

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CABINET
THURSDAY, 18 MARCH, 2010 AT 4.30 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Stanley, N.K.	Leader of the Council
Davies, D.N.	Access to Education, Skills, and Employment Portfolio Leader
Grocott, M.R.	Culture, Sport and Services for Children & Young People Portfolio Leader
Williams, A,	Environment Sustainability Portfolio Leader.
Yates, Ms. W.	Healthier Communities and Older People Portfolio Leader

138. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M.P. Freeman, Deputy Leader of the Council and Housing Portfolio Leader.

139. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

No declarations of interests were made.

140. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 1 February and 25 February, reconvened on 3 March, 2010, be approved as a correct record and signed.

141. Updates from Portfolio Leaders

Healthier Communities and Older People

The Portfolio Leader advised Cabinet of upcoming changes to the senior management structure of Staffordshire County Council's Social Care and Health Department, and expressed concern at the potential negative impact on health and care issues within the

Cannock Chase district. Of particular concern was the proposed reduction in the number of individual District Directors, resulting in Cannock Chase sharing a post with South Staffordshire at a time when the district has particular needs requiring a dedicated leadership approach.

The Leader enquired if the Council had been consulted on the restructuring, which had a direct impact on provision of Council services, as outlined by the Portfolio Leader.

The Chief Executive confirmed that he had been advised of the proposals, and that the County had felt it needed to act swiftly in order that affected Officers avoided the pensions "blackhole". Nonetheless, he advised that he had made representations to the County Council in support of a dedicated District Director for Cannock Chase, and would continue to do so through appropriate forums, such as the Blake Triangle project.

Culture, Sport and Services for Children & Young People

The Portfolio Leader advised that the Sports and Arts Development section had secured over £170,000 worth of funding to deliver a variety of projects across the District.

142. Forward Plan

Consideration was given to the Forward Plan of Decisions for the period March – June, 2010 (Enclosure 5.1 – 5.2 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Director of Culture and Regeneration circulated a revised Forward Plan, which:

- (i) removed the item in respect of "Approval of LDF Conservation Area: Appraisals and Management Plans", that was being considered as an agenda item, and
- (ii) set a timescale (29 April, 2010), for Cabinet consideration of "Approval of Cannock Chase LDF Pre-publication Core Strategy for Consultation"

RESOLVED:

That the revised Forward Plan of Decisions for the period March – June, 2010, be approved.

143. Part 1 Minutes of Policy Development Committees

RESOLVED:

That the Part 1 Minutes of the following Policy Development Committees be received for information:

- (i) Culture, Sport and Services for Children and Young People – 5 January, 2010.
- (ii) Environmental Sustainability – 26 January, 2010.

The Environment Sustainability Portfolio Leader advised that delivery of the blue dry waste recycling bins would be during late June / early July, 2010.

144. Cannock Chase Local Development Framework (LDF) Conservation Areas:

Appraisals and Management Plans

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Culture and Regeneration (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The following documents be approved for consultation:
 - (i) Draft Rugeley Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal
 - (ii) Draft Trent and Mersey Canal Conservation Area Appraisal
 - (iii) Draft Generic Conservation Area Management Plan SPD
 - (iv) Draft Rugeley Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan SPD
 - (v) Draft Brereton Conservation Area Management Plan SPD

- (B) The Director of Culture and Regeneration (or anyone so authorised by him), in consultation with the Environment Sustainability Leader, be authorised to make non-substantive changes to the above documents prior to consultation taking place.

Reasons for the Decision

Preparation of Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans are a recognised means of the Council meeting their duties under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to preserve and enhance Conservation Areas.

By aligning production of Conservation Area documents with the Local Development Framework plan making process, there will be advantages in terms of provision of a strengthened heritage evidence base and helping to demonstrate effective delivery. This was particularly the case with the package of documents presented which had been prioritised to support preparation of the Rugeley Town Centre Area Action Plan.

145. Proposed Boundary Extensions to the Talbot Street/Lichfield Street Conservation Area, Rugeley

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Culture and Regeneration (Enclosure 8.1 – 8.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the boundaries of the Talbot Street / Lichfield Street Conservation Area be extended as shown at Annex 1 to the Report, under Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990.

Reasons for the Decision

It was considered appropriate to extend the boundary of the Talbot Street/Lichfield Street Conservation Area to include the Britannia public house and its car park at 1 Brereton Road, Rugeley.

The Britannia was of a similar character to other buildings in the Conservation Area and would contribute to its overall special architectural and historic interest, the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. The boundary extension would protect the building from demolition and enable the Council to consider any subsequent proposals for its reuse in this light.

146. Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) waste Collection and Disposal Authority W2R Service Level Agreement

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Service Improvement (Enclosure 9.1 – 9.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The contents of the report be noted.
- (B) The signing of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Staffordshire County Council as part of the action plan to deliver the targets and aspirations for the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent (JMWMS), entitled 'Zero Waste to Landfill by 2020' be approved.

Reasons for the Decision

The report recommended the Council as WCA should sign the service level agreement with the WDA, Staffordshire County Council.

The Council recognised the principal requirements for the award of PFI credits in respect of project W2R is that the County Council as WDA should enter into binding agreement with District Council WCA's to achieve the targets set out in the JMWMS.

The Council had previously signed up to the Joint Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) and viewed the SLA in question as an extension to that strategy.

Agreement by the WDA and WCA to enter into the SLA would regulate the achievement of the targets set out in the JMWMS and the manner in which the recyclable municipal waste and biodegradable municipal waste will be dealt with in Staffordshire in the future.

147. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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PART 2

148. Debt Recovery

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Financial Management (Enclosure 11.1 – 11.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The amounts detailed in Annexes 1 to 4 of the report be written off.
- (B) That the actions of the Head of Financial Management in writing off the irrecoverable debts, below £1,000 be noted.

Reason for the Decision

There was no reasonable prospect of the Council recovering the debts and so writing them off was the best conclusion. Should any of the debtors' circumstances change, such that the debts become recoverable, the Council's officers would take the appropriate action to resurrect the debts and recover them

149. Early Termination and Retirement of the Deputy Chief Executive

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 12.1 – 12.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The negotiated Early Termination Package in respect of the Deputy Chief Executive be approved and the Chief Executive be authorised to sign the agreement on behalf of the Council, subject to approval by the Council's External Auditor.
- (B) The Council's Call In procedures be suspended in respect of the above recommendation, as the Call In process would delay the decision beyond the

agreed date of termination of employment.

Reason for the Decision

Under the terms of the Council's Early Termination and Retirement Policy, the negotiated settlement must be approved by Cabinet subject to costs being contained within budget provisions.

150. Early Retirement Request

Consideration was given to the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 13.1 – 13.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The payment of actuarial strain in respect of the early retirement of employee number 220473 in the sum of £25,100 be approved.
- (B) The Council's Call In procedures be suspended in respect of the above recommendation as the decision being taken by Cabinet is urgent because any delay likely to be caused by the Call In process would seriously prejudice the Council's interest.

Reason for the Decision

Post SD022 is a fixed term post dealing with business process re-engineering. It will cease on 30 September 2010, resulting in the postholder being made redundant. The postholder, employee number 220475, requested that she be considered for early retirement without enhancement from 30 March 2010 in accordance with the Council's policy, rather than be made redundant on 30 September 2010. Her manager supports the request.

The meeting closed at 5.25 pm.

LEADER