



Cabinet Minutes

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting of Wyre Borough Council held on Wednesday, 7 September 2016 at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Poulton-Le-Fylde.

Cabinet members present:

Councillor Peter Gibson (Leader of the Council)

Councillor Roger Berry (Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Lynne Bowen (Leisure and Culture Portfolio Holder)

Councillor David Henderson (Street Scene, Parks & Open Spaces Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Pete Murphy (Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Vivien Taylor (Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Alan Vincent (Resources Portfolio Holder and Deputy Leader)

Apologies:

None

Officers present:

Garry Payne (Chief Executive)

Mark Broadhurst (Service Director Health and Wellbeing)

Marianne Hesketh (Service Director Performance and Innovation)

Paul Harrison (Deputy Head of Finance)

Duncan Jowitt (Democratic Services Officer)

Apologies:

Mark Billington (Service Director People and Places)

Non-members of the Cabinet present:

Councillor Matthew Vincent (Chairman of the Libraries Task Group)

No members of the public or press attended the meeting.

CAB.6 Declarations of interest

None.

CAB.7 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 15 June 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

CAB.8 Public questions

None

CAB.9 Lancashire County Council Property Strategy - Consultation Response

The Chairman of the Libraries Task Group and Service Director Performance and Innovation submitted a report seeking the Cabinet's formal endorsement of the Libraries Task Group's response to Lancashire County Council (LCC)'s property strategy consultation, with specific reference to the proposed closure of three libraries in Wyre.

Cllr Matthew Vincent said that following Wyre's response, LCC had already decided to make no changes to the proposals originally set out in the consultation. He informed Cabinet that the task group had effectively been prevented from seeking the views of the public as it would have wished, due to the short timescale that LCC had given for a response to the proposals and that the group had also been unhappy that libraries staff had been issued with instructions to refrain from any discussion about the closures.

The Resources Portfolio Holder asked whether the entire task group had been unanimously in support of the response and Cllr Matthew Vincent informed him that the Labour members of the task group had voted against it.

The Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder thanked the members of the task group for their work and censured LCC's decision to leave the proposals largely unaltered despite all the responses it had received to the consultation. Cabinet echoed Cllr V. Taylor's thanks to the task group

Decision taken

Cabinet formally endorsed the response which had been submitted to Lancashire County Council by the task group in time for the consultation deadline on 14 August 2016.

CAB.10 Local Government Ombudsman Annual Review Letter 2016

The Leader of the Council and Service Director Performance and Innovation submitted a report asking Cabinet to consider the Annual Review letter from the Local Government Ombudsman for 2015/16, which was attached as an appendix to the report.

The Leader praised the staff of Wyre stating that it was a great tribute to them that only 12 complaints had been made and that none had been upheld, whilst by way of comparison, Lancashire County Council in the same period had received over 150 complaints of which 33 had been upheld. The Health

and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder stated that this endorsed how hard and diligently Wyre's staff worked and suggested that other authorities might learn from them.

Decision taken

Cabinet noted the comments made by the Ombudsman in the Annual Review Letter.

CAB.11 Capital Programme Review and Monitoring Report

The Resources Portfolio Holder and Head of Finance submitted a report asking Cabinet to consider the summary of the Spending Officers' (April to end June 2016) review of the 2016/17 Capital Budget and its impact on the Capital Programme thereafter.

Decision taken

Cabinet agreed that the Capital Programme and its funding be updated to reflect the changes indicated in the report and that the impact on the Revenue Budget be reflected in the Medium Term Financial Plan and future revisions of the Revenue Estimates.

CAB.12 Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 to 2019/20

The Resources Portfolio Holder and Head of Finance submitted a report asking Cabinet to consider the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan for the financial years 2016/17 to 2019/20.

Decision taken

Cabinet

- approved the Medium Term Financial Plan and the consequential action required in order to address the issues resulting from the 3 year Financial Forecast;
- noted the revised expenditure projections incorporating the slippage from 2015/16, and the resulting impact on the level of the Council's Reserves and Balances at 31st March 2016
- agreed the top-up and use of all Reserves and Balances as indicated in Appendix 4 to the Medium Term Financial Plan.

CAB.13 Neighbourhood Planning: Delegation Arrangements

Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder and Chief Executive submitted a report requesting that Cabinet consider a scheme of delegation for Neighbourhood Planning.

Decision taken

Cabinet approved the delegations in relation to the various stages of the preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan and a Neighbourhood Development Order, set out in Appendix A of the report and agreed that Part 7.02 of the Council's Constitution (Scheme of Delegation) be updated accordingly.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and finished at 6.09 pm.

Date of Publication: 8 September 2016

Options considered but rejected

Any alternative options that were considered but rejected, in addition to the reasons for the recommendations that were made, are included in the full reports.

When will these decisions be implemented?

All decisions will be put into effect five working days from the date of publication, unless a decision is "called-in" by any four members of the council within that period.