

CABINET

Meeting held on Tuesday, 8th June, 2021 at the Council Offices, Farnborough at 7.00 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr D.E. Clifford, Leader of the Council
Cllr K.H. Muschamp, Deputy Leader and Customer Experience and Improvement
Portfolio Holder

Cllr Marina Munro, Planning and Economy Portfolio Holder
Cllr A.R. Newell, Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships Portfolio Holder
Cllr M.L. Sheehan, Operational Services Portfolio Holder
Cllr P.G. Taylor, Corporate Services Portfolio Holder
Cllr M.J. Tennant, Major Projects and Property Portfolio Holder

The Cabinet considered the following matters at the above-mentioned meeting. All executive decisions of the Cabinet shall become effective, subject to the call-in procedure, from **21st June, 2021**.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**

Having regard to the Members' Code of Conduct, no declarations of interest were made.

2. **MINUTES –**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 20th April, 2021 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

3. **COUNCIL BUSINESS PLAN PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT QUARTER FOUR AND END OF YEAR 2020/21 –**

(Cllr Adrian Newell, Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet received Report No. ACE2103, which set out progress in delivering the Council Business Plan projects during the fourth quarter of 2020/21 and also provided an end of year summary. Members were reminded that, following a recent change in reporting arrangements, only projects which were either completed during Quarter 4 or were not on track at the end of Quarter 4 would be included in the report. Members were informed that the majority of projects had been identified as making good progress and details of these could be found on the Council's website (www.rushmoor.gov.uk/councilplan). Overall, good progress was being made against an ambitious programme of work, taking account of the impact of the current pandemic and ongoing resource constraints.

The Cabinet NOTED the progress made towards delivering the Council Business Plan, as set out in Report No. ACE2103.

4. **COUNCIL BUSINESS PLAN 2021 - 2024 –**
(Cllr Adrian Newell, Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. ACE2104, which set out proposed updates to the Council's three year business plan.

Members were informed that the business plan would build on the priorities that had been identified by the Cabinet and that supported the Council's Vision for Aldershot and Farnborough 2030. Members were informed that the business plan had been significantly reworked and had been structured against two key areas of work which would cover the themes of People and Place. The plan would be presented at the Council Meeting on 24th June, 2021.

The Cabinet expressed strong support for the new business plan, both in terms of layout and content.

The Cabinet RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL that the Rushmoor Borough Council Business Plan (April 2021 to March 2024), as set out in Report No. ACE2104, be approved.

5. **BUSINESS RATES - DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF APPLICATION –**
(Cllr Paul Taylor, Corporate Services Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. FIN2111, which set out details of an application for rate relief on behalf of Blue Ocean Seismic Services Limited.

Members were informed that details of the application were contained within the Report and that the applicant was a technology company that had recently relocated to Farnborough from Perth, Australia. In a correction to the table at paragraph 4.4 of the Report, Members were informed that the total cost to Rushmoor Borough Council of the two years' relief was £30,255.41 and not £30,655.41 as stated.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that 100% discretionary rate relief be awarded to Blue Ocean Seismic Services Limited for the period 13th July, 2020 to 12th July, 2022, as set out in Report No. FIN2111.

6. **INTRODUCTION OF A WEEKLY FOOD WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE –**
(Cllr Maurice Sheehan, Operational Services Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. OS2107, which set out a proposal to introduce a weekly food waste collection service and make associated changes to other waste collection services. The Chairman welcomed the Leader of the Labour Group (Cllr Christine Guinness), who had requested to address the Cabinet on this issue.

Members were reminded that, at its meeting on 10th November, 2020, the Cabinet had approved the Council's Climate Change Action Plan that had been prepared in response to the Climate Emergency that had been declared by the Council in summer, 2019. A key action within the Climate Change Action Plan had been to set up a separate food waste collection service. Subsequently, the Cabinet had set up a cross-party working group to guide the project and to make recommendations on

the operational detail for the service. The Group had met several times and the Report set out recommendations that had been unanimously supported by the members of the Group. Members were informed that the Group's recommendations provided details of how the proposals met the Council's climate change objectives and also considered how the Council might comply with the Government's forthcoming Resources and Waste Strategy, which required Councils' recycling performance in England to be 65% of municipal waste by 2035. The Cabinet was reminded that the Council's recycling rate in 2019/20 had been 29.6%.

The Cabinet heard from Cllr Guinness, who expressed support from the Labour Group to the proposals contained within the Report. Cllr Guinness detailed a number of concerns that had been received from residents regarding the proposals. In response to Cllr Guinness' comments it was confirmed that residents would be able to make an online request to upgrade from a 140 litre capacity bin to a 240 litre one. It was further confirmed that the larger, outside food waste caddies would be lockable and that any requests for additional bins would be investigated by Council officers, with a home visit being likely. Members were informed that flats and properties with communal bins would be assessed on a case-by-case basis in order to work out the best solution for each site. It was also confirmed that the Council would continue to work with the County Council to seek to broaden the range of items that could be accepted in recycling bins.

In discussing the proposals, the Cabinet expressed strong support for the suggested approach and stressed the importance of good communications to help residents to move smoothly to the new arrangements.

