

COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCILCABINET7 OCTOBER 2019Present:

Councillors

Joe Harris	- Chair
Tony Dale	Jenny Forde
Andrew Doherty	Lisa Spivey
Mike Evemy	Clive Webster

Observers:

Stephen Andrews	Juliet Layton
Patrick Coleman	Gary Selwyn
Nikki Ind	

Apologies

Rachel Coxcoon	Mark Harris
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CAB.30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Tony Dale declared an interest in Agenda Item 9, Minute No. CAB.37, Applications for Discretionary Rate Relief. He explained his interest was related to the applications from the 2nd Cirencester Scout Group and the National Star College as he gave his time to help with these groups. He would leave the meeting while this item was discussed.

There were no declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct for Officers.

CAB.31 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 2nd September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

Record of Voting - for 7, against 0, abstentions 0, absent 2.

CAB.32 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public questions had been received.

CAB.33 MEMBER QUESTIONS

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11 the following question had been submitted by Councillor Stephen Andrews to Councillor Joe Harris, Leader of the Council:-

'At the last meeting of the Full Council on the 25th September 2019 a Motion proposed by Councillor Richard Norris and seconded by myself was referred

to Cabinet. Papers for this meeting of Cabinet were published today (30th September 2019) and this item is not on the agenda.

Will the leader explain to the people of Fairford and Tetbury why this was not the case and introduce the matter as an item of urgent business for this Cabinet meeting in order that the community groups currently fighting to retain their community facilities can make their plans and apply for the grant aid that they need and can justify within the scope of the motion so that there can be a measure of continuity of service provision.'

For ease of reference, the motion (10 of 2019/20), including an amendment tabled at the meeting of Full Council (in red), is reproduced below.

(vi) Motion 10 of 2019/20 re Leisure Facilities in Fairford and Tetbury Proposed by Councillor Richard Norris, Seconded by Councillor Stephen Andrews.

'Local communities in Tetbury and Fairford have been left devastated by the recent and sudden closures of their leisure centres. Both communities are working hard to find solutions to try and keep their leisure centres open for local residents and local community groups. As leisure facilities are so crucial to the mental and physical wellbeing of residents, this council fully supports efforts by local communities and so will offer financial support if requested. This Council resolves to:

Offer a grant of up to £25,000 for each leisure centre (£25,000 for Tetbury and £25,000 for Fairford) to help transition from their previous organisation structure to their new structure. This grant will be available immediately and will be in place for the next 24 months. Funding can be spent on anything related to the present and or future labour and equipment needed for the successful start-up of each centre. For clarification:-

- monies cannot be spent on past leisure centre operations or outstanding debts;*
- will be subject to the submission of a proposal by the local community organisation; and,*
- will be with the agreement of the school that in principle the facilities will be made available to the local community organisation.*

The grant can (for example) be spent on:-

- * Funding to purchase, update or develop new booking and administration systems (including software, hardware and any increase labour costs associated with new administration procedures).*
- * Funding for marketing activities so local communities are informed about the new opening and ongoing availability of the centres.*
- * Funding to purchase and install new doors and locking systems if necessary (for example a magnetic key fob system or card swipe systems).*
- * Funding to purchase any new security systems deemed necessary (for example CCTV).*
- * Funding to purchase new insurance deemed necessary by the new organisations.*
- * Funding to purchase or replace any old or damaged equipment.'*

Grants are to be applied for by the community organisation to the Council setting out what the grant is for and why it is needed to ensure the continued

delivery of the service to the community. The application to be submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet Member for Health Wellbeing and Public Safety who should ensure that a satisfactory case has been made to provide grant support to that community organisation.

The following response had been provided by Councillor Harris:-

'Given the extremely short timescales between the Council Meeting and the Cabinet Meeting agenda despatch, it was not feasible for the Motion to be presented to this Meeting. We need detailed information regarding the significant financial and other implications of your proposals in order to make a properly-informed decision on the matter (this was the reason for the Motion being referred to the Cabinet rather than being considered at the Council Meeting), and there was simply not enough time for such a report to be produced. In this regard, I have asked officers to prepare a comprehensive report for our next Meeting in November, setting out the various implications, risks, opportunities and funding position/options; and, if funding is available, a suggested framework and process for any grant applications.

As I mentioned at the Council Meeting, and as offered by Councillor Jenny Forde in her role as relevant Cabinet Member, we would welcome a meeting with yourself and Councillor Norris on the matter - in advance of our November Cabinet Meeting. I know that Councillor Forde would also welcome your input, and that of other councillors, as she seeks to develop a future health and well-being strategy for the Cotswolds (that will help inform spending decisions).'

Councillor Andrews thanked the Leader for his response and looked forward to meeting with Councillor Forde to discuss this issue.

CAB.34 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader welcomed the Head of Paid Service back from his holiday, and thanked the Chief Finance Officer for her hard work during the absence of the Head of Paid service. He also welcomed the new Managing Director of Publica.

The Leader announced that a grant of £30,000 had been secured from the Local Government Housing Advisers Programme for a proposal to develop a toolkit and guide, and supportive planning policies, relating to energy efficient/carbon neutral housing development. The joint initiative, with West Oxfordshire and Forest of Dean District Councils, sat well with commitments around housing provision and addressing the climate emergency. Given that over 80 bids had been received, with a total value far more than the available funding could cover, it had been very pleasing to have been awarded funding in the face of stiff competition. He thanked officers and the Cabinet Member, Cllr Lisa Spivey, for their work on the bid.

The Leader thanked Councillors who had attended the Publica AGM recently and highlighted that this had been a useful meeting. He encouraged Councillors to get involved when the opportunity arose.

