 2017/18 as set out at Table 2 in Section 6 of this report.
- (3) That Cabinet approves the utilisation of the Integrated Transport Block element of the grant funding for 2017/18 as described in paragraphs 6.3 to 6.7 of this report and appendices A to G, including the allocation of any slippage from 2016/17 to the 2017/18 programme.
- (4) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director for Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, to manage any changes to the 2017/18 Integrated Transport Block programme allocations in order to manage the overall budget within approved limits.

- (5) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director for Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, to negotiate on its behalf with the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership, WMCA and government departments to maximise the values of future financial resources allocated to Walsall Council in pursuit of its transport priorities, including signing relevant agreements and contracts for schemes which are approved within the Walsall Transport Capital Programme 2017/18.
- (6) That Cabinet approve the use of the Homes and Communities Agency Technical Framework Panels 2014 – 2018 and the West Midlands Transportation Professional Services Framework to procure essential specialist services such as structural engineering or traffic modelling as necessary to ensure that delivery programmes are met. This would be utilised when the resource is not available in-house or via existing shared services with other local authorities in line with the Council's Contract Rules and in consultation with the Council's Procurement Team.

3610 **Walsall's Local Plans**

Councillor Jeavons presented the report:

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Councillor Jeavons advised that, for clarity, recommendation (5) should set out the effective date of the revised Local Development Scheme, being 24 March 2017. Cabinet members concurred and it was:

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet agrees the proposed responses to the representations received on the Site Allocation Document (SAD), Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), following consultation on the Pre-Submission Modifications, as set out in Appendix A to this report.
- (2) That Cabinet agrees to publish material in preparation for the submission of the plans to the Secretary of State as set out in Appendix B to this report:
 - (a) Walsall Site Allocation Document (SAD) – Further Proposed Modifications
 - (b) Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) - Further Proposed Modifications

- (3) That Cabinet authorises the Head of Regeneration and Development, following consultation with the Executive Director, Economy and Environment, and the Portfolio Holder Regeneration, to propose any additional minor modifications as necessary to be considered by the Planning Inspector at the examination.
- (4) That Cabinet agrees work on Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is suspended following the announcement in the 2017 Housing White Paper that the Government is to examine the options for reforming the system of developer contributions.
- (5) That Cabinet approves the revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) as set out in Appendix C to this report with effect from 24 March 2017.
- (6) That Cabinet agrees to receive a report to a future meeting on the Review of the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS), including a further update to Walsall's LDS to set out the future programme.
- (7) **To recommend to Council**

That the Site Allocation Document and Area Action Plan (including the proposed modifications and further modifications) be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.

- (8) That Cabinet advises Planning Committee that in making planning decisions significant weight can be given to those policies in the SAD and AAP where there are no outstanding objections to policies or to the proposed modifications that would affect the application of a policy in a particular instance that they can be given significant weight.
- (9) That Cabinet agrees that officers draw-up and enter into in principle a Legal Agreement with the Cannock Chase SAC partnership to provide for mitigation against the impact on the SAC. That the authorisation for the detailed wording is delegated to the Executive Director before the agreement is submitted in draft to be considered through the SAD and AAP Examination process.

3611 **Home to school transport revised policy 2017/18**

Councillor Burley presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That approval be given to the revised home to school transport policy in Walsall with full implementation from September 2017.

3612 **Fees and allowances scheme for Walsall foster carers**

Councillor Burley presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet gives approval to consult with Walsall Foster Carers and stakeholders on the preferred scheme identified. Once this has been undertaken further agreement from Cabinet will be sought to implement the agreed revised scheme from 1 September 2017 for all new carers and to transition all existing carers to the new scheme within 6 months of this date.

3613 **Adoption service 6 month progress report**

Councillor Burley presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the contents of this report are accepted as an accurate reflection of how Walsall Council is meeting its statutory duties in relation to delivery of adoption services.

3614 **Walsall Public Space CCTV**

Councillor J. Fitzpatrick presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approve the establishment of an Agreement for the provision of Walsall's fixed and mobile CCTV service and retail radio with the West Midlands Combined Authority under its corporate branding of Transport for West Midlands, for a period of seven years, from 30 June 2017.
- (2) That the Agreement referred to in (1) be in accordance with Public Contracts Regulation 2015, 12(7) which gives an exemption from open market competition.
- (3) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director for Change and Governance, in consultation with the portfolio-holder for Community, Leisure and Culture, to enter into an agreement as set out in recommendation (1) and to subsequently authorise the sealing of any deeds, contracts or other related documents for such services.

3615 **Fixed penalty notice for fly tipping**

Councillor J. Fitzpatrick presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Walsall Council introduces the use of fixed penalty notices for fly tipping with effect from 1 April 2017.
- (2) That the level of penalty to be applied in Walsall is £400 with a discount of £50 for payment within 10 days.

3616 **Replacement Wide Network**

Councillor Nawaz presented the report:

(see annexed)

It was noted that the decision relating to this matter would be made in the private session following consideration of a report containing confidential information and that a summary of the decision would be published:

3617 **Remembrance Day Parades**

The report of the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee was submitted:

(see annexed)

In response to the recommendations of the Corporate and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the leader made the following statement:

“This Cabinet made its position clear at our December meeting – that despite the challenging budget situation this Council faces, we were prepared to assist event organisers with 30% of the costs of traffic management costs of those events.

This agreement stands this year and the following two years. We will not change that decision.

It gives certainty to event organisers to help them fundraise and I urge all to continue the efforts to plan for this November's parades.

This Council and the Police have organised special meetings in April, June and September with those organisers, so that these important events are planned early, planned well and then held safely. We will do all in our power to reduce the costs from last year and still keep people safe.

It is of course up to Scrutiny to decide its own areas of focus, but continuing uncertainty about these events will not help anyone.”

3618 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.

Summary of items considered in private session

3619 Remembrance Day Parades

A confidential paper was submitted for Cabinet members to read in conjunction with the information in the report in the public session. The paper set out the traffic management costs for 2016 and the projected Walsall Council contribution for 2017.

(see annexed)

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

3620 Black Country Enterprise Zone – strategic land acquisition

Following consideration of a confidential report:

- (1) The Cabinet approved the acquisition of a piece of land within the Black Country Enterprise Zone which is of strategic importance to Walsall's employment land supply and also to the delivery of the Black Country Strategic Economic Plan's economic objectives; and which is capable of delivering significant investment, floor space and job creation. The Cabinet also made a recommendation to Council to amend the Capital programme accordingly.

- (2) Cabinet also delegated authority to the Executive Director Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, to approve the final terms of the acquisition.

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

3621 **A461 Salters Road improvement scheme**

Councillor Jeavons presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet authorises the compulsory acquisition of land to the corner of A461/Salters Road in order to deliver the A461 Improvement Scheme.
- (2) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, to approve the final terms of the acquisition.

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

3622 **Replace Wide Area Network**

Councillor Nawaz presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approve the award of a contract for the provision of Network Services, to British Telecom Plc, for an initial term of five years, from 6 April 2017 to 5 April 2022, with the option to extend the initial term by a further two periods of twelve months if required.
- (2) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director, Change and Governance to enter into a new contract to deliver a Replacement Wide Area Network Services.

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

The meeting terminated at 6.25 p.m.

Chair:

Date: