

**MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
CABINET
TUESDAY 8 MARCH 2016**

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

PRESENT:

Councillors S J Robinson (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), R L Butler, J E Cottee, N C Lawrence, D J Mason,

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors A MacInnes, G R Mallender, R M Jones.

OFFICERS PRESENT:

A Graham	Chief Executive
P Linfield	Executive Manager - Finance and Corporate Services
K Marriott	Executive Manager - Transformation
D Mitchell	Executive Manager - Communities
A Poole	Constitutional Services Team Leader
V Nightingale	Constitutional Services Officer

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor J N Clarke

51. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

52. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 February 2016 were received as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chairman following a minor amendment in paragraph one of Minute 45 – Bridgford Hall Procurement; Corona Park Hotel was amended to read Birchover.

53. Leisure Facilities Strategy

Councillor Cottee presented the proposals for reviewing the Leisure Facilities Strategy, and explained that the Strategy contributed to the Council's corporate priority of maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life. The current strategy, which ran from 2006 to 2016, was updated in 2011 following a 15 month review by a Cabinet Member Group.

He stated that it was important that the Council had an up to date Leisure Facilities Strategy in order to guide and help support future provision so that, as housing growth was delivered, facilities reflected the needs of residents and supported public health. He stated that the new Strategy would last for ten years and would be reviewed after five.

Councillor Cottee highlighted that, as there had been some notable achievements within the current strategy, the revision was deemed to be more of a refresh than a total rewrite. The provision of the new centre at the Arena site would achieve the Strategy's objective to reduce the number of leisure centres from six to five. He proposed that the Community Development Group reviewed the current strategy, as part of their normal work programme and report back to Cabinet in March 2017.

Councillor Robinson asked when the review would take place. The Executive Manager – Communities explained that the review would be discussed at the Community Development Group meeting in May 2016 as part of its scrutiny programme and would take place over a minimum of three meetings, reporting to Cabinet in March 2017.

Councillor Mason added that the timing needed to review the Strategy reflected the amount of work to be completed over the next year and the need to be forward thinking on such a comprehensive subject.

RESOLVED that Cabinet delegated responsibility to the Community Development Group to review the current Leisure Facilities Strategy and report back to Cabinet in March 2017, with a recommendation of an updated strategy.

54. **Draft Rushcliffe Waste Strategy 2016 - 2020**

Councillor Lawrence presented the draft Rushcliffe Waste Strategy and explained that the previous strategy ran from 2009 to 2015 and, whilst it was not a legal requirement to have a strategy in place, it was good to have one as a Waste Collection Authority. The previous strategy addressed the variety of waste for collection, and how to recycle it, whereas the new strategy focused on maintaining or improving Rushcliffe's recycling and composting rate whilst encouraging a reduction in residual waste.

He highlighted that Rushcliffe had an enviable record in regards to waste and recycling. The recycling2go service was awarded Beacon Status in 2007, and was one of the top performers in the national recycling and composting league tables for many years. It remained the top recycler across Nottinghamshire with a recycling and composting rate consistently around 50%.

Councillor Lawrence stated that the draft strategy covered the Council's role as a Waste Collection Authority. He explained that, disposal and related costs were the responsibility of Nottinghamshire County Council as the Waste Disposal Authority and Rushcliffe had limited influence in what could be collected and subsequently recycled.

Councillor Lawrence highlighted that the new strategy had been developed against declining rates of domestic recycling, as the effects of Government initiatives to reduce waste and packaging were seen. He also explained that, as the Council had little scope within Nottinghamshire County Council contracts to recycle more, they had conducted a PR campaign on a 'let's do it better' approach to encourage residents to recycle as much as they could.

He explained that the recycling of materials and clothes had also been considered as part of future service improvements although, as this resulted in additional costs to Nottinghamshire County Council as the Waste Disposal Authority, it was unlikely that this would be introduced in the short term.

Councillor Lawrence stated that the increase of the glass recycling scheme was a potential improvement, although currently 70% of available glass was recycled.

Councillor Butler supported the draft strategy, and added that Rushcliffe Borough Council had a good reputation among residents for how it dealt with domestic waste. He highlighted that he was proud of the garden waste recycling scheme and asked whether there was capacity to extend the service.

Councillor Lawrence explained that Rushcliffe Borough Council collected garden waste in the Newark and Sherwood District Council area, using spare capacity, which generated additional income. He also highlighted that take up rates of the garden waste bin in Rushcliffe had increased. Every new property built joined the scheme as a green bin was delivered to them. He was pleased to say that existing residents continued to sign up to the scheme, although there could be a slight decline as the fee was to be increased.

Councillor Mason highlighted that the new strategy focussed on partnership working and greater collaboration, and welcomed the arrangement with Newark and Sherwood District Council being replicated with other local authorities.

