

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on Monday 18th February 2019.

Present:

Councillors R G W Grosvenor (Chairman), Mrs P L Ackroyd, G Hall, Mrs J F Jessel, Mrs J Jones, D C Leese and C V Whittaker.

Officers Present:

The Heads of Service (Sal Khan and Mark Rizk), the Monitoring Officer, the Corporate and Commercial Manager, the Chief Accountant, the Environment Manager, the Shared Services Centre Manager (Revenues, Benefits & Customer Contacts) and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

Also Present:

Councillor M T Fitzpatrick, D Florence-Jukes and C D Wileman.

PART I

291/19 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

The report of the Head of Service (Sal Khan) on the Medium Term Financial Strategy for the period covering 2019/20 to 2023/24 was considered.

The following appendices had been circulated with the report:

- Appendix A: Detailed Budget Summary 2019/20 – 2020/21;
- Appendix B: Reserves Forecast;
- Appendix C: Asset Management and Capital Strategy 2019/20.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

Recommended to Council:

- 1) That the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to 2023/24 which includes the revenue budget, capital programme and the asset management and capital strategy be approved;
- 2) That the level and appropriateness of reserves be noted;

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor C V Whittaker		

PART II

292/19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

293/19 **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor C V Whittaker		

294/19 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business submitted to the meeting pursuant to Rule 12.

295/19 **FORWARD PLAN**

The Forward Plan for the period 1st February to 31st May 2019 was submitted for information.

NOTED.

296/19 **SCRUTINY REVIEW OF INCOME GENERATION**

The report of the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee on the scrutiny review of income generation was considered.

Councillor M T Fitzpatrick (Lead Councillor for the review) presented the report.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor C V Whittaker		

297/19 **SCRUTINY REVIEW OF DOMESTIC ABUSE**

The report of the Scrutiny (Economic Growth, Communities and Health) Committee on the scrutiny review of domestic abuse was considered.

Councillor D Florence-Jukes (Lead Councillor for the review) presented the report.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		

Councillor G Hall		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor C V Whittaker		

298/19 **SCRUTINY REVIEW OF ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

The report of the Scrutiny (Economic Growth, Communities and Health) Committee on the scrutiny review of anti-social behaviour was considered.

Councillor C D Wileman (Lead Councillor for the review) presented the report.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor C V Whittaker		

299/19 **BUSINESS RATES RETAIL DISCOUNT POLICY**

The report of the Head of Service (Sal Khan) on the Business Rates Retail Discount Policy was considered. The following appendices had been circulated with the report for the meeting: Appendix 1: Business Rates Retail Discount Policy and Appendix 2: Guidance issued by MHCLG.

Councillors noted that the Government introduced a Business Rates Relief Discount, following the same principles as the previous Retail Relief but with two changes:

- The discount could be awarded to occupied retail properties with a rateable value of under £51,000;
- The total amount of government-funded relief for each property for 2019/20 and 2020/21 was one third of the bill, after mandatory and other discretionary reliefs funded by section 31 grants had been applied (excluding where the Council has awarded Hardship Relief under its powers under section 47).

The proposed policy gave examples of retail establishments considered by Government to be subject to the relief, but it was ultimately the decision of the Council whether the relief applied.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

Resolved:

That the Business Rates Retail Discount policy as shown at Appendix 1 of the report be approved.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor C V Whittaker		

300/19 **STREET CLEANING – SERVICE REVIEW**

The report of the Head of Service (Sal Khan) on the Street Cleaning Service Review was considered.

Councillors noted that following previous reviews of the street cleaning service, which delivered operational efficiencies, the current review built on the successful SMARTER waste programme, by applying similar principles to the street cleaning service. The review considered the combined roles of the Council's street cleaning team and Community and Civil Enforcement Officers, in addition to the bulky waste service, the A38 trunk road and community problems with general cleanliness and fly tipping.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

Recommended to Council:

That the procurement of the Bartec street cleaning module, associated equipment and CCEO mobile working system be considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy budget setting process for 2019/20.

Resolved

- 1) That concerns regarding cleanliness levels on the A38 be noted and that the Council proactively re-engage with Highways England on tackling littering, seeking their maintenance schedules and exploring the use of communication/advertising opportunities along this corridor to deter littering behaviour;

- 2) That the charging options for the collection of bulky waste items as set out in paragraph 6.21 of the report be noted and that option at 6.2.1(e) be approved, to ensure cost recovery in line with Council policy;
- 3) That a six monthly update on street cleansing, education and enforcement activity be provided to Cabinet Members.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor R G W Grosvenor		
Councillor Mrs P L Ackroyd		
Councillor G Hall		
Councillor Mrs J F Jessel		
Councillor Mrs J Jones		
Councillor D C Leese		
Councillor C V Whittaker		

301/19 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Chairman