

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **MID SUFFOLK CABINET** held in the King Edmund Chamber, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich on Monday, 3 October 2022

PRESENT:

Councillor:	Suzie Morley (Chair)	
	Harry Richardson (Vice-Chair)	
Councillors:	Gerard Brewster	David Burn
	Julie Flatman	Jessica Fleming
	Peter Gould	Lavinia Hadingham
	John Whitehead	

In attendance:

Councillors	Keith Welham – Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Andrew Mellen
Guest(s):	Adam Bunce – 2020 Consultancy Mark Emms
Officers:	Chief Executive (AC) Deputy Chief Executive (KN) Director – Law, Governance & Regulatory Services and Monitoring Officer (EY) Director – Corporate Resources and Section 151 Officer (ME) Director – Economic Growth and Climate Change – (FD) Director – Assets and Investments – (EA) Corporate Manager – Governance and Civic Office (JR) Service Improvement Advisor – Operations (SB) Parking Service Manager – Environment & Projects (SG) Corporate Manager – Finance Operations (RH) Assistant Manager – Governance (HH)

Apologies:

None

40 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS

There were no declarations of interests made by Councillors.

41 MCA/22/20 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2022

It was RESOLVED: -

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 5 September 2022 be confirmed

and signed as a correct record.

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

None received.

43 QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

None received.

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

44.1 The Chair, Councillor Morley invited the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny, Councillor Welham to provide an update of the recent Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

44.2 Councillor Welham referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendation to Cabinet detailed in the tabled papers. He then provided an update from the recent Committee meeting including concerns over the uncertainty in predicting parking capacity, and queries over the governance of the parking strategy implementation. The Committee had requested that the business case for the Implementation Plan be made available for scrutiny at an appropriate time, including Information Bulletins at key stages of the implementation phase.

44.3 Councillor Welham added that the Parking Strategy needed to encourage implementation of proposals to discourage car use by providing opportunities for journeys to be undertaken by other means. The Committee had queried why a heat map to identify problem areas in relation to enforcement had not been produced, and that data had been collected before the sharp increase in fuel prices and the cost-of-living crisis.

44.4 On street parking, and parking for vehicle sharing and lorry parking for the A14 corridor and elsewhere, and the limited scope of the Strategy due to carparks being under the control of others, including Suffolk County Council, were also raised as concerns of the Committee.

45 FORTHCOMING DECISIONS LIST

There were no comments made for the Forthcoming Decisions List.

46 MCA/22/21 BABERGH AND MID SUFFOLKS PARKING STRATEGY 2022-2042

46.1 The Chair, Councillor Morley invited the Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Fleming to introduce the report.

46.2 Councillor Fleming provided an introduction to the report and moved recommendations 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, as detailed in the report.

- 46.3 Councillor Gould, Cabinet Member for Economic Growth seconded the recommendations.
- 46.4 Councillor Gould commended the officers for the work undertaken on the Parking Strategy and the consultation process.

By a unanimous vote.

It was RESOLVED: -

- 1.1 That the background evidence reports provided to support the new parking strategy be noted.
- 1.2 That the new parking strategy for Mid Suffolk and its proposed recommendations, accepting that some recommendations may require full business cases to be approved by Cabinet at a later date be approved.
- 1.3 That delegated authority for the Director of Economic Growth and Climate Change in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment to deliver proposed recommendations through the creation of a focused implementation plan, subject to any business case approvals required as part of 1.2 above be approved.

47 MCA/22/22 EXEMPTION OF RIGHT TO BUY RECEIPTS FOR NEW COUNCIL HOUSING FROM POOLING

- 47.1 The Chair, Councillor Morley invited the Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Whitehead to introduce the report.
- 47.2 Councillor Whitehead provided an introduction to the report and moved recommendation 3.1, as detailed in the report.
- 47.3 Councillor Hadingham, Cabinet Member for Housing seconded the recommendation.

By a unanimous vote.

It was RESOLVED: -

That application for exemption from pooling for all Right to Buy receipts from the sale of existing council homes built or acquired since July 2008 and homes built or acquired by the Council going forward is approved.

48 MCA/22/23 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION (WORKING AGE) SCHEME 2023/24 - CONSULTATION

- 48.1 The Chair, Councillor Morley, invited the Cabinet Member for Finance,

Councillor Whitehead to introduce the report.

- 48.2 Councillor Whitehead introduced the report and moved recommendations 3.1 and 3.2, as detailed in the report.
- 48.3 Councillor Richardson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing seconded the recommendations.
- 48.4 Councillor Fleming queried whether the changes would be cost neutral to the Council and if the proposal would be subject to a review on how the scheme was working.
- 48.5 Councillor Whitehead responded that the scheme would be marginally cost beneficial to the Council and detailed the implications for the Council. He added further that this would be a temporary situation for two years after which point the tax would revert to 5%.
- 48.6 In response to Councillor Fleming's further questions, the Director for Corporate Resources assured Members that the consultation would be clear on the fact that the exemption was a temporary solution.
- 48.7 During the debate concerns were raised regarding the clarity of the scheme and the implication for the one-year duration of the exemption.

By a unanimous vote.

It was RESOLVED: -

- 1.1 To consult on Option 3 as set out in Appendix B of this report as the basis for a revised (Working Age) Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2023/24.**
- 1.2 To authorise the Director for Corporate Resources following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance to initiate the formal consultation on the proposed revision to the Mid Suffolk District Council (Working Age) Council Tax Reduction Local Scheme.**

The business of the meeting was concluded at 11.16 am.

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Chair