

**MINUTES  
OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CABINET  
TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2014**

Held at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

**PRESENT:**

Councillors J N Clarke (Chairman), D G Bell, J A Cranswick, J E Fearon, N C Lawrence and D J Mason

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillors S J Boote, A MacInnes and G R Mallender

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

A Graham	Chief Executive
P Linfield	Service Manager – Finance and Commercial
K Marriott	Executive Manager - Transformation
D Mitchell	Executive Manager – Communities
V Nightingale	Senior Member Support Officer
P Steed	Executive Manager – Finance and Commercial
D Swaine	Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors There were no apologies for absence

**50. Declarations of Interest**

There were none declared.

**51. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 February 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**52. Building Control Partnership with South Kesteven District Council**

Councillor Bell presented a report which outlined the basis for the partnership arrangement with South Kesteven District Council for the provision of a shared building control service. He reminded Members that Cabinet had agreed to work in partnership at its meeting on 14 May 2013. The new arrangements would have advantages for both councils including improved resilience for the service as well as financial savings.

Councillor Bell stated that there could be opportunities to extend the partnership arrangement to include other local authorities in the East Midlands.

In conclusion, Councillor Bell informed Cabinet that South Kesteven District Council had considered, and approved, a similar report on 10 March 2014.

Councillor Fearon welcomed the proposal as this was an evolving and very competitive sector. He stated that the partnership arrangement would allow the Council to continue with its statutory duty whilst also providing a cost effective service to customers.

Following a question, the Executive Manager - Communities explained that discussions had taken place with the Council's other partners, Gedling Borough Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council, and it was envisaged that, once the partnership was established, other authorities could join.

Councillor Mason highlighted the importance of the financial savings in the current economic climate. It was recognised that the two authorities had slightly differing objectives, however this partnership would meet Rushcliffe's proposals to improve the service for customers. She also stated that all councils were now having to investigate partnership working as this was the way forward.

RESOLVED that Cabinet

- a) accept South Kesteven District Council being the lead authority for the delivery of Building Control services for the joint authorities in partnership with Rushcliffe Borough Council in accordance with the terms set out in the report and;
- b) delegate authority to the Executive Manager - Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, to enter into the legal agreement setting out the terms of the partnership shared service with South Kesteven District Council prior to the commencement of the partnership arrangement on 1 April 2014.

### 53. **Civic Centre Options**

Councillor Clarke presented the report of the Chief Executive which gave an overview of the Council's proposals to relocate its offices and the development of the Rushcliffe Arena site. Following on from Cabinet's decision on 15 October 2013 work had been undertaken to ascertain the indicative values and potential receipts that could be realised from the sale or redevelopment of the Civic Centre site. He informed Members that the combined income receipt and future revenue savings would support the business case to relocate the current office operations to a modern build.

Councillor Clarke proposed that a cross party Member Group should be established to consider and appraise the options. The Group would report its findings to Cabinet on 13 May 2014 and it was anticipated that there would be approximately three meetings.

Councillor Lawrence supported the proposal that a Member Group should be set up to thoroughly consider the array of options before any recommendation was made. He felt that it was important that the costs of the project were identified and potential design concepts. The Chief Executive stated that the Group would consider the high level options and details. He emphasised that not all project details would be available before 13 May.

In conclusion, Councillor Clarke stated that it was vital that the Council ensured that it used its resources wisely and the project was achievable and represented value for money for the residents.

RESOLVED that Cabinet

- a) continues to support the process, resource input and required work to develop the Council's business case for a relocation from the Civic Centre site to the proposed redeveloped Rushcliffe Arena site;
- b) sets up a Member Group, chaired by the Leader of the Council in line with the agreed Terms of Reference, to consider issues arising from the proposed redevelopment of the Arena site and the potential relocation from the Civic Centre; and
- c) refers the following issues to the Member Group requiring that their recommendations be reported to Cabinet at its meeting on 13 May 2014;
  - i) to consider the report of the Chief Executive on the potential future of the Civic Centre and the Council's role in such developments.
  - ii) to consider the potential options for the Arena development including the appraisal of potential facilities.

#### 54. **Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring December 2013**

Councillor Cranswick presented the report of the Executive Manager - Finance and Commercial that gave details of the revenue and capital budgets. The report explained the reasons for the significant variances against the profiled budget up to 31 December 2013. In respect of the revenue account Members were informed that at the end of quarter three there was an underspend of £1,039,700, with a projected favourable variance of £990,810 for the year. Councillor Cranswick stated that the underspend reflected a number of positive variances which included savings identified by managers throughout the year.

In respect of the Capital budget monitoring, Members were informed that the main projected underspends related to the Cotgrave Masterplan, lift repairs at the Civic Centre the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club loan and contributions to the A453 improvements.

Councillor Fearon stated that many of the savings had been identified as part of the Council's efficiency programmes, such as the proposed new boiler for the depot site. He also felt that there would be further savings due to future maintenance costs.

Following a question the Executive Manager – Finance and Commercial explained that the Council had prudently budgeted for contributions to be made each year towards the improvements to the A453 and that the money would be held within the Capital Programme until it was requested.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- a) note the financial position for revenue and capital; and
- b) approve the following carry forwards into the 2014/15 Capital Programme:
  - i. NCCC Loan, £2,000,000
  - ii. A453 Contribution, £250,000
  - iii. Cotgrave Masterplan, £584,000
  - iv. Civic Centre Lift, £61,000.

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm.

CHAIRMAN