

CABINET24 JANUARY 2014

Present:- Councillor P B Honeywood (Interim Leader of the Council/Finance and Asset Management/Housing, Benefits & Revenues and Sports Facilities) (Interim Leader of the Council)!Councillor S Candy (Inward Investment and Growth)!Councillor A Goggin (Tourism)!Councillor G V Guglielmi (Planning and Corporate Services)!Councillor S S Mayzes (Education and Skills)!Councillor L A McWilliams (Health and Community Safety)!Councillor N W Turner (Environment and Coast Protection)

Also Present:- Councillors M Page and G Steady

Group Leader Present by Invitation: Councillor Talbot (Independent Group)

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Ian Davidson), Communications Manager (Nigel Brown); Corporate Director (Corporate Services) (Martyn Knappett), Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) (Paul Price); Corporate Director (Public Experience) (June Clare); Democratic Services Manager (Colin Sweeney), Democratic Services Officer (Janey Nice) Executive Support Manager (Karen Neath), Finance and Procurement Manager (Richard Barrett), Streets and Seafronts Manager (Ian Taylor) and Tim R Clarke (Street Scene Manager)

10.30 a.m. - 11.42 a.m.  
-----

115.. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

116. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2013

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 13 December 2013, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment:

Minute No.114 – Any Other Items Which the Chairman Decides are Urgent

That, at line two, the words “members of the Conservative Group” be removed and replaced with “people” to read:

After making a statement concerning what he personally regarded as inappropriate behaviour and actions of various people, the Leader formally resigned as Leader of the Council and confirmed his intention to resign as a Ward Councillor.

117. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

118. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE INTERIM LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Credit Union Facility in Tendring

The Interim Leader of the Council (Chairman) announced that, in the current economic climate, the provision of a credit union could benefit many Tendring residents as these were owned and controlled by their members and offered convenient methods of saving and low interest rate loans to its members by encouraging its members to save regularly; providing loans to members at very low rates of interest; and providing members with help

and support in managing their financial affairs, if required.

The Interim Leader of the Council (Chairman) said that the Council had had discussions with two established credit unions within Essex, and key partners, who were supportive of these and that he had asked officers to look at all of the options that were available to enable Tendring residents to have improved access to this important form of financial support.

In conclusion, the Interim Leader of the Council (Chairman) said that a report would be presented to the next meeting of the Cabinet, to be held on 28 February 2014 and encouraged Members to speak with officers to feed into the process.

119. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CABINET MEMBERS

Announcements by Cabinet Members were made in respect of the following:

(i) Educational Attainment within Tendring District Council

Councillor S S Mayzes, Portfolio Holder for Education and Skills, announced that the number of pupils who had achieved good GCE results had increased and that all schools in Tendring had improved. He offered his congratulations to the schools and to Tendring Technical College, which had been listed within the top 100 schools within the country.

(ii) Clacton and Holland-on-Sea Coastal Defence Scheme

Councillor N Turner, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Coast Protection, announced that tenders had been invited for (a) the professional services, and (b) the engineering and construction contracts in respect of the above, and that both sets of tenders received would be opened and progressed towards the end of February 2014.

(iii) Tendring Christmas Pantomime

Councillor A Goggin, Portfolio Holder for Tourism, announced that the pantomime held in the Princes Theatre over the recent festive season had attracted record numbers in terms of audience and related income from ticket sales and congratulated officers on their work in ensuring that the event had been a success.

(iv) Tourism Meeting

Councillor A Goggin, Portfolio Holder for Tourism, announced that a tourism-related meeting was to be held in the Town Hall, Clacton-on-Sea on Friday 14 March 2014. He said that the meeting, which was open to all aspects of the tourism industry, had been set up to look back on the successes of 2014 and to look forward to the opportunities which 2014 offered.

(v) Women's Cycle Tour 2014

Councillor A Goggin, Portfolio Holder for Tourism, announced that the Women's Cycling Tour would be partly staged within Tendring and that this would coincide with the annual Tour de Tendring event.

120. MATTERS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE BY THE COUNCIL

There were none.

