

Minutes of Cabinet

27 April 2016

Present:

Councillor I.T.E. Harvey
Councillor A.C. Harman
Councillor M.M. Attewell, Community Wellbeing
Councillor C.B. Barnard, Corporate Management
Councillor A.J. Mitchell, Environment and Compliance
Councillor J.M. Pinkerton OBE, Housing

Apologies:

Councillor N.J. Gething, Planning and Economic Development
Councillor H.R.D. Williams, Finance and Customer Service

Councillors in attendance:

2255 Minutes

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 24 February 2016 and the Extraordinary Cabinet meeting held on 7 April 2016 were agreed as correct.

2256 Disclosures of Interest

There were none.

2257 Recommendation from Audit Committee on Corporate Risk Management

Cabinet considered a report on a recommendation from the Audit Committee following a review of the Corporate Risk Register.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approves the Corporate Risk Register as submitted.

Reason for the decision:

Cabinet noted that the Corporate Risk Register accurately reflects the high level risks affecting the Council as well as the progress made on actions previously proposed by the Audit committee.

2258 Review of Waste Services and Vehicle Procurement - Key Decision

Cabinet considered a report on a review of waste services and vehicle procurement.

RESOLVED to:

Approve changes to the weekly collection of food waste, textiles & small waste electrical items (WEEE) from April 2017.

Authorise the Head of Streetscene to extend the leases on existing waste and street cleansing vehicles and the depot workshop, to coincide with implementation of the changes to the waste service in 2017.

Authorise the Head of Streetscene to go out to tender to lease waste and cleansing vehicles for a period of 3 and 6 years.

Authorise the Head of Streetscene to go out to tender for the capital purchase of food waste vehicles (subject to full Council approval).

Delegate the selection of the shortlist of tenderers and the selection of the contractor to the Head of Streetscene in consultation with the portfolio holder for both the lease and capital purchases.

***RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** that Council agrees the capital spend of £255k as detailed in 2.1(d) of the report.

Reason for the decision:

Cabinet noted that the lease on the depot workshop and current fleet of street cleansing and waste vehicles is due to expire in September 2016. In preparation for this, the Waste Services Group has researched opportunities to deliver a more effective, adaptable and efficient waste collection service.

2259 Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2019 - Key Decision

Cabinet considered a report on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2016-2019.

RESOLVED to:

- Adopt the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2016-2019.
- Report to Cabinet annually with an update on the action plan.

Reason for the decision:

Cabinet noted that:

- The Council has a key role to play in improving the health and wellbeing of its residents.
- Promoting sport and physical activity is one of the Council's core functions and that the action plan doesn't mention absolutely everything we do. The plan focuses on areas for more development in 2016-17, which will be reviewed annually.

2260 Review of the Constitution 2015

Cabinet considered a report on a review of the Constitution.

RESOLVED that Cabinet agrees changes to the delegations of all executive functions.

***RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** that Council:

- Approves the proposed changes to non-executive functions.
- Approves the revised Constitution subject to:
 - Amendments to the Planning Code (Part 5d).
 - To include word 'material' before every reference to 'planning reasons', and
 - To include a new paragraph 20 (i) which reads:
 - "Where the councillor who 'called in' an application is a member of the Planning Committee, that councillor will be given three minutes to speak following the public speakers and may then speak again as a member of the Committee during its debate on the item."
 - Corrections to typographical and consistency errors throughout the document.
- Agrees to delegate to the Monitoring Officer consequential changes to the Scheme of Delegations to Officers (part 3d) following the appointments of Group Heads.

2261 *Amendment to Pay Policy Statement

Cabinet considered a report on an amendment to the Pay Policy Statement for 2016-2017.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND that Council agrees the amendment to the Pay Policy Statement for 2016-17.

Reason for the decision:

Cabinet noted that there had been changes to the salaries and remuneration arrangements following the recent restructure changes to senior management.

2262 Leader's announcements

In addition to the latest service updates from various Council departments (see below), the Leader made the following announcements:

- We had a visit from Her Majesty the Queen's Lord Lieutenant, Mr. Michael More-Molyneux, on 26 April 2016 which went extremely well. We took him on a tour of the Borough which included the Walled Garden, the London Irish development, and Shepperton Studios.
- We also hosted two Landlords Forum on the 27 April 2016 which went very well.

The Council has claimed back £108,321 in housing benefit fraudulently claimed over a period of 23 years.

The number of households in emergency (B&B) homeless accommodation peaked in August 2015 with 108 households. This has since been reduced to a total of 73 at the end of February 2016 thanks largely to the increased availability of new developments such as Dyas Road in Sunbury-on-Thames and Stonegate Court in Staines-upon-Thames which collectively delivered an extra 57 units. The reduction in B&B placements has enabled the Council to save approximately £120K.