Councillor Robinson asked whether the contents of fly tipping were recycled. Councillor Lawrence explained that this was the responsibility of StreetWise, although the contents were examined and recycled where possible. He highlighted the successful recycling of batteries, which was an initiative conducted by the Council and not disposed of through Nottinghamshire County Council.

Councillor Robinson asked whether a reduction in the size of the general waste (grey) bin had been considered. Councillor Lawrence explained that Nottinghamshire County Council would like to see this happen although there was less support in Rushcliffe Borough Council. The outcome was awaited of a 2017 pilot in a Nottinghamshire district where Nottinghamshire County Council was grant funding an authority to bring in green waste recycling free for the next couple of years whilst reducing the residual bin size by 70 litres.

RESOLVED that the Waste Strategy 2016 - 2020 be approved.

55. **Disposal of Electricity Substations**

Councillor Robinson explained that Western Power Distribution had approached the Council requesting the purchase of the 32 electricity substations in the Council's ownership. He referred to the Council's Asset Disposal Strategy and explained that the assets were classed as surplus as they did not contribute to the Council's priorities or services. He proposed that the 32 substations were disposed of to Western Power Distribution.

Councillor Mason supported the proposal and asked whether any of the sites could be used for housing development. The Executive Manager – Operations and Transformation explained that, for any future development an alternative site would need to be offered. For example, there was a substation on the Arena site – although the Council’s future interest would be protected by a ‘lift and shift’ clause in the agreement.

RESOLVED that the 32 electricity substations detailed in paragraph 4.1 are disposed of to Western Power Distribution for the price of £112,000 (£3,500 per site).

56. Business Rates Pooling Update

Councillor Robinson explained that Cabinet had, at its meeting in October 2015, resolved to ratify the decision of the City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee to retain the entire pool surplus generated in 2013/14 for use by the Combined Authority, and to retain 50% of the pool surplus generated in 2014/15 to support set-up and preparation costs for the Combined Authority and to distribute the remaining 50% to Pool members.

The Chief Executive explained that it was the intention that the set-up of the Combined Authority would continue to timescale.

Councillor Mason supported the allocation of funds to the Combined Authority.

RESOLVED that funds allocated for use by the Combined Authority could be used by the agreement of the Economic Prosperity Committee to support set-up and preparation costs for a Combined Authority.

57. Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring 2015/16 – Quarter 3 Update

Councillor Robinson presented the budget position for revenue and capital as at 31 December 2015. The projected outturn detailed a variance in the revenue account of just over £1million. He explained that the major contributing elements were additional income from Planning fees of £100,000 and investment of £200,000. £86,000 that had been allocated for contingencies had not been required.

He highlighted that Appendix C detailed the Capital programme which had a projected underspend of £2.8million. It was noted that a major contribution to this underspend was the delays to the Bridgford Hall refurbishment and the Arena development. Also the £500,000 funding circle facility had not been called upon.

Councillor Robinson explained that this report presented a positive picture and that the majority of the underspend was created by the specific timing of projects and recognised that with such large projects it could be challenging to tie down the detail.

Councillor Butler highlighted the increased income from Development Control activity and related impacts of a buoyant economy. He remembered that earlier in the year there had been concerns regarding resource capacity to

cope with demand, and praised the Development Control team for being flexible and for putting steps in place to ensure that demands were met.

Councillor Lawrence highlighted that some Members would find it embarrassing that there was a £1million underspend. He asked whether, having looked at the papers for the Council meeting, there remained plans to withdraw £998,000 from the balances. The Executive Manager - Finance and Corporate Services assured Members that funding would not be drawn from balances and surpluses would be transferred in.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- a) noted the projected revenue and capital underspend positions for the year of £1,037k and £2,804k respectively;
- b) approved anticipated use of the underspend from the Organisation Stabilisation Reserve for temporary support in 2016/17 and 2017/18 of £80k (in total for the 2 years) for Economic Development (paragraph 4.3); and
- c) approved the carry forward of the anticipated underspend of £0.5m for Funding Circle loans to be added to the Asset Investment Strategy Fund going forward. Such loans will still be accommodated from the fund, if required (paragraph 4.5).

58. Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and access to information) (England) Regulations 2012

RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of the following item of business pursuant to Regulation 4 (2) of the above Regulations on the grounds that it is likely that exempt information may be disclosed as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

59. Edwalton Golf Course - Glendale Contract Extension

Councillor Cottee presented the report of the Chief Executive regarding the extension of the Glendale Contract.

RESOLVED that Cabinet extends the current Glendale Contract until 2025 subject to agreement in respect of payment profiles and termination clauses being agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the portfolio holders (Finance and Communities).

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

CHAIRMAN