121. PROPOSED SCHEME FOR DEALING WITH PETITIONS

A.1 Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee – Proposed Scheme for Dealing with Petitions

With reference to Minute No. 68 of the meeting of the Committee held on 15 April 2013 and Minute No. 7 (A.1 Petitions) of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 17 May 2013, there was submitted a report by the Community Leadership and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee which recommended to Cabinet that the proposed scheme for dealing with petitions received by the Council be agreed (subject to any comments by Cabinet) and recommended to full Council for adoption as soon as possible.

Having considered the comments of the Community Leadership and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, it was moved by Councillor Guglielmi, seconded by Councillor Turner and RESOLVED that the proposed scheme for dealing with petitions received by the Council be agreed and RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL for adoption at its meeting to be held on 11 February 2014.

122. PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER TWO 2013-14 (JULY - SEPTEMBER 2013)

A.2 Corporate Management Scrutiny Committee – Performance Report – Quarter Two 2013-14 (July – September 2013)

With reference to Minute No. 46 of the meeting of the Corporate Management Scrutiny Committee held on 2 December 2013, there was submitted a report by the Corporate Management Scrutiny Committee which offered its recommendation to Cabinet and invited it to determine any action it wished to take.

Having considered the comments of the Corporate Management Scrutiny Committee, it was moved by Councillor Guglielmi, seconded by Councillor Goggin and RESOLVED that the comments of the Planning and Corporate Services Portfolio Holder, as detailed at Page 14 to the Agenda, be agreed.

123. INTERIM LEADER OF THE COUNCIL'S ITEMS

There were none.

124. HOUSEHOLDER PARKING PERMITS

A.3 Householder Parking Permits

There was submitted a report by the Environment and Coast Protection Portfolio Holder, which (1) provided Cabinet with information in relation to the current free Tendring householder parking permit scheme; (2) asked Cabinet to determine whether it wished to extend the scheme beyond the current expiry date of 31 March 2014; and (3) subject to that decision, invited Cabinet to also determine the terms and conditions for the use of the permit.

Accordingly, it was moved by Councillor Turner, seconded by Councillor Guglielmi and RESOLVED that:

(a) the current free householder parking permit scheme, on the same terms and conditions of use as the current permit, with an expiry date of 31 March 2015, be extended; and

(b) in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, officers be authorised to make all necessary arrangements and incur expenditure to continue the scheme, including the

provision and delivery of replacement permits.

125. PROPOSAL FOR A HOUSEHOLD GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION PILOT

A.4 Proposal for a Household Garden Waste Collection Pilot

There was submitted a report by the Environment and Coast Protection Portfolio Holder, which informed it of the proposal to offer a garden waste collection service for residents and sought approval to run a two-year pilot scheme.

Cabinet was informed that Tendring was the only Council in Essex not to currently provide a green waste collection service to residents and that the Council's overall recycling rate was consequently lower than other Districts. Cabinet was given further details of the proposed pilot scheme and it was also informed that Essex County Council was supporting the pilot and was providing a disposal facility for an initial period of one year.

Accordingly, it was moved by Councillor Turner, seconded by Councillor Guglielmi and RESOLVED that:

(a) the introduction of a pilot for a household collection of garden waste, to commence in 2014, for an initial trial period of two years, subject to on-going review and that Officers provide an update to Cabinet within six months of the start of the pilot, be agreed; and

(b) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Coast Protection, the Corporate Director (Public Experience) be authorised to undertake the necessary activities to implement the pilot scheme, including negotiating the terms of the contract with Veolia and the final subscription fee.

126. ANNUAL TREASURY STRATEGY FOR 2014/15 (INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL AND TREASURY INDICATORS)

A.5 Annual Treasury Strategy for 2014/15 (including Prudential and Treasury Indicators)

There was submitted a report by the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, which sought the Cabinet's agreement to the Annual Treasury Strategy for 2014/15 (including the Prudential and Treasury Indicators) for consultation with the Corporate Management Committee.

Accordingly, it was moved by Councillor Guglielmi, seconded by Councillor Turner and RESOLVED that the Annual Treasury Strategy for 2014/15 (including Prudential and Treasury Indicators) be approved for submission to the Corporate Management Committee for review.

127. FINAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014/15

A.6 Final General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2014/15

There was submitted a report by the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, which sought the Cabinet's approval of the final budget proposals for 2014/15 (including Council Tax proposals) for recommendation to Council on 11 February 2014.

Accordingly, it was moved by Councillor Honeywood, seconded by Councillor Turner and RESOLVED that:

(a) the report, and appendices, be agreed as Cabinet's detailed budget proposals for 2014/15, subject to the following amendments:

- (i) That additional income of £60k from the Essex Police and Crime Commissioner be included in the budget, of which £20k was to be allocated to support Community Safety Initiatives and;
- (ii) That additional income of £32k from Council Tax be included in the budget to reflect a Council Tax 'freeze' in 2014/15.
- (b) if the financial position changed prior to Council considering the budget on 11 February 2014, the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) be authorised to adjust the Fit for Purpose Budget, as required, in consultation with the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder.
- (c) in consultation with the Leader and Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) report directly to Council in respect of the formal draft resolutions necessary to implement the Cabinet's budget proposals, along with any late information or notifications received from Communities and Local Government etc. as may necessarily affect the budget.

#### RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

- (d) That, following the consideration of the comments from the Corporate Management Committee and the responses from the budget consultation activities undertaken, and subject to the amendments in recommendation (a) above, the following final budget proposals be made (based on a 0% increase in a Band D council tax for district services):
  - (i) That the detailed budgets, as per Appendix A, as agreed, be approved with a Council Tax Requirement for 2014/15 of £6.419m (£6.272m for 2013/14) (excluding parish precepts); and
  - ii) That, the Council agrees and formally approves:
    - a) The specific recommendations, calculations and other matters in respect of the Council's requirements – Appendix C as agreed (This includes the contrary resolution in paragraph (b) of that Appendix)
    - b) The Council Tax for District and Parish and Town Councils – Appendix F - as agreed.

#### 128. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Cabinet RESOLVED to agree the recommendations contained within the reports in relation to Agenda Item Nos. A.7 to A.10 and, as there was to be no discussion and consequently no need to exclude the press and public, the Cabinet further RESOLVED to agree the recommendations as contained within the exempt reports in relation to Agenda Item Nos. B.1 to B.4, all as recorded below.

#### 129. NEW LEASE FOR THE CLACTON LADIES FOOTBALL CLUB

##### A.7 New Lease for Clacton Ladies Football Club

There was submitted a report by the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, which sought the Cabinet's approval to the principle of a new lease of the changing rooms at the Knox Road playing fields to Clacton Ladies Cub.

Accordingly, it was RESOLVED that the granting of a new lease be agreed, in principle, subject to the terms set out in Part B of the report of the Finance and Asset Management

Portfolio Holder.

130. FREEHOLD DISPOSAL OF THE HAULAGE YARD AT SOUTH STRAND, LAWFORD

A.8 Freehold Disposal of the Haulage Yard at South Strand, Lawford

There was submitted a report by the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, which sought the Cabinet's approval to the freehold disposal of the haulage yard situated at South Strand, Lawford.

Accordingly, it was RESOLVED that the freehold disposal of the haulage yard be agreed, in principle, subject to the terms set out in Part B of the report of the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder.

131. RENEWAL OF LEASE, LOW LIGHTHOUSE, HARWICH GREEN, HARWICH

A.9 Renewal of Lease, Low Lighthouse, Harwich Green, Harwich

There was submitted a report by the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, which sought the Cabinet's approval to the renewal of the existing lease of the site of the Low Lighthouse, Harwich Green, Harwich.

Accordingly, it was RESOLVED that the granting of a new 21 year lease be agreed, in principle, subject to the terms set out in Part B of the report of the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder.

132. NEW LEASE FOR THE CO-OP, OVER PART OF THE CAR PARK IN HIGH STREET, WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE

A.10 New Lease for the Co-op, over part of the Car Park in High Street, Walton-on-the-Naze

There was submitted a report by the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder, which sought the Cabinet's approval to consider the grant of a new 99-year lease to the Co-op over a small section of the car park at Walton-on-the-Naze, which would be to create access to a proposed flat above the Co-op store and a small area for the provision of bins.

Accordingly, it was RESOLVED that the granting of a new lease be agreed, in principle, subject to the terms set out in Part B of the report of the Finance and Asset Management Portfolio Holder.

133. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET PROPOSALS - REVISED BUDGET 2013/14 AND ORIGINAL BUDGET 2014/15

A.11 Housing Revenue Account Budget Proposals – Revised Budget 2013/14 and Original Budget 2014/15

There was submitted a report by the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Benefits and Revenues and Sports Facilities and Finance and Asset Management, which set out and sought approval of:

- A Revised Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget for 2013/14;
- An Original HRA Budget for 2014/15;
- The level of rent and fees and charges for 2014/15; and
- The five-year HRA Capital Programme.

Accordingly, it was moved by Councillor Honeywood, seconded by Councillor McWilliams and RESOLVED that:

- (a) the 2014/15 Scale of Charges, as detailed in Appendix B to report A.11, be approved;
- (b) the level of rents for 2014/15, in accordance with the existing rent setting policy based on an increase in the average rent of 5.47% with no tenant bearing an increase of more than the limit set out within the rent setting policy of RPI (3.2%) + 0.5% plus £2.00 per week, be approved;
- (c) the Housing Revenue Account revised estimates for 2013/14 and original estimates for 2014/15, as set out in Appendix A to report A.11, along with the HRA Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix C, be approved; and
- (d) in respect of 2013/14, the corporate financial system be amended accordingly to reflect these changes, along with any amendments arising from revised financial reporting requirements.

134. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

- (i) Membership of the Cabinet

The Chairman was pleased to announce that the newly-elected Leader of the Conservative Group, Councillor Mick Page, was to be appointed to the Cabinet, with immediate effect, to the office of Portfolio Holder for Finance and Asset Management.

- (ii) Former Leader of the Council – Councillor Peter Halliday

Cabinet Members wished to record their appreciation of the work that had been undertaken by the former Leader of the Council, Councillor Peter Halliday and, in particular, that spent during his time in office as Portfolio Holder for Finance and Asset Management.

135. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Cabinet is to be held on Friday 28 February 2014 at 10.30 a.m. in the Essex Hall, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea.

136. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

As there was to be no discussion and consequently no need to exclude the press and public, the Cabinet resolved to agree the recommendations as contained within the exempt reports in relation to Agenda Item Nos. B.1 to B.4 below.

B.1 Clacton Ladies Football Club: Terms for a New Lease

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the terms for a new lease of the changing rooms at Knox Road Playing Fields, to Clacton Ladies Football Club, in accordance with the Heads of Terms, as detailed at Appendix A to exempt report B.1, be approved; and
- (b) the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) be authorised to enter into a lease of the building on the terms set out and subject to any other terms that he considered necessary.

B.2 Terms for the Freehold Disposal of the Haulage Yard at South Strand, Lawford

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the terms for a freehold disposal to the successful tenderer, in accordance with the Heads of Terms, as detailed at Appendix A to exempt report B.2, be approved; and
- (b) the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) be authorised to enter into a contract to dispose of the site on the terms set out and subject to any other terms that he considered necessary.

B.3 Renewal of Lease, Low Lighthouse, Harwich Green, Harwich

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the terms for the renewal of the lease of the site of the Low Lighthouse, Harwich Green, Harwich, to the Harwich Society, in accordance with the Heads of Terms, as detailed at Appendix A to exempt report B.3, be approved; and
- (b) the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) be authorised to enter into a lease of the Low Lighthouse on the terms set out and subject to any other terms that he considered necessary.

B.4 Terms for a New Lease of part of the Car Park in High Street, Walton-on-the-Naze

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the terms for a new lease of part of the car park in High Street, Walton-on-the-Naze to the Co-op, in accordance with the Heads of Terms, as detailed at Appendix A to exempt report B.4, be approved; and
- (b) the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) be authorised to grant a new lease on the terms set out and subject to any other terms that may be considered necessary by the Council's Legal Services Manager.

Chairman