

## CABINET

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 29 JUNE 2016

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## CABINET

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 29 JUNE 2016

#### **Present:**

Councillor G Baxter MBE ..... Leader (in the Chair)

Councillor J Austen

“ Mrs E A Hill

Councillor P R Kerry

“ J Lilley

#### **85 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Barker and M Gordon.

#### **86 Declarations of Interests**

Members were requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

Councillor Mrs E A Hill declared a significant other interest in relation to item 13 – Proposed Development of Housing at Stonebroom and Regeneration Update – arising from her membership of the Board of Rykneld Homes. Councillor Mrs E A Hill left the room for consideration of this item and did not participate in the discussion or vote.

Councillor J Lilley declared a non significant other interest in relation to item 4 – Funding to Voluntary and Community Organisations, Presentation of Outcomes for 2015/16 – arising from his position as a volunteer for North East Derbyshire Citizens Advice. It was noted that as this interest was not significant Councillor J Lilley could remain in the meeting for this item.

#### **87 Minutes of Last Meeting**

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 8 June 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

#### **88 Funding to Voluntary and Community Organisations – Presentation of Outcomes for 2015/16**

Cabinet considered a presentation from Citizens Advice North East Derbyshire as part of a suite of presentations from Voluntary Sector Organisations funded by the Council in 2015/16. Phil Morris, Chief Executive of Citizens Advice North East Derbyshire, attended the meeting to give the presentation.

Cabinet were advised that the number of enquiries dealt with by Citizens Advice North East Derbyshire had increased in the last year to 13,718, particularly centred on the southern part of the District due to demand. Details of the enquiries were broken down into their main categories: debt and benefit enquiries. The presentation also outlined the profile of clients broken down by gender, age, employment, household type, housing tenure and income profile. Details of the Citizens' Advice North East Derbyshire website will provide to Cabinet, including the self help debt site and the budgeting money smart site.

Cabinet were advised that a large number of clients for the Citizens Advice North East Derbyshire had issues with water arrears and it was agreed that Rykneld Homes arrangements for collecting water rates from their tenants on behalf of Severn Trent Water would be reviewed.

Details of Citizens Advice North East Derbyshire's involvement in the Derbyshire Scam Watch Scheme were also provided to Cabinet and it was agreed that the Council would support the scheme as much as possible by promoting it through the Council's and Rykneld Homes' communication mediums as well as through other networks.

The Chair, on behalf of the Council, thanked Mr Morris for the tremendous work of Citizens Advice North East Derbyshire on behalf of the citizens of the District and for attending the Cabinet meeting to provide his presentation.

**RESOLVED** – That the presentation from Citizens Advice North East Derbyshire be noted.

#### **Reason for Decision**

To ensure that the Council maximises efficient use of outcomes through commissioning and voluntary sector organisation to help the Council achieve its corporate priorities.

#### **Other Options Considered and Rejected**

None.

### **Non Key Decisions**

#### **89 Member Development Annual Report 2015/16**

Cabinet considered the report of Councillor N Barker, Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Human Resources, Training and Member Development, which presented the Member Development Annual Report and advised Cabinet of the Member Development work that had been undertaken during the municipal year 2015/16.

The Annual Report set out the Member Development activities that had taken place during the year, opportunities that had been made available to Members and information on the evaluation of Member Development that had taken place.

Attached to the Annual Report was the programme for Member Development activities for 2016/17, although Cabinet were advised that this programme was a living document and would be subject to change.

**RESOLVED**

That Cabinet notes the content of the Member Development Annual Report 2015/16.

**Reason for Decision**

To enable Cabinet to consider the Annual Report of Member Development during 2015/16.

**Other Options Considered and Rejected**

Not applicable.

(Senior Governance Officer)

**90 Callywhite Lane Industrial Estate Expansion Land – Development Brief**

Cabinet considered the report of Councillor M Gordon, Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Environment, which provided an update on opportunities for the expansion of Callywhite Lane Industrial Estate and recommended a budget allocation for the preparation of a development brief to progress the opportunities presented.

