

## **Minutes of Cabinet**

**20 November 2012**

### **Present:**

Councillor F. Ayers (Leader of the Council, Chairman of the Cabinet and Cabinet Member for Strategy and Corporate Governance)  
Councillor Mrs. J.M. Pinkerton (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Independent Living)  
Councillor Mrs 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 N. Gething (Cabinet Member for Economic Development)  
Councillor Mrs. D.L. Grant (Parks and Assets)  
Councillor R.L. Watts (Cabinet Member for Environment)

**Apologies:** There were none.

**In attendance:** Councillor I. Napper

### **1853. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2012 were agreed as a correct record.

### **1854. Disclosures of Interest**

There were none.

### **1855. Members' Development Steering Group Minutes**

Cabinet considered the minutes of the Members' Development Steering Group meeting held on 17 September 2012.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet notes the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2012.

### **1856. Treasury Management half-yearly report 2012-13**

Cabinet considered a report on treasury management activities for the first half of the year up to 30 September 2012.

Cabinet congratulated Terry Collier and the Treasury Management on the flexibility of thought and readiness to adopt new thinking which had allowed us to expand our investment thinking to maintain our income during this difficult economic period of low interest rates.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet notes the treasury position at 30 September 2012 and the ongoing environment in global markets.

### **1857. Capital Monitoring Report 2012-13**

Cabinet considered a report on the spend figures for the capital programme for the period April to September 2012 and a request for a supplementary estimate of £21,400 for the purchase of Leisure Centre Fitness kit as a loan to the Council's leisure centre contractor, SLM.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet notes the current spend position and agrees the supplementary estimate of £21,400 for Leisure Centre fitness kit.

### **1858. Revenue Monitoring Report 2012-13**

Cabinet considered a report on the net revenue spend figures for the period April to September 2012.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet notes the contents of the revenue monitoring report for the period April to September 2012.

### **1859. Residual Grant awards**

Cabinet considered a report on those organisations to be considered for funding from the residual grants fund for 2012-13.

Cabinet agreed that Sunbury Scouts should be contacted to obtain an update on the progress of their application to refurbish their headquarters. Subject to their response, Cabinet might consider the award of a further £500 to Shepperton Girl Guides.

Cabinet discussed the allocation of any future surplus and agreed that it should:

- Apply the same criteria to all organisations;
- Take account of any funding from Surrey County Council to organisations, and
- Identify one of the Council's priorities against each organisation.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agrees:

1. To allocate the remaining £17,550 to the organisations as set out in Appendix A to these minutes.
2. That in considering the allocation of any future surplus it should:
  - Apply the same criteria to all organisations;
  - Take account of any funding to organisations from Surrey County Council and
  - Identify one of the Council's priorities against each organisation.

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

Cabinet agreed at its February 2012 meeting to allocate the remaining funds to voluntary and business sector organisations which had worthwhile projects supporting the local community during 2012-13.

### **1860. \*Adoption of the Gambling Act Policy 2013-16 – Key Decision**

Cabinet considered a report on the outcome of consultation on, and adoption of, the revised Statement of Gambling Policy 2013-16.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet recommends Council to adopt the revised Statement of Gambling Policy for 2013-16.

### **Reason for the recommendation to Council:**

Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 requires all licensing authorities to prepare and publish a Statement of Gambling Policy that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under this legislation and which must be reviewed every three years.

### **1861. Automated Public Conveniences**

Cabinet considered a report on whether the Council should continue to provide Automatic Public Conveniences (APCs) in the Borough.

It noted that currently the Council provided two sets of APCs under contract and that the usage figures for some of the toilets had been falling steadily over the past five years.

Cabinet discussed the possibility of approaching shops and cafes with a view to operating a community toilet scheme.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agrees to:

1. Terminate the Heathmatic contract and renegotiate a new contract for two APCs at Shepperton Lock.
2. Terminate the JC Decaux contract.
3. Consult with local traders to gauge interest in community toilets and the resulting information to be reported back to Cabinet in mid-2013.

**Reason for the decision:**

The provision of public toilets by local authorities is discretionary, and the APC usage is not, and has never been, very high compared to the cost of renting and maintaining the units. However, there are a number of other toilets in the Borough which are available for public use.

**1862. Staines Market – Key Decision**

Cabinet considered a report seeking permission to authorise the Head of Streetscene to progress with a tender exercise for a contract to operate Staines market on behalf of the Council.

Cabinet noted the much-improved look of the market now compared to previous years and congratulated staff accordingly.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet

1. Authorises the Head of Streetscene to go out to tender for a market contract for a period of three + two years.
2. Authorises the Head of Streetscene and the Neighbourhood Manager to negotiate and agree ad hoc arrangements and rates for use of space in the High Street.
3. Authorises the continued collection of cash rents by the successful market contractor.
4. Authorises the Head of Streetscene to continue with the current arrangements until such time as the tender has been awarded and the new contract is in place.
5. Delegates the selection of the shortlist of tenderers and the selection of the contractor to the Head of Street Scene in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

**Reason for the decision:**

Having implemented a temporary arrangement for the running of the market, following the termination of the previous supplier's contract in November 2011, the Council now wants to tender the contract for a period of three years plus a further two. A contract would provide the Council with the expertise that it needs to maintain levels of income and a range of day-to-day services.

The Council considered taking the running of the market in-house (this arrangement was undertaken as an interim measure following the afore-mentioned termination), but this resulted in officers working very long hours and a reduction in the quality of service provided.

**1863. Staisafe Radio Network**

Cabinet considered a report on the provision of a radio communication system to replace the existing system in Staines-upon-Thames and to expand it to other towns in the Borough.

Cabinet noted that the cost of purchasing the radios would be recouped in the first year through the contributions from traders using them. It also noted that the scheme would generate funding to both pay for the salary of the Staisafe Co-ordinator and provide monies to support initiatives/events within all the towns in the Borough.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet

1. Supports a supplementary capital estimate of £13k being made available for the purchase of radios;
2. Approves revenue expenditure of £14.5k per annum anticipated to be covered from the revenue income from members of the scheme;
3. Approves the initiation of a relevant tender process to purchase new radios and associated software systems and
4. Delegates the selection of a shortlist of suppliers to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

**Reason for the decision:**

Cabinet recognised the value to the business community in Staines-upon-Thames of the existing radio communication system and that, by purchasing the radios and leasing them back to retailers, the Council would not only be able to provide a far more effective radio system with the potential for additional capacity such as photography, recording conversations and GPS systems, but also provide income generation to support events in all the Borough's towns.

**1864. \*Corporate Plan – Key Decision**

Cabinet considered a report on the proposed new priorities for the Corporate Plan 2012-15.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet recommends Council to adopt the revised Corporate Plan for 2012-15.

**Reason for the recommendation to Council:**

The Corporate Plan is a key document which specifies Spelthorne's mission, vision, values and priorities for 2012-15. The plan also outlines the Council's Strategy for a sustainable, financial future and indicates how progress with the specified key actions will be reported.

**1865. Issues for Future Meetings**

There were none.

**1866. Urgent Items**

Councillor Watts informed Cabinet that there had been a recent increase in the gate fees for recycling waste, but that officers were in the process of re-negotiating the level of charges on behalf of the Council.

**1867. Exempt Business**

There was 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 28 November 2012**