The Leader welcomed the new Communications Specialist to the Council and looked forward to working with him.

The Leader highlighted Member events on 23 October 2019 with three sessions - 'Fit for the Future - developing urgent and hospital care'; the Local Government

Association introduction to the Peer Review; and Emergency Planning - all taking place during the afternoon. He encouraged Members to attend.

CAB.35 REVIEW OF THE LEISURE AND CULTURAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Councillor Forde presented this report and explained that the review gave the Council a good foundation for the future. She highlighted that the report had been presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, who had supported the recommended way forward; and that the Health and Wellbeing Strategy was in the process of being formed, to address both current and future needs.

The net promoter score for the Cotswold Leisure Centre was high, which was positive for the service. Once the Corinium Museum £1.7m refurbishment project had been completed, increased visitors numbers were expected.

In response to Member questions, it was explained that:

- (i) Participation had increased by 16% in year 2 rather than 5% (and the figure was not a negative one);
- (ii) The target increase in museum income by 25% was expected to be met in year 7 rather than year 5;
- (iii) Officers would provide clarification in relation to the difference in the points for carbon reduction in the leisure centres and museum following the meeting.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the contents of the report be endorsed;**
- (b) the continuation of the contract be approved.**

Record of Voting - for 7, against 0, abstentions 0, absent 2.

CAB.36 REVISED CONTAMINATED LAND INSPECTION STRATEGY

Councillor Doherty explained that this was an extremely comprehensive strategy and highlighted some key issues within the strategy, including how sites were categorised; protection for the public from contaminated water supplies; lists of sites which needed investigation; and the balance of risk of doing remedial work on a high risk on a priority site. He also pointed out that the ward map was out-of-date.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the revised Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy be approved;**
- (b) the revised Strategy be published on the Council's website.**

Record of Voting - for 7 against 0, abstentions 0, absent 2.

CAB.37 APPLICATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF

Councillor Mike Every presented this item, and drew attention to a number of applications received for discretionary rate relief.

Members felt that the application from the National Star Centre should be considered as an exception in view of the specialist nature of the support provided to people with complex disabilities.

It was suggested that consideration should be given as to how best to advertise the scheme, so as to maximise community benefit.

RESOLVED that:

(a) the application for Discretionary Rate Relief submitted under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for the financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20 in relation to 2nd Cirencester Scout Groups be approved as recommended;

(b) the application for Discretionary Rate Relief submitted under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for the financial year 2019/20 in relation to the National Star College be approved, as an exception, in the sum requested;

(c) the application for Discretionary Rate Relief submitted under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for the financial year 2018/19 and 2019/20 in relation to the Black Horse Inn, Naunton be refused as recommended;

(d) the four applications for renewal of Discretionary Rate Relief submitted under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for the financial year 2019/20 in relation to SLM Community Leisure Charitable Trust be approved as recommended;

(e) the determination of Discretionary Rate Relief be not delegated to Officers.

Record of Voting - for 7, against 0, abstentions 0, absent 2.

CAB.38 ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR HIGH STREET COMMUNITY CLEAN UPS

Members were asked to consider the allocation of funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), for use to undertake community-led high street and town centre clean ups.

The figures of the population for different towns were questioned, and it was agreed that the figures should be recalculated using the current electoral roll statistics.

RESOLVED that:

(a) subject to resolution (c) below the remainder of the one-off revenue funding received from MHCLG for High Street Community Clean Ups be allocated proportionately to the following Town and Parish Councils based on electorate figures and on the condition that funding is allocated in line with MHCLG requirements:

- **Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council**
- **Chipping Campden Town Council**
- **Cirencester Town Council**

- **Fairford Town Council**
- **Lechlade Town Council**
- **Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council**
- **Northleach Town Council**
- **Stow-on-the-Wold Town Council**
- **Tetbury Town Council;**

(b) should any of the above settlements not wish to claim their allocation their funding will be reallocated to Parish Councils on request;

(c) the sum of £1,530 of the funding be allocated to cover the cost of administering this reserve, so that it can be managed at no additional cost to the Council.

Record of Voting - for 7, against 0, abstentions 0, absent 2.

CAB.39 ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS

The Group Manager, Commissioning, presented the circulated report and updated Members on the procurement of a framework agreement for the charging points.

Members considered that they needed a better understanding of the options, and how they would operate and be used, prior to all requested decisions being taken.

A proposal was put forward by Councillor Every and seconded by Councillor Harris, to defer recommendations (b) and (c) in the report, for further consideration and discussion.

RESOLVED that:

(a) Lots 1, 2 and 3 be agree to be awarded to the Contractors as set out in Annex A of the report, to form the Framework Agreement;

(b) recommendations (b) and (c) be deferred for further consideration and report back to the Cabinet.

Record of Voting - for 7, against 0, abstentions 0, absent 2.

CAB.40 CONSULTATION ON THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

Councillor Forde presented this report and thanked Cabinet Members for their detailed and constructive feedback.

It was explained that the suggested submission incorporated matters that were in direct response to the formal consultation, and other more general comments; and the Cabinet Member confirmed that the final consultation response would differentiate between these aspects.

The Council's submission would also seek to ensure that the needs of the Cotswolds would be taken into account in the emerging Strategy.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Health, Well-Being and Public Safety be given delegated authority to agree the final version of the consultation response prior to submission on or before 15th October 2019.

Record of Voting - for 7, against 0, abstentions 0, absent 2.

CAB.41 ISSUE(S) ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY AND/ OR AUDIT (IF ANY)

There were no issues arising from the Overview and Scrutiny and Audit Committees.

CAB.42 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business that was urgent.

The Meeting commenced at 6.00 p.m. and closed at 6.41 p.m.

Chair

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