

## **Minutes of Cabinet**

**18 December 2012**

### **Present:**

Councillor F. Ayers (Leader of the Council, Chairman of the Cabinet and Cabinet Member for Strategy and Corporate Governance)  
Councillor C.A. Bannister (Cabinet Member for Communications)  
Councillor Evans (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources)  
Councillor P.C. Forbes-Forsyth (Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Young People)  
Councillor G.E. Forsbrey (Cabinet Member for Planning and Housing)  
Councillor D.L. Grant (Parks and Assets)  
Councillor R.L. Watts (Cabinet Member for Environment)

**Apologies:** Councillor J.M. Pinkerton (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Independent Living) and Councillor N. Gething (Cabinet Member for Economic Development).

### **1868. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2012 were agreed as a correct record, with the addition of Councillor Watts' thanks, under 'Urgent Items', to staff for their hard work on re-negotiating the level of gate fees for recycling waste.

### **1869. Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Bannister declared her non-pecuniary interest in the item on Staines Village as she is a member of the Residents' Association.

### **1870. \*Public Sector Hub at Knowle Green – Key Decision**

This item was withdrawn from the agenda because Cabinet decided that there was insufficient information in the report to allow them to come to a reasonable conclusion.

### **1871. Energy Advice and Green Deal service with Action Surrey (2013-18)**

Cabinet considered a report on a flagship, Government-led initiative which aims to help householders to deal with increasing energy bills.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agrees to Spelthorne's participation in the Green Deal partnership scheme.

#### **Reason for the decision:**

Cabinet noted that the scheme will assist homeowners to reduce their fuel bills and carbon emissions and ensure that residents maximise the benefit from the new Energy Company Obligation (ECO) subsidy and Green Deal loan scheme.

### **1872. \*Spelthorne Tenancy Strategy – Key Decision**

Cabinet considered a report on the Council's Tenancy Strategy.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agrees to the implementation of Spelthorne's Tenancy Strategy.

#### **Reason for the decision:**

Cabinet noted that, from April 2013, the Government will introduce a set of measures which will allow local authorities and registered housing providers increased flexibility in the way

they provide and allocate tenancies for those in social housing. The Tenancy Strategy takes account of those measures.

### **1873. Recognition of Staines Village**

Cabinet considered a report on a request from Staines Village Residents and Traders Association (SVR&TA) to:

- a. Recognise the historic area of Staines to the west of the town centre, and broadly centred on Church Street, as 'Staines Village', and
- b. Agree to appropriate signage to identify that area.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agrees to:

1. Express its wholehearted support to the SVR&TA in its objectives.
2. Note the longstanding use of the name 'Staines Village' for the area broadly co-terminus with the Staines Conservation Area.

Councillor Bannister thanked the Cabinet for its support in this matter.

### **Reason for the decision:**

Cabinet noted the SVR&TA's objective to foster a strong community spirit as admirable and strongly in line with the Council's aspirations across the Borough as a whole.

### **1874. Issues for Future Meetings**

There were none.

### **1875. Urgent Items**

There were none.

### **1876. Exempt Business**

**RESOLVED** to move the exclusion of the Press and Public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 and by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order 2006.

### **1877. Customer Services revenues write-offs (Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the authority holding the information).**

Cabinet considered an exempt report on a proposal to write off several bad debts where recovery is no longer possible.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agrees to the write-off of the bad debts listed in the report.

**NOTES:-**

- (1) Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are reminded that under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule, 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 24 December 2012**