

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BABERGH CABINET HELD IN KING EDMUND CHAMBER - ENDEAVOUR HOUSE, 8 RUSSELL ROAD, IPSWICH ON THURSDAY, 8 MARCH 2018 AT 9:30am

PRESENT: John Ward – Chair  
Jan Osborne – Vice Chair

Tina Campbell  
Jan Osborne  
Nick Ridley

Margaret Maybury  
Peter Patrick

102 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Parker.

103 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS

There were none.

104 BCa/17/53 - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 FEBRUARY 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2018 were confirmed as a correct record.

105 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PETITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S PETITION SCHEME

None received.

106 QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

None received.

107 MATTERS REFERRED BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY OR JOINT AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEES

There were no matters referred by the Overview and Scrutiny or Joint Audit and Standards Committee.

108 BCa/17/54 FORTHCOMING DECISIONS LIST

The forthcoming decisions list was noted, however, the following comments were made:

- Whether there was a timeline in respect of reports coming forward for Belle Vue, Hamilton Road and Angel Court. These should be included on the

Forthcoming Decisions list.

- Whether the End of Year report would be brought before Cabinet.

109 BCa/17/55 - CIL EXPENDITURE

- 109.1 Councillor Ward, in the Cabinet Member for Planning's absence, introduced report BCa/17/55 and moved the recommendation. This was seconded by Councillor Osborne.
- 109.2 There was a concern about how to distribute funds fairly and there was disappointment about CIL money not being used for viability studies. However, it was noted community support would be assessed through the application form and the process was subject to review.
- 109.3 Cabinet considered CIL would have huge potential to deliver real infrastructure benefits for the district and would also have a great deal of flexibility built in. It would allow a collaborative approach with parishes as well as allowing money to be spent on cross boundary infrastructure.
- 109.4 Members wished to show their appreciation to Officers, as well as Councillors Arthey and Lawrenson, and their Mid Suffolk District Council counterparts for their hard work in producing a robust framework.

By a unanimous vote.

**It was RESOLVED:-**

- (1) That the detailed CIL Expenditure Framework (including details of implementation and review) forming Appendices A and E to report BCa/17/55 and the joint CIL Expenditure Framework Communications Strategy (Appendix B) be approved and refer the proposals to Full Council for final adoption. (Appendices C and D comprise the CIL "Regulation 123 lists" and were approved in January 2016 and accompany the other documents for reference purposes only).
- (2) That the Joint Member Panel (alongside Overview and Scrutiny) inform the Review of the CIL Expenditure Framework within the timescales contained in the Appendix E to report BCa/17/55.

**Reason for Decision:** Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies had been collected since the implementation of CIL in April 2016. There was no prescribed way for Councils to decide upon the spend of money collected through CIL so the Councils had to agree their own approach.

110 BCa/17/56 - FINANCIAL MONITORING 2017/18 - QUARTER 3

- 110.1 Councillor Patrick, the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance, introduced report BCa/17/56 and moved the recommendation. This was seconded by Councillor Osborne.

- 110.2 Questions included whether there was a reduction in costs in legal expenditure in planning and did that include two cases recently in which the council lost? It was noted the figures did not include this. Following the movement towards renewable energy and the subsequent increase in costs for maintenance, it was noted this question was difficult to answer without the relevant information to hand and as such the figures would be brought before Cabinet at some stage in the future.
- 110.3 It was noted both BMBS and Voids would be scrutinised in the first instance by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and were being reviewed on a regular basis.

By a unanimous vote.

**It was RESOLVED:-**

- (1) That the potential or likely variations in relation to the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme compared to the Budget be noted.
- (2) That, subject to any further budget variations that arise during the rest of the financial year, the following net transfers of £1,227k be noted;
  - (a) The balance of the General Fund surplus of £943k referred to in section 11.7 of the report be transferred to the Business Rates Equalisation reserve to support the 2017/18 deficit (£1,256k) on the Business Rates Collection Fund;
  - (b) Transfer of £102k, being the favourable variance for Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) to a new earmarked Waste reserve, referred to in section 11.8 of report BCa/17/56;
  - (c) Transfer of £129k, being the £75k favourable variance for Homelessness to the earmarked grants reserve, referred to in section 11.8 of report BCa/17/56;
  - (d) Transfer of £53k, being the favourable variance for Planning legal costs to the earmarked reserve, referred to in section 11.8 of report BCa/17/56;
- (3) That £100k is transferred from the HRA Strategic Priorities reserve to an earmarked reserve called "Big20", referred to in section 11.22 of report BCa/17/56.

**Reason for Decisions:**

To ensure that Members were kept informed of the current budgetary position for both the General Fund and HRA.

111 BCa/17/57 - PUBLIC REALM TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

- 111.1 Councillor Maybury, the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Communities, introduced report BCa/17/57 and moved the recommendation, which included an

amendment to agree to establish just one Member Task and Finish Group. This was seconded by Councillor Ward.

111.2 Following a question it was noted the Task and Finish Group would be looking at not only the transfer of management but the transfer of the assets themselves.

111.3 A discussion took place and further clarity was required on public toilets, as well as tree policies. It was hoped the Task and Finish Group would have a positive outlook on both of these issues.

By a unanimous vote.

**It was RESOLVED:-**

(1) That the findings of the Public Realm Review be noted, including the overall conclusions that standards of street cleansing and grounds maintenance are generally good and that the contract with ID Verde in Babergh represents value for money.

(2) To agree the priority actions for 2018/19, set out at paragraphs 13.1 – 13.4 of report BCa/17/57, to take forward public realm provision within Babergh.

(3) To agree the principles for future Public Realm provision in Babergh, outlined at paragraph 12 of report BCa/17/57.

(4) To agree to establish a Member Advisory Task and Finish Group to:

(a) Develop standards and performance measures for Public Realm services;

(b) Establish a policy for the adoption of open spaces and other public realm assets;

(c) Review and extend the policy on trees; and

(d) Develop a policy on public toilets.

(e) To utilise the public realm principles and public realm policies in the development of both the emerging Environment Strategy and the emerging Communities Strategy.

**Reason for Decision:**

To set out the Council's principles and plans for the future development of public realm services.

112 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC (WHICH TERM INCLUDES THE PRESS)

By a unanimous vote

**It was RESOLVED:**

That pursuant to Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public should be excluded from the meeting for the business specified below on the grounds that if the public were present during these items, it was likely there would be the disclosure to them of exempt information as indicated against each item. The authors of the reports proposed to be considered in Part II of the agenda were satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

113 BCA/17/58 - BMS INVEST - PERFORMANCE, RISK AND GOVERNANCE

By an unanimous vote

**It was RESOLVED:-**

(1)The recommendation as set out in report BCa/17/58 be noted.

114 BCA/17/59 - LOCAL TOURISM STRATEGY REVIEW

By a unanimous vote.

**It was RESOLVED:-**

(1)That the recommendations set out in report BCa/17/59 be approved subject to an amendment.

The business of the meeting was concluded at 11:10am.

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Chair (date)