Further to Cabinet Min No 476 (2015/16), Focus Consultants had been appointed to carry out a feasibility study and to develop a business case for the expansion of Callywhite Lane Industrial Estate by way of infrastructure investment.

The study concluded that the proposal to expand the estate was a close strategic fit with the growth priorities of the Council and both D2N2 and Sheffield City Region (SCR) Local Economic Partnerships (LEPs), and as such had been used to support approaches to D2N2 and SCR for infrastructure funding.

It was proposed that a property consultant be appointed to prepare a development brief that sets out the Council's aspirations in terms of design, type of use, programme, and delivery options etc.

A development brief would also facilitate dialogue with third parties other than developers. As reported previously, Network Rail's proposed electrification of the Midland Mainline was a key driver for bringing the site forward and discussions were ongoing with Network Rail's Project Manager.

A maximum budget of £25,000 was needed to complete the study.

**RESOLVED** – That a budget of £25,000 be allocated for the preparation of a development brief for the Callywhite Lane expansion land on the basis that these additional costs would be met from savings identified elsewhere on the Council's revenue budgets.

Reason for Decision

To support the Council's key aim of unlocking our growth potential.

Other Options Considered and Rejected

The technical knowledge and experience required to complete this development brief was beyond the capability of Council officers so the only realistic option was to secure external expertise.

(Assistant Director – Economic Growth)

**91 A Healthy North East Derbyshire – Update Report**

Cabinet considered report of Councillor J Lilley, Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Community Safety, Equality & Diversity and Health, which updated Cabinet on the latest developments regarding the Healthy North East Derbyshire approach.

The report provided an update of activity in the last quarter, particularly on the adoption of the new Partnership Locality Health Action Plan, transfer of funding and commissioning role from Derbyshire County Council to the Council's Partnership Team and the strategic developments arising from the replacement of the Joint CCG Liaison Group with a new Strategic Health Group.

The Council, through its Partnership Team, had been instrumental in developing the priorities and actions in the newly adopted Partnership Locality Health Action Plan, based on the Districts Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The Healthy North East Derbyshire Partnership had met five times during 2015/16 to-date with the focus of development, delivery and monitoring of the new Healthy Communities Locality Action Plan for North East Derbyshire.

Councillor J Lilley as the new Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Equality & Diversity and Health, had replaced Councillor Mrs L Robinson on the Partnership Group and it would be proposed that he be formally elected as Vice Chair of the next meeting in July 2016.

The Council had also submitted an application to become an associate member of the Healthy Communities Network and had recently been accepted.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet notes the progress achieved in the second quarter since the approval of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for North East Derbyshire 2015-2019, including the following:-

- The adoption of the new Partnership Locality Health Action Plan;
- Transfer of funding and commissioning role from Derbyshire County Council to the Council's Partnerships Team;
- The progress of the Healthy NED Partnership;
- Submission of Healthy Cities Network application and;
- The strategic developments arising from the replacement of the Joint CCG Liaison Group with a new Strategic Health Group, with regular updates to be provided to Members reporting on progress from the Group.

Reason for Decision

To provide an update on the latest developments regarding the Healthy North East Derbyshire approach.

Other Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable

(Partnership Development Officer)

**92 Powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014**

RESOLVED – That this report be deferred until the next meeting of Cabinet.

Reason for Decision

To allow for further information to be provided on how anti-social behaviour is dealt with across both private sector housing and Council/Rykneld Homes tenants.

**93 Urgent Business (Public Session)**

There was no urgent business to be considered in the public session at this meeting of Cabinet.

**94 Exclusion of Public**

RESOLVED - That the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following items of business to avoid the disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006). [The category of exempt information is stated after each Minute].

