

Chair - 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 and Town Centres and
Regeneration Portfolio
G P K Pardesi - Leisure Portfolio
A N Pearce - Climate Action and Nature Recovery Portfolio
A F Reid - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio

Also present - Councillors A P Edgeller, P W Jones and L Nixon

Officers in attendance:

G Stott - Deputy Chief Executive (Place)
J Aupers - Head of Transformation and Assurance
D Piper - Head of Economic Development and Planning
W Conaghan - Press and Communication Manager
J Dean - Democratic Services Officer

CAB9 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2024 as published on 7 June 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

CAB10 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor I D Fordham and T Clegg, Chief Executive.

CAB11 Finance Performance Update

Considered a report providing Members with an update on the budget monitoring position for 2023/24 as at 31 December 2023 and progress against budgeted savings.

The Cabinet Member, Resources Portfolio introduced the report noting the detail as set out in paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 before concluding his comments by recommending that the proposals as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

At the invitation of the Portfolio holder, Councillor A F Reid noted the successful efforts made to address the backlog of historic planning applications, which had come at a cost through the use of agency staff and external consultants. He was pleased to announce however that the service had been successful in recruiting new staff and that an independent review was to be held to further increase efficiency within the department.

The Deputy Leader of the Council praised the efforts of Officers in bringing down said backlog of historic planning applications.

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

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

That:-

- (a) the revenue position against budget for financial year 2023/24 to 31 December be noted;
- (b) the update of progress against budgeted savings be noted.

CAB12 Waterfront and Riverside Car Park Payment Systems - Permission to Spend

Considered a report seeking Council approval for the allocation of capital, from unallocated capital resources, into the capital programme, and to grant permission to spend that allocation on upgrading the current parking system and payment machines at the Council's Waterfront and Riverside car parks.

The Cabinet Member, Resources Portfolio introduced the report noting the detail as contained within paragraphs 1, 5 and 6 noting that it was essential to replace the existing system with the latest technology. Councillor Cooke concluded his comments by recommending that the proposal as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

Councillor G P K Pardesi was pleased to see the proposal supported 'future proofing' of the system whilst offering multiple ways for customers to pay.

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 Council be recommended to allocate a £275,000 fund from unallocated capital resources into the capital programme, and grant permission to spend those funds on the replacement of the parking system, payment machines, and associated equipment at the Council's Waterfront and Riverside car parks.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COUNCIL ON 30 JULY 2024.

CAB13 Planning Obligations Haywood and Hixon

Considered a report considering the allocation of Section 106 funding towards the provision and enhancement of open spaces serving the communities of Colwich, Little Haywood and Great Haywood and seeking permission to spend subject to the successful completion of the procurement process.

The Cabinet Member, Leisure Portfolio was delighted to introduce the report by noting the detail as contained within paragraphs 1, 5 and the associated appendices, and reported that Officers had met with associated local and Parish Councillors who were all in support of the scheme. Councillor Pardesi 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, Leisure Portfolio, be approved as follows:

That:-

- (a) the allocation of existing off-site contributions under the terms of S106 agreements for the amount of £419,073 as laid out in section 3 of the report be approved for the enhancement of open space in Haywood and Hixon Ward;
- (b) permission be given to progress to the procurement and spend stages of the project delivery process, based on the proposals described in paragraph 5 of the report;
- (c) delegated authority be granted to the Head of Economic Development and Planning and Head of Operations (in conjunction with the Leisure Portfolio Holder and relevant Local Councillors) to approve the final plans and any further revisions to enable the projects to be delivered.

CAB14 Permission to Spend Swimming Pool Support Fund

Considered a report requesting approval to spend £214,616 installing Photo Voltaic Panels and Shower Flow Restrictors at Stafford Leisure Centre.

The Cabinet Member, Leisure Portfolio introduced the report and highlighted the detail as contained with paragraphs 1, 2, and 5 before concluding her comments by recommending that the proposal as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

Councillor A N Pearce noted that proposal was an important step towards the Councils target to reduce its carbon emissions to zero by 2035.

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

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

That Council be recommended to include £214,616 in its capital programme for the installation of Photo Voltaic Panels and Shower Flow Restrictors at Stafford Leisure Centre and, subject to approval, grants permission to spend.

THIS ITEM IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL IN AND WILL BE REFERRED TO COUNCIL ON 30 JULY 2024.

CAB15 Biodiversity Net Gain Monitoring Fees

Considered a report:-

- setting out a charging schedule for monitoring of Section 106 (S106) agreements for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) for all sites where such an obligation exists;
- demonstrating why a monitoring charge was considered necessary and activities that would be covered by the proposed charge;
- seeking approval to authorise the charging structure for monitoring fees associated with off-site or on-site BNG.

The Cabinet Member, Economic Development and Planning Portfolio introduced the report and provided the rationale for it before noting the detail as contained within paragraphs 1, 3, 5 and the associated appendices. Councillor Reid concluded his comments by recommending that the proposal as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

Councillor A N Pearce welcomed the report whilst acknowledging the need to ensure sufficient resources were available to maintain said monitoring.

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

RESOLVED:- that the proposal of the Cabinet Member, Economic Development and Planning Portfolio, be approved as follows:

That the charging structure for monitoring fees be approved and the start date for implementing monitoring fees be delegated to the Head of Service and Cabinet Portfolio Holder.

CHAIR