

## **Minutes of Cabinet**

**18 November 2014**

### **Present:**

Councillor R.L. Watts, Leader of the Council, Chairman of the Cabinet and Cabinet Member for Strategy and Human Resources  
Councillor P. Forbes-Forsyth, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Young People, Leisure and Culture  
Councillor T.J.M. Evans, Cabinet Member for Finance  
Councillor N. Gething, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Fixed Assets  
Councillor V.J. Leighton, Cabinet Member for Planning and Corporate Development  
Councillor T. Mitchell, Cabinet Member for Environment  
Councillor D. Patel, Cabinet Member for Parking services and ICT  
Councillor J.M. Pinkerton OBE, Cabinet Member for Housing, Health, Wellbeing and Independent Living  
Councillor J. Sexton, Cabinet Member for Communications and Procurement

### **2105. Minutes**

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 30 September 2014 were agreed as correct.

### **2106. Disclosures of Interest**

There were none.

### **2107. Petition on Heathrow airport**

Cabinet received and noted a petition on the possible expansion of Heathrow airport.

Cabinet noted that the petitioner, Mr. Andrew McLuskey, who did not attend the meeting, had expressed his satisfaction with the response to his petition, given by John Brooks, Acting Head of Planning and Housing Strategy.

### **2108. Recommendation of the Cabinet Sub-Committee – Key Decision**

Cabinet noted that the Sub-Committee on the redevelopment of Bridge Street car park, which had been scheduled to take place on Thursday 13 November 2014, was cancelled, and that the report will now be discussed at the Cabinet meeting on 16 December 2014.

### **2109. Treasury management half-yearly report**

Cabinet received a report on Treasury management at the half-yearly stage for 2014-15.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet notes the report.

### **2110. Capital monitoring and projected outturn – 6 months' update**

Cabinet received a report on the spend figures on the Capital programme for the period April to the end of September 2014.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet notes the report.

**2111. Revenue monitoring and projected outturn – 6 months' update**

Cabinet received a report on the net revenue spend figures to the end of September 2014.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet notes the report.

**2112. Parking Services**

Cabinet considered a report on a review of parking charges.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agrees to:

- Authorise the Head of Sustainability and Leisure to proceed with proposals made in this report
- Authorise the Head of Corporate Governance to publish a notice of proposal to advertise the proposed changes
- Delegate authority to the Head of Corporate Governance, in consultation with the Head of Sustainability and Leisure and the Cabinet Member for parking services to deal with any responses to the proposed changes
- Delegate authority to the Head of Sustainability and Leisure, in consultation with the cabinet Member for parking services to amend the proposals following consultation
- Authorise the Head of Corporate Governance to publish a notice of making once the final decision is made.
- The changes to the operational policy.

**2113. \*Changing the name of a ward**

Cabinet considered a report on a proposal to change the name of Staines ward to Staines-upon-Thames.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** that Council agrees to change the name of Staines ward to Staines-upon-Thames ward.

**Reason for the decision:**

Cabinet noted that the change of name would be in line with the renaming of Staines itself in December 2011.

**2114. \*Review of polling districts and places**

Cabinet considered a report following a consultation on a proposal to retain all the current polling stations, polling places and polling districts.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** that Council agrees to:

- Retain all polling stations as they currently are with the exception of The Lady of the Rosary School within Polling District S3.
- Consider using the church hall at Our Lady of the Rosary in Gresham Road.

### **2115. Laleham camping club – lease renewal**

Cabinet considered a report on a request from Laleham Park camping club that the Council grants a renewal of their lease, which is due to expire on 30 November 2014.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:

- Approves the grant of a new lease to the Trustees of the Laleham Camping Club for Laleham Campsite for a period of 25 years, and
- Authorises the Head of Leisure and Sustainability to negotiate and agree all necessary terms.

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

Cabinet noted that the club had recently made significant improvements to the site in order to improve the usage of the facility, and that it was a local club for local people.

### **2116. Leader's Announcements**

The following are the latest service updates from various Council departments:

Councillors and staff attended remembrance services across the Borough on Sunday 9 November. The service at Sunbury was attended by the Mayor, Chief Executive, Kwasi Kwarteng MP and visitors from Melun.