The Cabinet

- (i) **RESOLVED** that approval be given to
 - (a) the introduction of weekly collections of food waste in autumn 2021, as set out in Report No. OS2107;
 - (b) the provision of black 23 litre kerbside food waste containers and silver 5 litre kitchen caddies to households that use individual bins, with silver 5 litre kitchen caddies and the shared use of 140 litre adapted wheeled bins for properties using communal bins;
 - (c) the supply of one roll of 52 polyethylene green caddy liners to each household at the launch of the service, with an 'any bag' policy to be adopted once the initial supply had been used;
 - (d) the disposal of food waste, as arranged in partnership with Hampshire County Council, using a fully accredited Anaerobic Digestion facility;
 - (e) the moving of collections of non-recyclable household rubbish to a fortnightly frequency in autumn 2021, to coincide with the start of the introduction of the food waste scheme and to maximise food waste yield, promote waste minimisation, reduce carbon emissions and limit financial impact;

- (f) the working group remaining in place to advise on any significant implementation issues;
 - (g) the revision of the existing practice of providing 140 litre residual waste containers as replacements and for new properties, instead offering a 240 litre wheeled bin as the standard size, with 140 litre bins as an option;
 - (h) the phased implementation of the food waste service, starting with properties with individual external wheeled bins and moving onto those with shared waste containers as a second phase, commencing in spring 2022;
 - (i) the development of a new policy within the 2021/22 municipal year to govern the Council's waste collection services in line with the changes set out in the Report and future changes expected as a result of Government legislation and County Council initiatives;
 - (j) the noting of the comprehensive communications plan, as set out in Appendix 6 to the Report, to support the important service changes; and
- (ii) **RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL** that approval be given to an additional revenue budget of £90,000 in 2021/22 to facilitate the roll out of the food waste collection service, noting that the financial impact of the changes in future financial years would need to be addressed in the 2022/23 budget setting process.

7. **FARNBOROUGH LEISURE CENTRE - DEMOLITION –**
(Cllr Martin Tennant, Major Projects and Property Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. RP2103, which set out a proposal for the demolition of the vacant Farnborough Leisure Centre building.

The Cabinet was reminded that, in January, 2021, the decision had been taken not to re-open the Farnborough Leisure Centre due to the significant cost implications of the extension of the leisure contract as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Members were informed that, once the site had been cleared, site investigation works would be carried out in relation to the development of the new Leisure and Civic Hub building, prior to the Final Business Case. Wilmott Dixon Construction had been appointed through the Procurement Hub Framework for the delivery of the scheme. It was reported that, following representations made by members of the public, options to preserve the mosaic murals situated on the side of the existing leisure centre would be explored further.

The Cabinet expressed support for the proposed approach, which would enable the provision of the new facility in the shortest possible timescale.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) the appointment of Wilmott Dixon Construction Limited, through the Procurement Hub Framework, to carry out the demolition and site clearance of Farnborough Leisure Centre and to undertake further survey works upon completion of the site clearance, as set out in Report No. RP2103, be approved;
- (ii) the release of £1,135,000 funding from the Capital Programme for the demolition works and associated project management, as agreed by the Council on 25th February, 2021, be approved;
- (iii) a further budget of £20,000 to fund ongoing project delivery costs and the consideration of alternative options, be approved; and
- (iv) following further investigation of the available options for the preservation of the mosaic murals, the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Major Projects and Property Portfolio Holder, be authorised to commission the necessary works.

8. APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET WORKING GROUPS –

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) appointments be made to Cabinet working groups for the 2021/22 Municipal Year as follows:-

Aldershot Regeneration – Union Street due diligence

Major Projects and Property Portfolio Holder - Cllr M.J. Tennant

Corporate Services Portfolio Holder - Cllr P.G. Taylor

Labour Group (1) - Cllr K. Dibble

Budget Strategy Working Group

Corporate Services Portfolio Holder - Cllr P.G. Taylor

Chairman of Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards Committee - Cllr Sue Carter

Chairman/Vice-Chairman of Policy and Project Advisory Board - Cllr J.B. Canty

Conservative Group (2) - Cllrs P.J. Cullum and C.J. Stewart

Labour Group (2) - Cllrs Gaynor Austin and K. Dibble

Liberal Democrat (1) -

Cllr T.W. Mitchell

Climate Change Working Group

Cabinet Members (2) -

Cllrs K.H. Muschamp and
M.L. Sheehan

Chairman of Policy and Project
Advisory Board -

Cllr J.B. Canty

Conservative Group (2) -

Cllrs Mara Makunura and
C.J. Stewart

Labour Group (2) -

Cllrs Gaynor Austin and
M.J. Roberts

Liberal Democrat (1) -

Cllr T.W. Mitchell

Covid Recovery

Conservative Group (5) -

Cllrs P.J. Cullum, M. Hope,
Prabesh KC, Mara
Makunura and A.R. Newell

Labour Group (3) -

Cllrs Christine Guinness,
Nadia Martin and Sophie
Porter

Food Waste Collection

Operational Services Portfolio Holder -

Cllr M.L. Sheehan

Chairman of Policy and Project
Advisory Board -

Cllr J.B. Canty

Conservative Group (2) -

Cllrs Mara Makunura and
K.H. Muschamp

Labour Group (2) -

Cllrs Sophie Porter and
Sarah Spall

Member Development Group

Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships
Portfolio Holder -

Cllr A.R. Newell

Additional Cabinet Member -

Cllr P.G. Taylor

Conservative Group (2) -

Cllrs J.B. Canty and C.J.
Stewart

Labour Group (2) -

Cllrs Nadia Martin and
Sophie Porter

Liberal Democrat (1) -

Cllr T.W. Mitchell

- (ii) the Head of Democracy and Community, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to make appointments to these Groups during the 2021/22 municipal year, in order to fill vacancies.

The Meeting closed at 7.58 pm.

CLLR D.E. CLIFFORD, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
