

**Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet
held on 11 December 2018**

Present:

Cabinet Members:

Councillors	Izzi Seccombe OBE	Leader of Council and Chair of Cabinet
	Peter Butlin	Deputy Leader (Finance and Property)
	Les Caborn	Adult Social Care & Health
	Jeff Clarke	Transport & Planning
	Andy Crump	Fire and Rescue and Community Safety
	Colin Hayfield	Education and Learning
	Kam Kaur	Customer & Transformation
	Jeff Morgan	Children's Services
	Dave Reilly	Environment and Heritage & Culture

Non-Voting Invitees:

Councillor Richard Chattaway	Leader of the Labour Group
Councillor Jerry Roodhouse	Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group

Other Councillors:

Councillors Falp, Kondakor and Webb

Public attendance:

None

1. General

(1) Apologies for absence

None

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Regarding item 9, "Commissioning of Care Service Provision in Extra Care Housing Schemes Managed by Orbit" Councillor Jerry Roodhouse declared a non-pecuniary interest as Board Member for Healthwatch Warwickshire.

(3) Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2018 and Matters Arising

The minutes for the meeting held on 8 November 2018 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

(4) Public Speaking

None

2. 2019/20 Refresh of the Medium Term Financial Plan 2020 - Background Information and Proposals from Corporate Board

Councillor Peter Butlin (Deputy Leader – Finance and Property) introduced the report emphasising that it presented the corporate view and not the political view.

That the County Council was awaiting the delayed Local Government Finance Settlement was noted. Cabinet was informed that there had been no indication from government of when this might be received.

In response to a question from Councillor Jerry Roodhouse (Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) Cabinet was informed that the budget update that will be presented to Cabinet in January 2019 will be based on current organisational structures. Refinements based on the proposed new structures will be presented in March 2019.

Councillor Keith Kondakor reminded the meeting that whilst new housing developments in the county are set to bring in additional Council Tax revenue there is also a cost to be borne in supporting those developments. It was noted that street lighting requirements and waste disposal requirements will increase. Councillor Butlin confirmed that the base budget for the Council is based on existing properties where occupants are already paying Council Tax.

Resolved

That Cabinet:

- 1) Agrees to put forward their draft 2019-20 Budget, taking into account the information presented in the report and the views of Corporate Board on that information;
- 2) Authorises the Joint Managing Directors and the Strategic Director for People Directorate to begin any preparatory work necessary to deliver the budget proposals, prior to the final decision on the budget on 7 February 2019; and
- 3) Acknowledges the work needed to develop the 2020-2025 Corporate Plan and supporting medium term financial plan during 2019, as outlined in section 13 of the report, and agrees to include the commitment to authorise the work required and take the decisions needed in their 2019-20 budget resolution.

3. Developer-Funded Scheme Approval

This item was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

4. School Health & Wellbeing Service Commissioning Approval

Councillor Les Caborn summarised the published report drawing to Cabinet's attention the services delivered by the School Health and Wellbeing Service. These include height and weight measurement of Reception and Year 6 pupils, annual health and development questionnaires, health reviews for looked after children and contributions to education and healthcare plans for children with additional medical needs.

Councillor Kondakor emphasised the need to increase activity levels amongst young people for the sake of their health. In response Councillor Colin Hayfield (Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning) reminded members of some of the initiatives introduced in schools to address this issue.

Resolved

That Cabinet:

- 1) Notes the outcome of the consultation process and service review and approves the commissioning recommendations; and
- 2) Approves and authorises the Strategic Director for People Directorate to commence an appropriate procurement process and award the contract for the Warwickshire School Health & Wellbeing Service, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Joint Managing Director (Resources).

5. Procurement of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Concessionaire

Councillor Jeff Clarke (Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning) informed members that the initiative to secure a concessionaire to install and operate more electric vehicle charging points across Warwickshire was a development from the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2017 -2026.

The need to have confidence that any selected concessionaire would deliver on their contract was emphasised. An amendment to the published recommendation was proposed that would ensure a degree of oversight of the contract by the Leader of the Council. Cabinet welcomed this proposal noting that a robust contract and regular oversight will ensure delivery and protect the reputation of the Council.

Councillor Richard Chattaway (Leader of the Labour Group) sought assurance that the requirement for commercial viability will not lead to some areas of the County missing out. This assurance was given with members' attention being drawn to section 3.5 (P3 of 5) which states, "deliver EV charging points in locations where it is not commercially viable on instruction of the County Council". The issue of access to charging facilities was emphasised by Councillor Kondakor who noted that just as people living in rural areas often have to pay a charge to use a cash machine (ATM) so they may find themselves paying an additional amount to charge their vehicles.

On a second point Councillor Chattaway noted that if charging costs are too high then people will not use the new facilities.