The sporting success of local players, coaches and volunteers was celebrated at the annual Sports Awards at Shepperton Studios on Tuesday 21 October. Awards were presented to recognise sporting stars for their achievements, effort and dedication to sport in Spelthorne.

A medieval event in Lammas Park, Staines-upon-Thames and a river pageant are proposed for 13 June 2015 to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta. Community activities in liaison with the museum, schools and community arts groups are also planned. Further details will follow.

The Council Tax collection rates (cumulative) up to end October:-

- Council Tax: 74% (74% sply)
- Business Rates: 67.25% (72.4% sply)
- Council Tax Support: 53.8% (44.7% sply)

The Council's collection of Council Tax Support is significantly better than the same period last year despite the fact that Council Tax Support claimants now having to pay 25% of their Council Tax bill (up from 10% last year).

The new customer relationship management system being introduced by Customer Services is making good progress with phase 1 currently being tested.

A scheme offering landlords incentives to rent their property to Spelthorne Council has been launched. The incentives include guaranteed rent and a free tenant-finding service.

Dozens of local residents attended a Senior Citizens Safety Day on 29 October, dedicated to providing advice to older people on how to stay safe and keep healthy. Open to people aged 65 and over, the event was organised by Spelthorne Council and housing group A2Dominion with sponsorship from Wood Group Kenny.

Everyone Active Spelthorne won a Gold award for the best club in the South East region (Kent, Surrey, Sussex) at the Annual Health Club Awards. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> successive year that Everyone Active has picked up an award at this prestigious event.

Four park homes have had solid wall insulation installed, making the properties more energy efficient for the winter and reducing the risk of health issues and financial problems for the owners. A quarter of the funding for these works was obtained from npower.

Watercourse clearance works have been completed at Mark Way Ditch, Felix Lane and Black Ditch in Shepperton.

A report regarding textile collections has been approved by MAT and will now be included in the revenue growth bid process to determine if the project can proceed.

A consultation has been held to gain residents' views on what they would like to see done with the multi-story car park in Church Road, Ashford. Over 100 responses have been received.

The deadline for applications for the Repair and Renew Grant has been extended to 31 December.

Spelthorne Council's Chief Executive, Roberto Tambini, met with the family of Zane Gbangbola, who presented a petition calling for a public debate on the tragic death of their son who died during the floods earlier in the year. He wrote to the family after the meeting to express his sympathy for their ongoing anguish and to confirm that he has contacted the Coroner's Office asking for the Inquest to be arranged as soon as possible. The petition will be discussed at the Council meeting scheduled for 18 December and the family has been invited to attend.

Cllr Vivienne Leighton, ward councillor for Shepperton Town and Cabinet Member for Planning and Corporate Development was recently interviewed by Brooklands Radio. She spoke on a range of topics including her role as a Cabinet Member, Surrey County Council's plan for an Eco Park and flooding.

The Communications team has been working on the winter Bulletin magazine which will be delivered to residents from 6 December. It includes articles about flood awareness, the law enforcement trial and Christmas events.

The owner of the K2 restaurant in Stanwell has been prosecuted for food hygiene offences. He was fined a total of £6,000 with legal costs of £3,977.25 and a surcharge of £100.

A Spelthorne resident has been prosecuted under Part III of the Clean Air Act 1993 for allowing smoke emissions to be discharged from the chimney of a domestic property in a designated Smoke Control Area. The defendant was ordered to pay a nominal fine for the offence (£100) and the associated court costs of the Council.

Environmental Health Officers worked in partnership with Surrey Police and Surrey Fire Rescue Service to stop the illegal occupation of a disused warehouse in the Borough by 25 people. The conditions found by staff were unsafe with inadequate means of fire escape.

The team of staff required for the law enforcement trial have all been recruited. The trial will be launched at the Partnership Action Day being held in Stanwell on 3 December.

A member of the Streetscene team has been seconded to the Planning enforcement team to cover a member of staff who is on maternity leave.

#### **2117. Issues for Future Meetings**

There were none.

#### **2118. Urgent items**

There were none.

#### **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 21 November 2014***