

Cabinet

Minutes of meeting held in Court Room at Eastbourne Town Hall, Grove Road, BN21 4UG on 23 October 2019 at 6.00 pm

Present:

Councillor David Tutt (Chair)

Councillors Alan Shuttleworth (Deputy-Chair), Margaret Bannister, Jonathan Dow, Colin Swansborough and Rebecca Whippy

Officers in attendance:

Robert Cottrill (Chief Executive), Homira Javadi (Chief Finance Officer), Ian Fitzpatrick (Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning), Tim Whelan (Director of Service Delivery), Peter Finnis (Assistant Director for Corporate Governance), Jane Goodall (Strategy and Partnership Lead, Quality Environment), Jo Harper (Head of Business Planning and Performance), Matt Hitchen (Senior Planning Policy Officer), Ola Owolabi (Deputy Chief Finance Officer (Corporate Finance)) and Simon Russell (Committee and Civic Services Manager)

32 Minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2019 were submitted and approved and the Chair was authorised to sign them as a correct record.

33 Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was reported from Councillor Holt.

34 Declaration of members' interests

None were declared.

35 Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Service Delivery seeking Cabinet's recommendation to Full Council that the 2019/20 Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme be adopted as the 2020/21 scheme.

Recommended to Full Council (Budget and policy framework):

(1) That Cabinet recommend to Full Council that the 2019/20 Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme be adopted as the 2020/21 scheme

(2) That the Exceptional Hardship Scheme be continued in 2020/21

Reason for decisions:

The 2019/20 scheme meets the principles of supporting the most vulnerable, with the Exceptional Hardship scheme providing an extra level of support for those most affected.

36 Eastbourne Local Plan - Issues and Options Report

The Cabinet considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning seeking their approval to publish the Eastbourne Local Plan Issues and Options report for public consultation between 1 November 2019 and 10 January 2020.

Visiting members, Councillors Smart and Freebody addressed the Cabinet on this item.

In response to comments raised by visiting members, the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning advised that the Council would make contact with Sovereign Harbour Residents Association to ensure they are fully engaged in the process.

The Cabinet expressed their thanks to Matthew Hitchen and Tondra Thom and the Planning team for their work in producing the report.

Resolved (Key decision):

(1) That Cabinet approve the publication of the Eastbourne Local Plan Issues & Options Report (Appendix 1) for public consultation between Friday 1st November 2019 and Friday 10th January 2020.

(2) The Cabinet delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration and Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place Services, to make minor changes to the Issues and Options Report prior to publication if necessary.

Reason for decisions:

(1) To meet the requirements of Regulation 18 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) in the preparation of a Local Plan.

(2) To ensure that the Eastbourne Local Plan is progressed in accordance with the timetable set out in the Eastbourne Local Development Scheme.

(3) To ensure that any minor or typographical errors can be corrected prior to the Issues & Options Report being published for consultation.

37 Disability Inclusion Fund

The Cabinet considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning seeking their approval to establish a fund to improve disability inclusion in the borough.

Resolved (Non-key decision):

(1) To approve an allocation of £20k in 2019/20 for a Disability Inclusion Fund to be distributed as set out in the report;

(2) To approve the establishment of a Disability Inclusion Task Group to consider applications for payments from the Fund.

(3) To grant delegated authority to the Deputy Chief Executive to decide, in consultation with the other members of the Disability Inclusion Task Group, on individual allocations from the Fund.

Reason for decisions:

A Disability Inclusion Fund could support and kick-start interventions to help tackle the barriers experienced by disabled children and adults in actively participating in all aspects of life.

38 Property Disposal and Transfer Policy Revision

The Cabinet considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning seeking their agreement to revisions to the Property Disposal and Transfer policy to include reference to Community Asset Transfer.

Visiting member, Councillor Freebody addressed the Cabinet on this item.

The Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning advised that an update on transferred community assets and the due diligence undertaken would be reported to Cabinet through the Strategic Property Board.

Resolved (Key decision):

To agree and adopt the revisions to the Policy Disposal and Transfer Policy to include provision for Community Asset Transfer.

Reason for decision:

The Policy Disposal and Transfer Policy needs to be updated to include provision for Community Asset Transfer.

39 Exploring Opportunities to Develop a Micro-Brewery Joint Venture

The Cabinet considered the report of the Deputy Chief-Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning setting out options for the Council to consider establishing a micro-brewery and developing efficiency in supply chains through local partnerships.

Resolved (Non-key decision):

- (1) To agree to engage with interested parties in the development of a micro-brewery and supply chain partnership and to undertake a Soft Market Testing process.
- (2) To agree to the development of a working group with experts from across the fields of brewing, service delivery, property, agriculture and the business and community to be engaged in process.
- (3) To agree to a £5K enabling fund which will be utilised to commission expert brewing support and development of the project with Project Management support.

Reason for decisions:

To set out a framework where the community have the opportunity to engage in the process of developing a microbrewery for the town whilst also provide enabling funding to fully explore the opportunity further.

The meeting ended at 6.30 pm

Councillor David Tutt (Chair)