Finally Councillor Chattaway, observing that a contract may last for more than 10 years, emphasised the need to closely monitor its progress with review dates specified. This point was agreed to by the Portfolio Holder.

Members noted the pace of change suggesting that developments in battery and charging technology over a ten year period may see facilities installed in 2019 become obsolete within that period. In response Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Leader of the Council and Chair of Cabinet), whilst agreeing that this may be the case, stated that it is important to invest in the technology of the day. To illustrate her point Councillor Seccombe noted how broadband technology was evolving in such a way that upcoming 5G services may in time render hard wired broadband redundant.

Resolved

That Cabinet approves the procurement of a concession contract for the provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure for a period which may exceed ten years and authorises the Joint Managing Director (Communities) in consultation with the Leader of the Council to enter into such contract on terms and conditions acceptable to the Joint Managing Director (Resources).

6. Report and Recommendations of the Community Capacity Task and Finish Review as Considered by the Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Dave Reilly (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Heritage & Culture) introduced the item drawing Cabinet's attention to the revised recommendation tabled. He explained that Councillor Seb Gran, who had chaired the review, was unable to attend the Cabinet meeting and invited Councillor Jerry Roodhouse to outline the findings of the report further.

Councillor Roodhouse explained that the recommendations from the review were aimed at bringing about improvements at no or little additional cost to the authority. They sought to improve communication and to encourage and assist communities to identify their own solutions.

Councillor Richard Chattaway gave credit to Councillor Gran and to officers for their support of the review. He added that in order to engage more comprehensively with communities it may be necessary to secure more resources. There is now a need to identify quick wins and to secure the resources to realise them.

Members commended the report and emphasised the role of social prescribing and other health related initiatives in assisting communities to thrive. Members had recently visited a medical practice in Whitestone and commended the work it is undertaking within the community. The need to incentivise GPs to promote or engage in social prescribing was noted.

Regarding recommendation 7 of the Task and Finish Group the need to engage with developers of new housing to secure community facilities at an early stage was emphasised. Members were reminded that it is not the responsibility of one body to work with developers and planners. Communities need to be prepared to help themselves with appropriate support from the County Council's own community development team.

Councillor Roodhouse highlighted recommendation 8 and stressed the need to make it easier for people to engage the council.

Councillor Reilly agreed to take the report and recommendations and consider how best to implement them.

Resolved

That Cabinet notes the recommendations of the Community Capacity Task and Finish Group and where appropriate will seek to pursue them within current policies and resource allocations.

7. Any Urgent Items

None

8. Reports Containing Confidential or Exempt Information

Resolved

That members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the items mentioned below on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

EXEMPT ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE (PURPLE PAPERS)

9. Commissioning of Care Service Provision in Extra Care Housing Schemes Managed by Orbit

Councillor Les Caborn (Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health) informed Cabinet of the basis of the report adding that Extra Care Housing, as well as significantly enhancing the quality of life of its residents, results in savings in service areas such as residential care.

Councillor Richard Chattaway stated that any consultation prior to the development of the contract should involve extra care residents. In addition he called on the Council to work to ensure a good geographical spread of the facilities.

Councillor Roodhouse emphasised the need for co-production to ensure the quality of the developments. He added that the increasing age of the population and attendant greater health care requirements of older people means that in time extra care homes will see more emphasis on the provision of nursing facilities than they do at present.

Councillor Andy Crump ((Portfolio Holder for Fire and Rescue and Community Safety) highlighted a small error in table 3 of the report. The final figure in the second column of the table should have read 80/152 and not 80/172.

Councillor Kondakor requested that efforts be made to secure sites for extra care housing on new housing estates. In response Councillor Caborn informed Cabinet that negotiations were being held with district and borough councils to attempt to secure Section 106 monies for extra care housing. This was, however, complicated by the levels of social housing already identified in the district and borough council's Local Plans and by increasing calls on those resources from a range of bodies.

Cabinet was informed that a further report would be presented to it in February 2019 seeking approval for the project's direction of travel.

Resolved

Cabinet agreed the recommendations as set out in the exempt minutes.

10. Disposal of Children and Family Centres

Councillor Jeff Morgan explained the basis of this report adding that approval at this stage will enable progress to be made towards the establishment of the proposed 14 Children and Family Centres across Warwickshire. Member's attention was drawn to the column in the appendix that referred to DfE clawback. (See also para 3.7 of the report). It was explained that whilst the capacity for clawback exists it is unlikely that it would be applied.

Regarding costs Members were informed that designated centres will be expected to meet their day to day running cost with the County Council undertaking maintenance. Non-designated centres will need to pay running and maintenance costs.

The importance of the provision of mental health services at the new centres was emphasised by a number of members.

It is expected that the procurement process will commence in early January 2019 with the new services commencing in September 2019.

Resolved

Cabinet agreed the recommendations as set out in the exempt minutes.

The meeting rose at 14.56

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Chair