

**MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
CABINET
TUESDAY 12 JULY 2016**

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

PRESENT:

Councillors J N Clarke (Chairman), J E Cottee, D J Mason, S J Robinson,
R G Upton

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors S J Hull, A MacInnes, G R Mallender

OFFICERS PRESENT:

A Graham	Chief Executive
P Horsfield	Monitoring Officer
PLinfield	Interim Executive Manager – Finance and Commercial
K Marriott	Executive Manager - Transformation
A Poole	Constitutional Services Team Leader

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor R L Butler, due to a very important Governor's meeting at Cotgrave
Candleby Lane School.

7. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

8. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 June 2016 were approved as
a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

9. 2015/16 Financial position

Councillor Robinson presented a report on the financial position for 2015/16.
He highlighted that there were revenue efficiencies against budget of £1.087
million which was in line with Quarter 3 projections. He explained that this
related in the main to £222,000 additional investment income, £184,000
regarding the Business Support Unit recharge for Council Tax and Housing
Benefits Administration – an arrangement which had been in place for 18
months, £154,000 in respect of the Housing Benefit function and slippage in
Strategic Growth funding of £80,000. Members were informed that the position
would allow the Council to insulate against uncertainties going forward.

Regarding Reserves, members were informed that there were a number of
movements in Reserves largely agreed as part of the budget setting process
and budget monitoring for 2015/16. Councillor Robinson explained that
reserves had been used for some large capital schemes in the year, for

example £3.655 million on the Arena development, £152,000 support for Broadband across the Borough and £440,000 to support Positive Futures over the next 4 years. Members were informed that a number of 'transfers in' had increased reserves significantly, including £1.8 million from the New Homes Bonus.

With regard to Capital expenditure, Councillor Robinson explained that the year-end Capital Programme provision totalled £16,348 million and that actual expenditure in relation to this provision totalled £7,050 million, giving rise to an underspend of £9.298 million. He recognised that this headline figure was large and explained that the position had arisen primarily due to a revision to the profile of main contractor payments on the redevelopment of Rushcliffe Arena and Bridgford Hall. Regarding the Arena, he informed Members that the project remained on target and also informed that the profile payments for Bridgford Hall would commence in April 2017.

Councillor Robinson explained that Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club expected to draw down the loan of £2.7 million in September 2017 subject to finalising the agreement. He informed Members that the underspend of £9.298 million was in line with predictions. He highlighted that, overall, the underspend placed the Council in a better position to meet the future financial challenges it faced, as it looked to improve services, enhance assets and grow the Borough; despite the difficult economic climate and on-going central government funding reductions. Councillor Robinson recognised the excellent work of The Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services and his team for their management of the Council's finances.

Councillor Cottee supported the comments, stating that although the underspend was large, it must be recognised that large capital projects were being progressed. Regarding the loan to Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club, he asked whether the payments of the loan would be staged. Councillor Robinson replied that they were and The Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services added that negotiations were currently being held and it was expected that loan payments would be staged over several years.

Councillor Clarke asked whether the change to the loan payment arrangement would result in a variance. The Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services explained that the profile would be changed to reflect the arrangement agreed during negotiations.

Councillor Robinson added that the income generated from the loan payments would also support the revenue position.

Councillor Clarke recognised large amounts of money had been highlighted from the report and asked Members to remember that there were a number of large projects underway which were ambitious, challenging and under control.

RESOLVED that Cabinet

a) Notes the 2015/16 revenue underspend position Appendix B and approves the associated changes to the earmarked reserves as set out in paragraph 4.4 and Appendix C;

b) Notes the capital underspend position and approves the capital carry forwards outlined in section 4.7 and Appendix D.

10. **Constitution**

Councillor Clarke informed Members that the item regarding the Constitution had been withdrawn. The Chief Executive explained that a report had been circulated to Cabinet as was scheduled on the Forward Plan. It had been brought to his attention that Members of Corporate Governance wished to reconsider the document at their next meeting on 8 September and then present it at Cabinet or Council. To ensure that the wishes of Corporate Governance Group were fulfilled, the item was withdrawn from the meeting.

RESOLVED to defer the discussion on the Constitution.

11. **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.

12. **Coach Gap Lane Asset Review**

Councillor Robinson presented a report on the proposed disposal of Coach Gap Lane, Langar which related to the private access road which served the Council's units and the rest of the Industrial Estate which was not owned by the Council. He informed Members that whilst the units generated an income to the Council, this would be off-set in the long term by the cost of maintaining the road.

He presented details of the units owned by the Council, and the rental income, much of which was a peppercorn rent with long term leases in place and an additional service charge. Members were informed that this arrangement was inherited by the Council when the site was acquired in 2000. Residents had used Coach Gap Lane to access Nottinghamshire County Council's recycling centre, but since its closure, vehicle movements related to the businesses that operated from the site (many of whom did not contribute to the service charge). The asset, owned by the Council solely for investment purposes, was not highly performing and did not generate a good income return for the Council. Maintenance of the road would present financial issues

Councillor Upton concurred with the comments made and recognised the significant costs required to maintain the road. Members recognised that the asset was surplus to Council's requirements.

RESOLVED that the Council dispose of its freehold interest at Coach Gap Lane, Langar via property auction.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

CHAIRMAN