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## CABINET

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**MINUTES** of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT on Wednesday, 18 March 2020 from 7.00pm - 7.13 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mike Baldock (Vice-Chairman), Monique Bonney, Angela Harrison, Ben J Martin, Richard Palmer, Roger Truelove (Chairman) and Tim Valentine.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Jo Millard, Nick Vickers and Emma Wiggins.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillors Steve Davey and Ghlin Whelan.

### 634 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chairman outlined the emergency evacuation procedure.

### 635 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 February 2020 (Minute Nos. 511 – 525) were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### 636 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

#### Part A Recommendation to Council

### 637 CORPORATE PLAN

The Leader introduced the report which sought Cabinet's endorsement of the final version of the Corporate Plan 2020-23 for recommendation to Council. In proposing the recommendation, he said that the plan built on the coalition agreement.

#### ***Recommended:***

***(1) That Cabinet endorse and proposed the Corporate Plan at appendix I for adoption by Council.***

#### Part B Minutes for Information

### 638 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT: APRIL - DECEMBER 2019

The Leader introduced the report which set out the revenue and capital projected outturn position for 2019/20 as at the end of December 2019. He drew attention to the predicted underspend and capital expenditure.

A Member said that in the current difficult times, the financial situation was changing daily.

**Resolved:**

**(1) That the projected revenue underspend on services of £33,000 (Table 1 refers) be noted.**

**(2) That the capital expenditure of £14,918,000 to end of December 2019 (Paragraph 3.19 and Appendix I Table 2 refers) be noted.**

**(3) That the capital variance and its funding as detailed in paragraph 3.21 and Appendix I Table 2 be approved.**

**639 SWALE HOUSE**

The Cabinet Member for Economy and Property introduced the report which set out the options for Swale House and sought agreement for preliminary work to build up a business case for refurbishment of the building. She said that Swale House needed work to be carried out on the building, and that space could be rationalised so that surplus space could be utilised. The Cabinet Member for Economy and Property said that it was a substantial project and would bring work for the local economy.

**Resolved:**

**(1) That the report be noted.**

**(2) That an initial capital allocation of a maximum of £200,000 for the initial options appraisal, feasibility work and procurement of detailed design to achieve a modern office space which was carbon neutral be authorised.**

**640 ANTI-IDLING LEGISLATION**

The Cabinet Member for Environment introduced the report which sought to approve the implementation and enforcement of anti-idling legislation, and said that the legislation was not new, but that the Council were drawing up its own procedures. He said that educating the public, rather than issuing notices was to be encouraged. The Cabinet Member for Environment said that a consultation was in place for buses and taxis, and he advised that vehicles running equipment such as refrigeration units, were exempt from enforcement.

**Resolved:**

**(1) That the implementation and enforcement of provisions relating to anti idling as laid down by the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002 be approved.**

**(2) That delegated authority be given to the Chief Financial Officer and Head of Commissioning, Environment & Leisure to authorise relevant officers or persons to stop the commission of stationary idling offences and issue fixed**

*penalty notices (FPNs) in respect of such offences, in accordance with Regulation 6(3) of the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002.*

#### **641 SWALE HERITAGE STRATEGY 2020 - 2032**

The Cabinet Member for Planning introduced the report which sought to note the extent and range of consultation responses received in relation to the public consultation for the Heritage Strategy, and to agree the final version of the Heritage Strategy for adoption and publication. The Cabinet Member for Planning said that there had been a good response to the consultation and suggested proposals had been included in the Strategy. He commended the work of officers and proposed the recommendations.

**Resolved:**

***(1) That the extent and range of consultation responses received in relation to the public consultation for the Heritage Strategy be noted.***

***(2) That the final version of the Heritage Strategy for adoption and publication be agreed.***

#### **642 AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

The Cabinet Member for Housing introduced the report which detailed options for increasing delivery of affordable housing in the Borough and sought approval for the establishment of a Local Authority Housing Company (LHC). He stressed that the Council were not looking to sell the car parks, this was just an option. The Cabinet Member for Housing said that development would support local builders.

A Member praised the proposals which he said had been needed for a long time, and would make a significant difference.

**Resolved:**

***(1) That the Council pursue the mix of development options set out within the report for delivering affordable housing within the Borough.***

***(2) That a procurement exercise be carried out on the identified land holdings in Sittingbourne, for proposals on developments that deliver (but not limited to) affordable homes.***

***(3) That the Council begins to establish a Council-owned housing company to deliver housing (LHC).***

***(4) That Cabinet approve the drawdown of up to £250k of the capital budget provision to fund the due diligence and business planning work for the LHC and any necessary work on the identified Sittingbourne landholdings in order to carry out the procurement exercise.***

**643 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2 MARCH 2020 - TO-FOLLOW**

Cabinet considered the recommendations from the Swale Joint Transportation Board meeting held on 2 March 2020.

***Resolved:***

***(1) That the recommendations in Minute Nos. 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 599, 590, 591 and 592 be agreed.***

**644 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE EXTRAORDINARY LOCAL PLAN PANEL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2020**

Cabinet considered the recommendations from the Local Plan Panel held on 25 February 2020.

***Resolved:***

***(1) That the recommendation in Minute No. 546 be agreed.***

Chairman

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