

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

CABINET

THURSDAY, 15 APRIL, 2010 AT 4.00 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
Freeman, M.P.	Deputy Leader of the Council and Housing 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

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

No declarations of interests were made.

152. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 18 March, 2010, be approved as a correct record and signed.

153. Updates from Portfolio Leaders

Environment Sustainability Portfolio

The Portfolio Leader referred to a matter raised in Council of 14 April, 2010, in respect of meadow mowing in Pye Green valley. He advised that the question of who was responsible for reinstating meadow mowing had been resolved thanks to an election publication distributed by the Conservative Party Parliamentary Candidate, which advised that the County Council had done so thanks to pressure from a local Councillor.

Culture, Sport and Services for Children and Young People

The Portfolio Leader advised Cabinet of appointments made in respect of modernisation of the Chase Leisure Centre following national competitive quotation exercises.

Architect	Saunders Architects LLP
Quantity Surveyor	Baqus
Building Surveyor	Baqus
CDM Co-ordinator (Health & Safety)	Baqus
Structural Engineer	CSC Engineers
Mechanical and Electrical Services Engineer	Michael Prince Associates
Asbestos Consultant	All About Asbestos
Water Treatment Consultant	Devin Consulting

During April and May 2010, the following will be undertaken –

- Intrusive Asbestos survey
- Building survey
- Pool Survey
- Structural engineering assessment
- Production of the detailed Tender documentation for the second stage European Union procurement process for a Design and Build Contractor

The Leader noted that the modernisation amounted to an effective rebuild of the leisure centre, albeit on the same foundations, that would provide a twenty first century facility for the people of Cannock, the cost of which was broadly in line with the combined costs of the Rugeley Leisure Centre and swimming pool development.

The Director of Culture and Regeneration reported that Sport England had advised that the Council's bid for funding would be unlikely to be determined until after the Parliamentary Election.

Housing

The Portfolio Leader advised that the Vine House development off Walkmill Lane, Bridgtown would be open for viewing in May.

154. Forward Plan

Consideration was given to the Forward Plan of Decisions for the period April - July, 2010 (Enclosure 5.1 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the Forward Plan of Decisions for the period April – July, 2010, be approved.

155. Shared Services with Stafford Borough Council

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 6.1 – 6.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council). The Chief Executive reported that Stafford Borough Council's Cabinet would be meeting at 4.30pm that same afternoon to consider the joint report of the Leaders of Cannock Chase District and Stafford Borough Councils, and to commit to the principle of shared services as outlined in the report.

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The joint report of the Leaders of Cannock Chase District Council and Stafford Borough Council be noted.
- (B) The first phase of the shared services programme be implemented as set out in the joint report, to a timetable to be agreed once external support for the project had been finalised.

Reason(s) for the Decision

In order to meet the significant potential impact of the national economic situation on Councils, it was considered important that all methods of delivering services in the most efficient and effective manner be given consideration. Therefore, Cannock Chase District Council and Stafford Borough Council had developed a Memorandum of Understanding within which discussions would continue to identify services that could be delivered on a shared basis.

156. Rugeley Water Feature

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Culture and Regeneration (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council). The Director of Culture and Regeneration advised that the timetable for consultation and construction of a water feature in Brook Square, Rugeley had been amended following advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer to take account of the local and Parliamentary Elections on 6 May, 2010. However, it was hoped that the timetable could be foreshortened to ensure completion by the first week in November, 2010.

Members expressed concern that the design visualisation and sample materials that were brought to the meeting were not as had been agreed following the initial public design consultation.

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The revised timetable for construction of a water feature in Brook Square, Rugeley, be noted.
- (B) A working group of the Rugeley members of Cabinet should meet during the week commencing 19 April, 2010, to review if the scheme could proceed with the materials agreed at a meeting of Council, held on 29 April, 2009.
- (C) The Director of Culture and Regeneration would arrange a liaison meeting between the Rugeley Cabinet members, appropriate Officers from Staffordshire County Council; and Cannock Chase Council Officers involved in the project.
- (D) The matter be referred back to the Cabinet meeting to be held on 29 April, 2010.

Reason(s) for the Decision

Council at its meeting on 29 April, 2009 had agreed the inclusion of this scheme in the Council's Capital Programme.

Council Officers had been working with Officers from Staffordshire County Council Highways Agency to look at the detail of options for the scheme, planning issues, liaison with the Environment Agency and the production of a timetable leading to construction of the water feature. The report provided feedback to Cabinet on issues relating to the timetable.

The issue of the design and materials to be used were fundamental to the scheme.

The meeting closed at 5.15 pm.

LEADER