
CABINET

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber , Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT on Wednesday, 14 July 2021 from 7.00 pm - 7.16 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Monique Bonney, Angela Harrison, Ben J Martin, Richard Palmer, Julian Saunders, Roger Truelove (Chairman) and Tim Valentine.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Billy Attaway, Jayne Bolas, David Clifford, Philippa Davies, Larissa Reed and Phil Wilson.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (REMOTELY): Councillors Cameron Beart, Steve Davey, Alastair Gould, Hannah Perkin, Ghlin Whelan and Corrie Woodford.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mike Baldock and Eddie Thomas.

151 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chairman outlined the emergency evacuation procedure.

152 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2021 (Minute Nos. 61 – 69) were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

153 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

154 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT - FINANCIAL OUTTURN REPORT 2020/21

The Leader introduced the report which outlined the revenue and capital outturn position of the Council for 2020/2021. The Leader highlighted the £3.893m overspend due to the Covid Pandemic. He said that tables 4 and 5 show the amount of government funding the Council had received in the past year. He asked members to agree to the settlement of the litigation case.

The Cabinet Member for Economy and Property proposed the recommendations which were seconded by the Cabinet Member for Community.

Resolved:

- (1) Noted the revenue underspend of £1.321m.***
- (2) Approved the revenue service rollovers of £293,753 and setting up of new reserves as set out in Appendix I Table 13.***
- (3) That delegation be given to the Chief Executive for the allocation of uncommitted underspends to a Covid Recovery Fund.***
- (4) Noted the capital underspend of £4,400,272 and expenditure of £9,603,218 as detailed in paragraph 3.33 and Appendix I Table 16.***

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- (5) Approved the capital rollovers of £5,880,664 as detailed in Appendix I Table 17**
- (6) Approved the transfer of reserves as set out in Table 3**
- (7) Agreed the settlement on litigation as set out in paragraph 3.25 of the report**
- (8) That delegation be given to the Chief Executive to top up the General Reserve as required and set out in paragraph 3.30 of the report.**

155 LAND AT COLEGATES CLOSE, OARE - COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

The Cabinet Member for Property and Economy introduced the report which sought approval for a 125 year lease on Land at Colegates Close to Oare Parish Council.

The Cabinet Member for Property and Economy proposed the recommendations and the Cabinet Member for Housing seconded.

Resolved:

- (1) That a new 125-year lease of the property, Land at Colegates Close, Oare be entered with Oare Parish Council.**
- (2) That the Head of Property Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Property be authorised to finalise the terms and the Head of Legal Services be authorised to negotiate and complete the necessary legal formalities and all necessary deeds and agreements arising from or ancillary to the grant of the lease of the property.**

156 FUTURE DELIVERY OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

The Cabinet Member for Property and Economy introduced the report which set out the three different options for a modified term contract for the delivery of property maintenance from 1 April 2022. The report set out the three different options and the Cabinet Member summarised the options as;

- Option 1 – retain the status quo and keeping the current single term contract we have;
- option 2 – create a framework contract along the same lines as the Staying Put framework the Council are currently operating; and
- option 3 – to modify the current term contract to encourage all labour and materials to be locally based/procured.

The Cabinet Member suggested to members that Option 2 was the most favourable option but due to the amount of work required by officers to get it in place it was not a practicable option. Option 3 was the best option for the Council to encourage the use of local trades and services.

The Cabinet Member for Property and Economy proposed the recommendation and Cabinet Member for Climate Change.

Resolved:

- (1) That Council proceed with Option 3 in the report for the delivery of property maintenance from 1 April 2022.**

157 PROCUREMENT OF UTILITY SUPPLIES

The Leader introduced the report which was to enter into a contract with Laser Buying Group from 1 October 2021 until 30 September 2025 for electricity and on a 1+1+1 basis for the gas supply on the terms set out in the report.

A member sought clarification from the officer as to why it is only recommended that we move to 50% of our electricity usage rather than 100%. The officer responded by explaining to the Cabinet that the 50% recommendation was to minimise the risk of a financial penalty.

The Leader proposed the recommendation and this was seconded by the Cabinet Member for Climate and Ecological Emergency.

Resolved:

(1) The Council enter into a contract with Laser Buying Group from 1 October 2021 until 30 September 2025 for electricity on a 1+1+1 basis for gas supply on the terms set out in the report.

158 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2021 - TO-FOLLOW

Resolved:

(1) That the recommendations in Minute Nos. 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90 and 91 be agreed.

159 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE LOCAL PLAN PANEL MEETING HELD ON 8 JULY 2021 - TO-FOLLOW

Resolved:

(1) That the recommendations in Minute No. 49 be agreed.

Chairman

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All Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel