

Minutes

Cabinet

Date: 24 July 2017

Venue: Mezzanine Rooms 1 & 2, County Hall, Aylesbury

Time: 10.30 am to 11.38 am

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr M Tett (in the Chair).

Mr M Appleyard, Mr N Brown, Mr J Chilver, Lin Hazell, Mr M Shaw and Mr W Whyte

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr R Ambrose, Mrs S Ashmead, Ms R Shimmin, Mr D Jones, Ms R Wileman and
Mrs P Braithwaite

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr Bill Chapple

Mr C Harriss, Deputy Cabinet member for Planning and Environment, attended as substitute.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3 MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 26 June 2017 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

4 HOT TOPICS

Mr M Shaw as Chair of East West Rail Consortium met with the Secretary of State last week, where it was stated there was full commitment to the project.

Mr W Whyte confirmed that following the decision taken at Cabinet on 10 July the consultation for Early Help was now underway with a completion date of 22 September 2017.

5 QUESTION TIME

None

6 FORWARD PLAN FOR CABINET AND CABINET MEMBERS

Cabinet noted the report.

7 CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

Cabinet noted the report.

8 SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME & INQUIRY WORK PROGRAMME

Cabinet noted the report.

9 THE NEW AYLESBURY LIBRARY

Mr N Brown, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health gave an overview of the report provided, highlighting the following: :

- The aim was to provide an improved and more accessible library service for Aylesbury
- The proposal consolidated the Lending Library, Reference Library and Study Centre in the Walton Street location
- Savings would be achieved by the proposal
- A public engagement process will be held about the design
- The importance of natural light has been raised in relation to study centre accommodation and this needs to be considered as part of the design options

RESOLVED

Cabinet AGREED the recommendation.

10 ALTERNATIVE SERVICE MODELS - LESSONS

Mr M Tett, Leader gave an overview of the report provided where it was noted:

- The report reviewed a number of Alternative Delivery Vehicles (ADV's) which had been set up in recent years and identified lessons arising from each of these
- Savings of £4m had been achieved through the ADV's
- A key finding was that the ability of the ADV's to break away from Bucks County Council back office services could lead to loss of transparency of their financial position
- Full appraisal of the potential for selling services externally should be undertaken to ensure that any future models are based on realistic assumptions.
- The County Council continued to explore new ways of delivering services to improve services and achieve greater value for money.

RESOLVED

Cabinet AGREED the recommendation.

11 Q1 2017/18 FINANCE MONITORING REPORT

Mr J Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources provided an overview of the report. Key points were raised as follows:

- The end of the first quarter results were as expected but that caution should be exercised in relation to the year-end forecast outturns
- The Education and Skills budget may come under pressure particularly in respect of school transport
- Capital reserves had previously been very low but were now at a healthier level
- Health and Wellbeing Budget was showing the biggest variance from forecast and was working to bring the spending back within target

Mr Tett invited comments from those present:

Mr J Chilver - Resources

- budget realignment would bring back to break even
- Orchard House capital programme was being reviewed

Mr W Whyte - Children's Services

Legal fees in Children's Services needed to be monitored

Mr M Shaw - Transport

This was the busiest time of year for the capital road improvement programme

Mr N Brown - Community Engagement & Public Health

The Public Health budget was noted. Mr R Ambrose, Director of Finance & Assets explained that the grant was ring-fenced but that the net position was zero as the cost of running the service was equal to the grant received

RESOLVED

Cabinet NOTED the forecast outturn position for revenue and capital budgets and discussed areas requiring attention.

12 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

Mr C Harriss, Deputy Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment provided an overview of the report, highlighting the following:

- The report was non-statutory therefore not enforceable or prescriptive
- The Strategic Infrastructure Plan was designed to be considered alongside the District Councils Local plans, to coordinate planning and prioritisation
- The aim of the plan was to create efficiency in delivery of County Council services and maximise delivery option benefits

In discussion the following points were noted:

- Residents had concerns regarding the lack of affordable housing throughout the county
- It was the County Council's responsibility to plan for growth of additional services and strategic infrastructure provision arising from delivery of the Local Plans
- The need to manage the impact of housing growth on existing strategic infrastructure and coordinate a wide range of services
- The County Council should seek to pro-actively shape and influence growth in the County
- The plan would evolve with the input from many partners including the District Councils, Health Authorities and private companies

RESOLVED

Cabinet AGREED the recommendation.

13 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

11 September 2017 – Ms Hazell and Mr Brown sent apologies.

**MARTIN TETT
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**