

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

31st January 2024

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 31st January, 2024 in the Council Chamber which was recorded and uploaded onto the Council's website.

Present

Councillor K. Wilson (Leader and Business and Regeneration)
Councillor C. Golby (Deputy Leader and Housing and Communities)
Councillor S. Croft (Finance and Corporate)
Councillor J. Gutteridge (Health and Environment)
Councillor S. Markham (Public Services)
Councillor R. Smith (Planning and Regulation)

CB89 **Apologies**

None

CB90 **Declarations of Interest**

RESOLVED that the Declarations of Interest for this meeting are as set out in the Schedule attached to these minutes.

CB91 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 10th January 2024, be approved, and signed by the Chair.

CB92 **Civic Honours Awards**

RESOLVED that, thanks be expressed to all officers involved in the Civic Honours Awards Ceremony held on Monday 29th January 2024 highlighting the good work happening behind the scenes by the people of the Borough.

CB93 **Provision of Enforcement Agency services for NBBC & NWBC to include Council Tax, NNDR and Sundry Debtors**

The Assistant Director – Finance submitted a report to Cabinet seeking authority to undertake a procurement process and award contract to two external contractors in supporting the collection of unpaid debts to Nuneaton and Bedworth Council and North Warwickshire Borough Council, principally in relation to Council Tax, Business Rates and Sundry Debtors.

RESOLVED that

- a) the procurement of 2 suppliers, (one primary and one secondary), to provide collection and enforcement services for Council Tax, National Non-Domestic Rates and Sundry Debts (including Housing Benefit Overpayments), for a period of three (3) years with an optional twelve (12) month period and a further five (5) month extension period with a final end date 13th December 2028 for the Council in collaboration with North Warwickshire Borough Council be approved; and
- b) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director – Finance / Strategic Director – Finance & Governance to award two contracts (one primary and one secondary), following the procurement exercise.

Speakers:

Mr Peter Smith
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

There is no in-house option available.

Reasons

The existing contract agreements for Enforcement Agent services expire in July 2024. Currently two suppliers deliver a contracted service based with one as primary and one as secondary that encompass the collection of Council income, where the Council has been unable to collect it directly.

CB94 **Recommendations From Overview and Scrutiny Panels**

None

CB95 **Any Other Items**

None

CB96 **Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

SPEAKER: Councillor Keith Kondakor

CB97 **Nuneaton Business Improvement District (BID)**

The Assistant Director – Economy and Regeneration submitted a report to Cabinet on the Nuneaton Business Improvement District.

RESOLVED that

- a) the development of Nuneaton Business Improvement District and BID Business plan as per attached Appendix 1 of the report, be supported and signed off, recognising the associated cost to NBBC in doing so, and recognising the benefits to businesses and the community of having a BID;
- b) NBBC are confident that the BID arrangements and projects complement and enhance the local authority's existing offer;
- c) delegated authority be given to the Leader of the Council to vote on behalf of NBBC in the forthcoming BID ballot;
- d) NBBC are happy with the ballot arrangement be outsourced to Civica on behalf of the BID; and
- e) while to date no approach has been made by either an individual or business group for the development of a BID in Bedworth, should an approach be made in the future NBBC will recommend that this option be explored.

Speakers:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

1. To support the Nuneaton BID proposal
2. Right to Veto

The local authority can veto the BID arrangements within 14 working days from the ballot. To do this, it needs to be satisfied that the arrangements;

- are likely to conflict to a significant extent with an existing policy;
- place a significant financial burden on any individual or class of ratepayers because of manipulation of the area or the structure of the levy

Reasons

Business Improvement Districts can be beneficial in promoting economic growth and localism. The local authority needs to be satisfied that the BID proposal does not conflict with any existing local authority policy nor propose a disproportionate burden on local businesses by way of an unfair levy charge.

It is considered that the business plan and levy proposal of 2% meets these criteria and that the Council should support the move to ballot for the implementation of the proposal.

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 7TH FEBRUARY 2024

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 15TH FEBRUARY 2024

Cabinet - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2023/2024

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	General dispensations granted to all members under s.33 of the Localism Act 2011			Granted to all members of the Council in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing matters - Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 - An allowance, payment given to members - An indemnity given to members - Any ceremonial honour given to members - Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 - Planning and Licensing matters - Allotments - Local Enterprise Partnership
	S. Croft	Employed at Holland & Barrett Retail Ltd	Treasurer of the Conservative Association Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champion for Safeguarding (Children and Adults) • Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board West Midlands Employers	
	C. Golby		Member of Warwickshire County Council Membership of Other Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd. • Nuneaton and Bedworth Home Improvement Agency • Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board • Warwickshire Housing and Support Partnership • Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel • George Eliot Hospital 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<p>NHS Trust – Public/User Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Eliot Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Governors • District Leaders (substitute) • Local Enterprise Partnership (substitute) • Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley and Bosworth Joint Committee (substitute) 	
	J. Gutteridge		<p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board • Age UK (Warwickshire Branch) • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground • West Midlands Combined Authority Wellbeing Board <p>Member of NABCEL</p>	
	S. Markham	County Councillor – WCC (Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services)	<p>Governor at Ash Green School</p> <p>Member of the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Sports Forum • Warwickshire Direct Partnership • Warwickshire Waste Partnership • Sherbourne Asset Co Shareholder Committee • Hammersley, Smith and Orton Charities 	
	R. Smith		<p>Chairman of Volunteer Friends, Bulkington;</p> <p>Trustee of Bulkington Sports and Social Club;</p> <p>Director of NABCEL;</p> <p>Member of the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Member Partnership; • PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulation Outside of London) Joint Committee; • Building Control Partnership Steering Group • Bulkington Village Community and Conference Centre • West Midlands Combined 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Authority and Land Delivery Board	
	K.D. Wilson	Acting Delivery Manager, Nuneaton and Warwick County Courts, HMCTS, Warwickshire Justice Centre, Nuneaton	<p>Deputy Chairman – Nuneaton Conservative Association</p> <p>Corporate Tenancies: properties are leased by NBBC to Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd, of which I am a Council appointed Director.</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd (NABCEL) • Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley & Bosworth Joint Committee • District Council Network • Local Government Association • LGA People & Places Board (Member) • West Midlands Combined Authority 	