Local families were entertained with a Punch and Judy show, juggling and balloon modelling at the formal launch of the natural play area in Orchard Meadow in Sunbury-on-Thames on Wednesday 12 April. Designed for the under 11s, the play area is made using natural wood materials and includes a range of equipment including climbing logs, balance structures and play boulders.

Young people took part in free skate and scooter sessions in Stanwell on Thursday 7 April to celebrate the official opening of the new skate park in Long Lane Recreation Ground. The new park includes a variety of ramps and slopes which are designed for BMX bikes, skateboards and scooters.

The Environment team took part in the Tesco 'Bags of Help' initiative and received £8000 to help make improvements to the Commercial Road allotments in Staines-upon-Thames.

Electoral Services and Communications are continuing to raise awareness of the PCC and by-elections which are taking place on 5 May.

The Greeno Centre in Shepperton and Fordbridge Centre in Ashford held open days on the weekend of 2 and 3 April to give local residents the opportunity to have a look round the centres and see the facilities and activities on offer.

Environmental Health and Communications have been working together to inform residents about changes in the law which require dogs to be microchipped.

Leisure Services held an award ceremony on 17 March for schools which took part in the WW1 poetry competition. The winning poems were written by Maddalena Pizzigrilli from Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School and Dalvina Kooner from Thomas Knyvett College. All the poems were displayed at Spelthorne Museum over the Easter school holidays and have also been published in a book.

Businesses in Staines-upon-Thames are being asked to support the creation of a Business Improvement District (BID) to raise money for new initiatives which could help boost trade and raise the profile of the town. The BID would be funded by the businesses and cost between £50 a year for the smallest businesses, up to £5000 a year for the largest. A ballot will be held in October to determine whether the BID gets the go-ahead.

An application by Bellway Homes to build 205 new riverside apartments in the heart of Staines-upon-Thames were approved by Spelthorne's Planning Committee on 9 March. The new apartments will be built on the site currently occupied by the Council's car park in Bridge Street and offer a mix of one, two and three bedroom homes.

A voluntary smoking ban has been launched in children's play areas across Surrey with the aim of helping to protect children from the effects of second-hand smoke and discourage them from taking up smoking in later life. The Council marked the launch with a poster competition for primary school children.

Four illegal occupants of an area of Sheep Walk in Shepperton appeared at the High Court for sentencing on 14 March. The Judge was informed that two of the defendants had moved off the injunction land but various vehicles still remained. The two remaining defendants were issued with fines of £2,500 each, suspended for 12 months, and ordered to remove the remaining vehicles from the injunction land by 9 May.

The Leaders of Spelthorne and Slough Councils sent a joint letter to the Times newspaper on 4 March to express their support for a third runway at Heathrow and highlight the benefits for the local economy.

The cumulative Council Tax collection rates up to the end of March were:-

- Council Tax: 98.5 (98.5 sply)
- Business Rates: 98.5 (98.8 sply)

Spelthorne's Licensing Team took part in a Roadside Education and Enforcement Day (REED) on 17 February. At the REED events drivers are pulled over and, where appropriate, offered road safety advice on the spot rather than a penalty. The Licensing Officer's role was to spot check taxi, private hire and scrap metal dealers' vehicles.

Cabinet expressed its thanks to the senior management team and Councillor Barnard for the very efficient and professional way in which the recent Group Heads re-organisation had been conducted.

2263 Issues for future meetings

There were none.

2264 Urgent items

There were none.

NOTES:-

- (1) *Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are reminded that under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16, the “call-in” procedure shall not apply to recommendations the Cabinet makes to the Council. The matters on which recommendations have been made to the Council, if any, are identified with an asterisk [*] in the above Minutes.***
- (2) *Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are entitled to call in decisions taken by the Cabinet for scrutiny before they are implemented, other than any recommendations covered under (1) above.***
- (3) *Within three working days of the date on which a decision of the Cabinet or a Cabinet Member is published, not less than three members [one of whom must be the Chairman] of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are able to "call in" a decision;***
- (4) *To avoid delay in considering an item "called in", an extraordinary meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be convened within seven days of a "call in" being received if an ordinary meeting is not scheduled in that period;***
- (5) *When calling in a Cabinet decision for review the members doing so should in their notice of "call in":-***

 - *Outline their reasons for requiring a review;***
 - *Indicate any further information they consider the Overview and Scrutiny Committee needs to have before it in order to conduct a review in addition to the written report made by officers to the Cabinet;***
 - *Indicate whether, where the decision was taken collectively by the Cabinet, they wish the Leader or his nominee (who should normally be the Cabinet Member) or where the decision was taken by a Cabinet Member, the member of the Cabinet making the decision, to attend the committee meeting; and***
 - *Indicate whether the officer making the report to the Cabinet or the Cabinet Member taking the decision or his/her representative should attend the meeting.***
- (6) *The deadline of three working days for "call in" by Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to the above***

decisions by the Cabinet is the close of business on (4 May 2016)