

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING

held at
The Council Chamber
The Symington Building, Adam and Eve Street
Market Harborough LE16 7AG

On 29th November 2021

commencing at 5.30pm

Present:

Cllr King (Chair)

Councillors: Bateman, Dann, Hallam and Whelband

Officers: S. Green, N. Kwasa, N. Proudfoot,
Remote: D. Atkinson, C. Bland, L. Elliott, C. Mason,
and V. Wenham

INFORMATION EXCHANGE FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Councillor King reported that in the New Year the Council would be announcing a fund for her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations which would provide small grants towards community events, activities and commemorations, and that further details would be provided in due course.

TOPICAL ISSUES

There were none.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 1st November 2021 be approved as a correct record.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were none.

4. REPORTS:

REPORT 1: FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2021/22 QUARTER 2 (APRIL TO SEPTEMBER)

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report and highlighted the salient points which set out the financial forecast for Quarter 2, based on information at the end of September, for revenue and capital. Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED that Cabinet considered the Financial Performance Report and commented on the Forecast Outturn (31st March 2022) as detailed within the report and associated appendices.

REPORT 2: PERFORMANCE, QUARTER 2 2021/22 YEAR

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report and highlighted that of the 34 Key Activities at the end of Quarter 2; two were completed, 27 had Green status, five had Amber status and none were classed as Red status. Of the Key Performance Indicators; 21 are in the strategic performance dashboard, 13 are green, two are amber and six are red. He noted that most of those which are Red are not of particular concern as the expectation is that as the year progresses, they will reach their targets. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Portfolio Holder and senior officers and it was asked if there was an update on monitoring whether businesses within Lutterworth and Market Harborough had pivoted their business online. The Deputy Chief Executive noted that businesses were being encouraged to go online but that this information was difficult to gauge, and she AGREED to report any information back to the Cabinet in a future performance report. Members also asked if some of the quarterly performance indicators could be reviewed to ensure they are giving the most helpful information and the messaging is correct in relation to annual targets. The Deputy Chief Executive AGREED to take this away and look into it with the Business Planning Officer.

Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED That the Cabinet received and considered the performance of the Council at the end of Quarter 2 of the 2021/22 year.

REPORT 3: CORPORATE RISK AND OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT, QUARTER 2 2021/22

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report and highlighted that there were 23 risks and seven opportunities, 6 were Red, eight Amber and 9 Green. He noted that these had been reviewed and the position remains unchanged since last reported and they would be reviewed again in January for Quarter 3. The Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that these would be reported to the next available meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee following the recent postponement of the upcoming committee meeting.

Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED that the items contained within the Council's Corporate Risk and Opportunity Register (attached at Appendix A to the report) were noted.

REPORT 4: MID YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2021/22 WITH PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which covered the treasury management activity for the first six months of 2021/22 and the Prudential Indicators for this period, alongside a recommended change to the MRP Policy. The Director, Finance, ICT & Assets explained to the Cabinet the reasoning behind the suggested change following a recent review, which would award a considerable saving in capital financing charges going forward.

Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED that Cabinet;

- **Noted the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report for 2021/22**
- **Noted the Prudential Indicators and,**
- **Recommended approval of the change to the MRP policy detailed in Section 7 to Council.**

REPORT 5: DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report and noted that the recommendation should be amended to read as follows;

That the Cabinet recommends the draft Corporate Plan to Council and agrees the content of the draft Plan for wider circulation and consultation with stakeholders.

He highlighted that Members had had a briefing on the draft Corporate Plan on 15th November 2021 and that the slides and video link had been provided for those who were unable to attend, in advance of the report going to the Full Council and Scrutiny meetings. The Leader noted that the draft Plan is not a list of every activity or corporate objective but rather an emphasis of what the Council wants to achieve over the next few years.

Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED that the Cabinet recommends the draft Corporate Plan to Council and agrees the content of the draft Plan for wider circulation and consultation with stakeholders.

REPORT 6: LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE AUTHORITIES – STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND (SOCG) RELATING TO STRATEGIC WAREHOUSING AND LOGISTICS

The Leader introduced the report which recommended that the Council becomes a signatory to the Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) relating to Strategic Warehousing & Logistics (September 2021), and he highlighted that in doing so the signatories are agreeing on a shared evidence base, rather than allocating specific sites.

Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED;

i) That the Cabinet noted the Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) relating to Strategic Warehousing & Logistics (September 2021) and,

ii) That the Cabinet recommend to Council that the Council becomes a signatory to the Statement of Common Ground (as at Appendix A of the report).

REPORT 7: HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES REVIEW

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report to consider and approve the increase in the taxi tariff set by the Council for Hackney Carriage Fares in Harborough District. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the review of fares had been undertaken at the request of the taxi company with consultation and benchmarking and highlighted that the figure within the report is a maximum fare and there is no obligation for companies to charge that.

Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED;

- 1. That the increase in Hackney Carriage Fares be agreed for public consultation as set out in Appendix A;**
- 2. Delegation is given to the Director, Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer (VW) in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member to consider any representations received and;**
- 3. Subject to the outcome of the consultation set out in 1 and 2 above the new Hackney Carriage Fare would take effect in accordance with the timeframes set out in section 2.8 in the body of the report.**

Section 100A (4) Local Government Act 1972

At the conclusion of the public reports, the Leader noted that Report 8: Exempt: Business Case for the Delegation of Building Control Service and Report 9: Exempt: Interim Update of Harborough District Commercial Services Limited to the Council as Shareholder were suggested to be dealt with under the above legislation and therefore **MOVED**;

“That the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the matters yet to be discussed involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972”.

This was **RESOLVED** and the meeting continued in private session.

REPORT 8. EXEMPT - BUSINESS CASE FOR THE DELEGATION OF BUILDING CONTROL SERVICE TO BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED that the Cabinet agree the recommendations as set out in the report including relevant clarifications and inclusions on the legal agreement as requested by the Cabinet.

REPORT 9. EXEMPT – INTERIM UPDATE OF HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COMMERCIAL SERVICES LIMITED TO THE COUNCIL AS SHAREHOLDER

Following consideration of the report it was,

RESOLVED that the Cabinet;

1. Note the report

2. Note the filed Accounts for 2019/20 attached to the exempt report as Appendix B.

AND,

That the Director will bring forward a schedule of reporting as requested by the Cabinet.

The Cabinet then **RESOLVED** to resume the meeting in public session.

5. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS OF SPECIAL URGENCY (TO BE DECIDED BY THE LEADER)

The Leader asked the Chief Executive to provide an update on the Green Waste bin collections. The Chief Executive confirmed that the service would be delivered as per the normal schedule this coming week, although there may be some delays. Residents had been advised via social media, the website and through Parish Councils to present their bins as usual and leave them outside until they had been collected.

The Leader noted that following the announcement by Arriva Bus of amendments to some services from January 2022 he was now in the process of arranging a meeting with representatives from the company, as well as Ward Councillors, to understand the long-term objectives, and that he would keep Members updated.

The meeting finished at 18.56