

**BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014**

260. **Present:** Councillors Houghton (Chairman), Andrews, Bruff (for Tim Cheetham), Gardiner, Howard, Lamb, Miller and Platts.

Councillors K. Dyson, Franklin, Mitchell, Morgan, Richardson, M. Sheard, T. Sheard and Worton were also in attendance.

261. **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

262. **Leader of the Council - Call-In of Cabinet Decisions**

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 had been called-in.

263. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 (Cab.12.2.2014/3)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

264. **Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.12.2.2014/4)**

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the weeks ending 31<sup>st</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 were noted.

265. **Petitions Received Under Standing Order 44 (Cab.12.2.2014/5)**

**RESOLVED** that the report notifying the receipt of the following petition be noted and the recommended actions for responding to them be endorsed:-

- (a) Containing signatures of employees from 8 companies based at Maple Court, Tankersley, regarding their Broadband Service.

The Executive Director Development has responded to state that Barnsley MBC have recently started working with Sheffield City Region partners and Government on a project to deliver superfast broadband to 95% of the region. Once complete, this will address the issue raised in the petition. In the meantime the offer has been made for a business advisor to visit the businesses to undertake an IT audit to feed into this process.

**CABINET****12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014****266. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Redundancy Compensation and Procedures 2014/15 (Cab.12.2.2014/7.1)****RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2014:-**

- (i) that for the purpose of the 2014/15 budgetary procedures, payments in accordance with the Discretionary Compensation Regulations 2006 be up to a maximum of 30 weeks actual pay based on the Statutory Redundancy Scheme; and
- (ii) that any employee (excluding Teachers) declared redundant be afforded the maximum of 12 weeks notice of termination of employment.

**267. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement 2014/15 (Cab.12.2.2014/7.2)****RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2014:-**

- (i) that the main treasury management policies, as outlined in the Treasury Policy Statement, attached as Annex A of the report now submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the Treasury Strategy Statement for 2014/15 (Annex B), be approved, including:-

The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement at Appendix D  
The Annual Investment Strategy for 2014/15

**268. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Prudential Framework and Indicators 2014/15 (Cab.12.2.2014/7.3)****RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2014:-**

- (i) that the Prudential Indicators, as detailed in Appendix B to the report now submitted, be approved for the financial year 2014/15 to 2016/17; and
- (ii) that further monitoring reports be submitted on the indicators during the year as is necessary.

**269. Corporate Services Spokesperson – Managing Change – Model Redundancy Policy for Schools (Cab.12.2.2014/7.4)**

**RESOLVED** that the revised Managing Change Policy for Schools, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved for implementation.

**CABINET****12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014****270. Cabinet Spokesperson without Portfolio – Representation on the Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield City Region Combined Authority and Transport Committee (Cab.12.2.2014/8)****RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2014:-**

- (i) that the Leader of the Council be appointed to represent Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council on the Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield City Region Combined Authority;
- (ii) that a Member of the Council be appointed as the Council's substitute Member of the Combined Authority in the absence of the Leader of the Council;
- (iii) that a Member of the Council be appointed as a second rotational Member of the Combined Authority to discharge the role set out in paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 of the report now submitted;
- (iv) that two Members of the Council be nominated to be appointed by the Combined Authority to its proposed Transport Committee;
- (v) that further consideration be given to the representation of the Council on the Scrutiny Committee of the Combined Authority following the determination by the Authority of its detailed Scrutiny arrangements; and
- (vi) that Standing Order 12 be amended to provide for questions in relation to the business of the Combined Authority to be asked of the Council's representative on the Authority and, this recommendation stand adjourned without discussion by the Council to the next ordinary meeting of the Council on 10th April 2014 in accordance with Standing Order 41.

**271. Public Health Spokesperson – Health Protection Assurance (Cab.12.2.2014/9)****RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the new duty and responsibilities of the Council to protect the health of the population under the Health and Social Care Act be noted; and
- (ii) that the establishment of a Barnsley Health Protection Board be approved to improve integration and partnership working between organisations and to provide assurance to the Council and the Health and Wellbeing Board that there are safe and effective plans in place to protect the health of the residents of Barnsley.

**CABINET****12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014****272. Development, Environment and Culture Spokesperson – Dearne Valley Landscape Partnership – Adoption of the Landscape Conservation Action Plan (Cab.12.2.2014/10.1)****RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the submission of the second round application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Dearne Valley Landscape Partnership be approved;
- (ii) that approval be given to the adoption and publication of the five year Landscape Conservation Action Plan to act as the guiding document for the implementation of the Dearne Valley Landscape Conservation Action Plan; and
- (iii) that Barnsley MBC act as the accountable body for the implementation phase of the Dearne Valley Landscape Conservation Action Plan.

**273. Development, Environment and Culture Spokesperson – Lettings Policy Review 2013/14 (Cab.12.2.2014/10.2)****RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the findings from the Lettings Policy Review be noted and approval to be given to the proposed minor amendments to the current Lettings Policy (summarised in section 3.8 of the report now submitted) which include:-
  - (a) An amendment to the type of tenancy granted by the Council, through Berneslai Homes, to include Flexible Tenancies in line with the Council's approved Housing Tenancy Policy; and
  - (b) An amendment to the Council's 'Local Connection' criteria for applicants leaving HM Forces in line with the Armed Forces Covenant and the 'Allocation of Housing (Qualification Criteria for Armed Forces) (England) Regulations 2012' to include the following as having a local connection with Barnsley:-
    - Members of HM Armed Forces and former service personnel, where the application is made within five years of discharge from HM Forces.
    - Bereaved spouses of civil partners of members of HM Forces leaving Services Family Accommodation following the death of their spouse or civil partner.
    - Serving or former members of the Reserve Forces who need to move because of a serious injury, medical condition or disability which is wholly or partially attributable to their military service.
- (ii) that the revised version of the Lettings Policy 2014, attached as Appendix to the report, be approved.

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(Note: At this point in the proceedings the meeting was adjourned to allow for the submission of further information in relation to the proposed Council Tax Increase following the recent Government announcement on the details of their referendum criteria in respect of Council Tax increases.)

**CABINET RECONVENED MEETING****12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014**

274. **Present:** Councillors Houghton (Chairman), Andrews, Tim Cheetham, K. Dyson (for Lamb), Gardiner, Miller, Platts and Richardson (for Howard).

Councillors Bruff, Mitchell and Morgan were also in attendance.

275. **Leader and Corporate Services Spokespersons – Service and Financial Planning 2014/15 – Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax (Cab.12.2.2014/6)**

**(A) Budget Proposals 2014/15****RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2014:-**

- (i) that the budget proposals for all services in 2014/15, detailed in Sections 4 and 5 of the report of the Assistant Chief Executive, Finance, Property and Information Services now submitted, be approved;
- (ii) that the following specific items incorporated within Section 4 of the report including for 2014/15 be noted :-
  - (a) Provision for a 1% pay award;
  - (b) Provision for the introduction of the 'Living Wage';
  - (c) Provision for inflation in relation to external providers;
  - (d) Adjustment of £500,000 to reflect the provision required for the anticipated revenue costs of existing and new borrowing;
  - (e) Adjustment of £4,174,000 to reflect the impact of the actuarial revaluation.
- (iii) that the 2014/15 base budget adjustments and Key Line of Enquiry (KLOE) savings proposals outlined in Section 4, Annex 1 and Annex 2 be approved for implementation along with any full year effects;
- (iv) that appropriate action be taken by the Senior Management Team (SMT), in consultation with the Director of Human Resources, Performance and Partnerships and Communications in relation to all the KLOE approved above;

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- (v) that, as a consequence of KLOE CS/LG/1, the Director of Human Resources, Performance and Partnerships and Communications be designated as the Statutory Scrutiny Officer in accordance with Section 31 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009;
- (vi) that the total additional funded capital investment of £8.121M as outlined at Section 5 be included in the Capital Programme and released subject to further detailed reports on the proposals for its use;
- (vii) that further consideration be given by the Senior Management Team for the use of the remaining Capital Funding of £6.790M alongside any other capital requirements for future agreement by Cabinet;
- (viii) that the detailed proposals for increases in fees and charges, as set out in Section 6 and included within the budget proposals at Section 4, be approved;
- (ix) that Section 8 (Position on Reserves, Provisions and Balances) be noted, along with the earmarking of an additional £3.5M for Future Council reorganisation costs; the remaining resources being earmarked in strategic reserves to address Future Council priorities;
- (x) that the report of the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services, under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 at Section 1 be noted and the 2014/15 budget proposals be agreed on the basis that the Chief Executive, in liaison with the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services and in consultation with the Senior Management Team, submits for early consideration detailed proposals from the ongoing activity in order that the potential budget gaps in 2015/16 and the longer term be closed;
- (xi) that the cash limited budgets for each service with overall net expenditure for 2014/15 of £186.769M be approved;
- (xii) that the forecast budget positions for 2014/15 to 2016/17 contained in Section 4, Annex 3 (Medium Term Financial Forecast) be noted and monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the Future Council;
- (xiii) that the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services, in liaison with the Chief Executive and SMT, as appropriate, be required to submit reports to Cabinet, as a matter of urgency, in relation to the detailed General Fund Revenue Budget for 2014/15 including recommendation on any action further to that set out above required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget for that financial year;
- (xiv) that the Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Property and Information Services and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of efficiency savings;

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- (xv) that the Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Property and Information Services and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of efficiency savings;
- (xvi) that the Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Property and Information Services and SMT be required to submit regular reports as necessary on the implementation of proposals into Cabinet as a matter of urgency to resolve any outstanding issues in relation to their budgets and deal with any consequential effects;
- (xvii) that the Authority's SMT be charged to ensuring that the budget remains in balance and reporting regularly to Cabinet on budget and efficiency savings monitoring and any action required;
- (xviii) that the Cabinet be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 2014/15 budget;
- (xix) that appropriate consultation on the agreed budget proposals takes place with the Trade Unions and representatives on Non Domestic Ratepayers and that the views of consultees be considered by Cabinet and Council;
- (xx) that the Equality Impact Statement circulated, in respect of future Council budget reduction proposals for 2014/15, be received and noted; and
- (xxi) that the budget papers be submitted to Council for consideration.

**(B) Council Tax 2014/15****RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2014:-**

- (i) that the contents of Section 7 (a) (2014/15 Council Tax options) of the report of the Director of Finance, Property and Information Services now submitted, be noted;
- (ii) that the Council Tax Collection Fund net surplus as at 31 March 2013 relating to Barnsley MBC of £1.151m be used to reduce the 2014/15 Council Tax requirement, in line with Statute;
- (iii) that the Band D Council Tax increase for Barnsley MBC's services set at 1.9% taking account of the Government Referendum criteria;
- (iv) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley MBC's areas be determined following confirmation of the South Yorkshire Police Authority and South Yorkshire Fire Authority precepts for 2014/15;
- (v) that the Band D Council Tax for areas of the Borough with Parish/Town Councils be determined following confirmation of individual Parish precepts for 2014/15; and

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- (vi) that the current discount scheme for over 65's be phased out over 5 years as set out at Section 7 (b) Option 2 of the report.

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Chairman