**Policy & Budget Framework Items****95 Proposed Development of Housing at Stonebroom and Regeneration Update**

Cabinet considered a report of Councillor Mrs E A Hill, Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Housing Strategy and Social Inclusion, which provided an update on several regeneration projects currently progressed by Rykneld Homes Ltd on behalf of North East Derbyshire District Council and sought approval from Cabinet:-

- To progress plans to facilitate the provision of affordable housing for rent at Stonebroom;
- To develop housing for sale on the open market to support the regeneration of the Council's housing stock and to optimise the utilisation of the Stonebroom site;

- To enter into negotiations with ASRA Housing Group relating to the potential purchase of 36 bungalows in North Wingfield.

Rykneld Homes had identified that the Stonebroom site could present an opportunity for development to provide a long term solution for an area of land currently occupied by a garage site which was under-utilised and had restricted access. The report outlined the development proposal that had been prepared and the actions outstanding that would be required to progress these proposals.

The report also provided an update on the regeneration projects at Eckington and Killamarsh, Manor Farm, Dronfield, the first phase at North Wingfield and external wall insulation at Renishaw.

As part of the consultation programme for the current regeneration scheme at North Wingfield, details of the scheme were issued to all homes within the immediate vicinity of the project, which included 36 affordable rent and shared ownership bungalows owned by ASRA Housing Group. It was proposed that Rykneld Homes negotiate with ASRA Housing Group with a view to purchasing this housing stock subject to the development of a robust business case.

**RESOLVED** – That Cabinet:-

- (1) Notes the progress updates for Eckington and Killamarsh; Manor Farm, Dronfield; the first phase at North Wingfield; and external wall insulation schemes across the District.
- (2) Agrees that Rykneld Homes enter into negotiations with ASRA Housing Group to agree terms for the purchase of 36 bungalows in North Wingfield on behalf of North East Derbyshire District Council.
- (3) Agrees that Rykneld Homes progress the proposed scheme at Stonebroom, as outlined in the report.
- (4) Approves the transfer of land (garage site at Shelley Grove, Stonebroom attached as Appendix 1 to the report) at nil value from the Council to Rykneld Homes subject to the General Housing Consent, to facilitate the development of new affordable homes within Stonebroom and to provide a development platform for Rykneld Homes.
- (5) Recommends that the Council approve short term loan facilities via the General Fund borrowing of up to £0.650m over a two year period to Rykneld Homes for the development of open market housing as part of the Stonebroom proposals. The loan draw down dates and the loan repayment dates to be set at quarterly intervals during the two year period and the terms and conditions to be agreed by the Executive Director – Operations.
- (6) Approves the alteration to the boundary of 4 Carlyle Road, Stonebroom, to facilitate the development of new affordable homes and market housing.
- (7) **Agrees that any surplus generated from the Stonebroom scheme is earmarked towards the financing of future Council housing schemes within the District.**  
**(Key Decision)**

Reason for Decisions

To progress existing and future housing development schemes for the development of the Council and its tenants and communities.

Other Options Considered and Rejected

The option not to facilitate the Stonebroom development was rejected as the site would have remained under-utilised which was unsustainable in the longer term. This option would also have seen the opportunity to secure a higher value for the site being lost.

(Managing Director – Rykneld Homes Ltd)  
(Paragraphs 3 & 5)

**Key Decisions****96 NEDDC Leisure Facilities Investment Proposals**

Cabinet considered report of Councillor G Baxter MBE, Leader of the Council, which outlined investment proposals for the Council's leisure facilities.

Further to Cabinet Min No 430 (2015/16) officers had continued to develop the proposals for the phases in investment in the Council's leisure facilities at Eckington and Dronfield, which would lead to a reduction in the subsidy required to operate them and move leisure provision towards a sustainable portfolio of facilities.

The recommendations were developed based on the needs of the community and a cost benefit analysis of the proposals with a review to providing a facilities investment plan that integrates with the Council's Growth and Transformation agenda.

The report outlined the demand for leisure provision within the local area, the projected cost of the investment and the likely return and improved financial position.

The report detailed the proposals for investment at Eckington swimming pool which included extending the current health and fitness provision and creating a new studio/multi use space, replacing the male/female changing areas with a universal village changing facility, removing the small pool provision and other works to renovate the facilities and office space.

The proposals for investment in Dronfield Sports Centre included the extension of the current health and fitness provision and a re-design of the facilities to create a studio/multi use space.

It was noted, as previously advised, that Sharley Park Leisure Centre required additional research and modelling in order to develop investment proposals for this site in the future, due to the more fundamental approach of a new build programme and the level of funding that would be required. Work on a comprehensive facility strategy was also still ongoing.

It was proposed that the procurement for a development partner for the planned works in this financial year be carried out through the exercising of the option to utilise the strategic leisure development partner identified through an OJEU procurement exercise undertaken by Suffolk Coastal Council. North East Derbyshire District Council was named in that procurement exercise as an organisation who may wish to benefit from the procurement exercise in the future. Officers were satisfied that the successful contractor identified by the tender process met the Council's needs and by using this procurement route substantial savings could be achieved to the Council, securing better value for money.

**RESOLVED –**

- (1) That Cabinet approves the proposals as presented in the report to allow for the procurement of the proposed works identified for the financial year 2016/17 by exercising the option to utilise the Suffolk Coastal Council OJEU procurement route.
- (2) That budgets be allocated from the Invest to Save Fund of £1.752m.
- (3) That officers continue with the broader strategy and work associated with the Council's Built Facilities, working with partners such as Sport England to develop comprehensive facility development proposals for Members consideration for future facilities development, taking into account other findings and recommendations included as part of other strategic documents, including but not limited to existing previously adopted town centre regeneration and development frameworks.

**Reason for Decisions**

To improve the financial sustainability of the Council's leisure facilities and to increase opportunities for community participation in sport and recreation.

**Other Options Considered and Rejected**

The option of remaining with the facilities mix and buildings as they presently exist was rejected as this would not deliver the level of savings required by the Council over the medium to long term. The closure of a leisure centre was also rejected due to the impact on levels of provision and would not meet with the Council's priorities in regard to the health of the community.

(Assistant Director - Leisure)  
(Paragraph 3)

<b>Non Key Decisions</b>
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**97 Medium Term Financial Plan**

Cabinet considered report of Councillor P R Kerry, Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Economy, Finance and Regeneration, which presented a request for voluntary redundancy from an officer within the Council's Human Resources Service.

Following a review of the Human Resources Service, subsequent to the appointment of the new Assistant Director for Human Resources, it was recognised that the increased level of joint working across Bolsover District Council and North East Derbyshire District Council within the Human Resources Service had secured both an improved service and significant efficiencies. It was therefore identified that Post No HR002 could be made redundant without significant detrimental impact upon the service.

Cabinet were advised that the cost of the proposal would be approximately £33,000, including the release of pension, together with a redundancy payment to the post holder. The savings from disestablishing the post would result in a payback of cost in just over one year.

**RESOLVED –**

- (1) That Cabinet requests that the Chief Executive, as Head of Paid Service, utilise his delegated powers in order to make Post No HR002 redundant, with the current postholder to receive release of pension together with a redundancy payment at a total cost of £33,000.
- (2) On the basis that the above action is undertaken Cabinet approves the release of pension, together with a redundancy payment (at a total cost of £33,000) to the current postholder.

**Reason for Decisions**

The decision enables the Council to secure financial efficiencies necessary to operate effectively against a background of ongoing reductions and a level of central government financial support for local authorities, whilst protecting the level of service.

**Other Options Considered and Rejected**

None.

(Assistant Director – Finance, Revenues & Benefits)  
(Paragraphs 1, 3 & 4)

**98 Urgent Business (Private Session)**

There was no urgent business to be considered in the private session at this meeting of Cabinet.