

Minutes of the Cabinet held at the Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford on Thursday 8 August 2024

Chairman - Councillor A T A Godfrey

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

R P Cooke - Resources Portfolio
J Hood - Community Portfolio
R Kenney - Deputy Leader
G P K Pardesi - Leisure Portfolio

A F Reid - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio

A N Pearce - Climate Change Portfolio

Also present:-

Officers in attendance:-

T Clegg - Chief Executive

C Forrester - Deputy Chief Executive (Resources)

A Nevin - Head of Wellbeing

W Conaghan - Press and Communications Manager

J Allen - Democratic Services Officer

Prior to the meeting, the Leader shared the sad news that Alderman Brian Price had recently passed away. The flag was flown at half-mast at the Civic Centre as a mark of respect. The Leader led all present in a moment's silence.

The Leader shared the news that three Stone athletes had won medals at the Paris Olympics. It was agreed that they should be invited to switch on the Christmas Lights in Stafford.

Finally, the Leader asked for brief verbal reports from representatives of the Strategic Outside Bodies for the previous year, which were duly noted.

CAB16 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2024 as published on 12 July 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

CAB17 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor I D Fordham.

CAB18 Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order A34

Received a report providing an update in respect of the consultation that has been conducted in relation to the application for a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 for the A34.

The Cabinet Member, Community Portfolio introduced the report noting the detail as contained within paragraphs 1, 3 and 5.

Councillor Hood concluded her comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

The Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member, Community Portfolio, be approved as follows:

That:-

- (a) the report be noted;
- (b) approval be given for implementation of the PSPO for the A34 from the link by Junction 14 of the M6 up to the Stoke-on-Trent boundary, to prohibit car cruising and car meets.

CAB19 Civic Car Replacement

Considered a report seeking permission to spend up to £40,000 to replace the civic car

The Cabinet Member, Resources Portfolio introduced the report noting the detail as contained within paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 and the associated appendices.

Councillor Cooke concluded his comments by recommending that the proposal as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

The Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member, Resources Portfolio, be approved as follows:

That Cabinet give permission to spend up to £40,000 to replace the civic car with a used electric or plug-in hybrid powered model being preferred.

CAB20 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED:- that pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting whilst the next following item of business be discussed, on the grounds that it included the disclosure of exempt information of the type specified in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

Recording of the meeting was suspended at this point.

CAB21 Additional Funding Request for Environmental Health Services - Confidential

Considered a confidential report seeking additional funding to maintain the provision of the current levels of service by the environmental health team, and to seek additional temporary funding to support clearing a backlog of work relating to environmental permitting and regulatory checks on private water supplies.

On behalf of the Cabinet Member, Environment Portfolio, the Deputy Leader introduced the report noting the detail as contained within paragraphs 1 to 7, together with the associated confidential appendices.

Councillor Kenney concluded his comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

The Cabinet subsequently voted on the recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that the proposals of the Cabinet Member, Environment Portfolio, be approved as follows:

That:-

- (a) Cabinet recommends to Council funding of £61,940 for the permanent establishment of the Senior Environmental Health Officer post;
- (b) Cabinet recommends to Council temporary additional funding of £112,840 to maintain the current agency support for work on food safety and environmental protection;
- (c) Cabinet recommends to Council temporary additional funding of £96,200 to provide additional support to improve work relating to environmental permitting and regulatory checks on private water supplies.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COUNCIL ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2024.

CHAIR