

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

21st February 2024

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 21st February, 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)

CB98 **Apologies**

None

CB99 **Declarations of Interest**

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

CB100 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 31st January 2024, be approved, and signed by the Chair.

CB101 **Planning Procurement Software**

The Assistant Director – Planning submitted a report to Cabinet presenting the case for the procurement of new software for Planning and Land charges to enable the modernisation and commercialisation of the Planning Service.

RESOLVED that

- a) the procurement of new software for Planning and Land Charges to enable the modernisation and commercialisation of the Planning Service be approved; and
- b) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director – Planning/Strategic Director – Public Services to award the contract following the procurement exercise by the appropriate tender.

Speakers:

Mrs Michele Kondakor
Mr Peter Smith
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

Not to endorse the recommendation but recommend an alternative.

Reasons

The Council currently use Civica Flare (App) for administering all Planning services and for Land Charges. It is a relatively old piece of software having been

procured for Planning in 2004, and is very manual in its setup with only some automation. It results in inefficient use of officer time by requiring a lot of manual input, and training times for officers to become familiar with an old software platform outweigh the effectiveness of this software.

Modern planning systems have been specifically designed from the ground up to be user-friendly and intuitive. Whilst also being responsive to the needs of today's Planning and Land Charges departments and related functions.

CB102 Dog Control Public Space Protection Order Extension

The Assistant Director – Environment and Enforcement submitted a report to Cabinet asking to consider an extension of the Council's existing Dog Control Public Space Protection order (PSPO) for a further three years.

RESOLVED that the extension of the Dog Control Public Space Protection Order for a further period of three years be approved.

Speakers:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

- 1) Approve the extension of the order
- 2) Request a new order with amendments
- 3) Do not approve the extension

Reasons

The Council is seeking to extend the Dog Control PSPO because complaint data held by the Council, provided in appendix B, shows dog control issues to be a continuing issue for residents since the introduction of the PSPO in 2021.

CB103 General Fund 2024/25

The Strategic Director presented to Cabinet the draft General Fund budget for 2024/25 for consideration and submission to Council for approval.

RESOLVED that

- a) the forecast outturn position for the General Fund for 2023/24 be noted;
- b) the Council Tax requirement for 2024/25 of £10,556,339, an increase of 2.99% on a Band D, is recommended to Council for approval in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- c) the NNDR1 has been completed and submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and included within the Budget for 2024/25 with a precept for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council;
- d) any increases in Fees and Charges for 2024/25 as shown at Appendix 3 of the report be approved;
- e) the net General Fund Revenue expenditure budget of £19,133,536 be agreed and recommended for Council approval (Appendix 1 of the report)

- f) the enhanced recruitment control measures implemented during September 2023 remains in place with approval to recruit being requested from Management Team and Cabinet;
- g) Delegated Authority be given to the Strategic Director – Housing and Communities and the Communities and Community Safety Manager in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Business and Regeneration to undertake procurement activities to deliver against the 2024/25 priorities set out as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF); and
- h) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the timescales for setting the budget and Council Tax for 2024/25 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Speakers

Mrs Michele Kondakor
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To accept the report or request further information, having regard to the legal deadlines for setting of budgets.

Reasons

To comply with regulations.

CB104 Housing Revenue Account Budget (HRA) 2024/25

The Strategic Director – Finance and Governance presented the proposed HRA budget for consideration and submission to Council for approval.

RESOLVED that

- a) the forecast outturn position for the HRA for 2023/24 be noted;
- b) the amended budget for 2023/24 across service areas to take account of recharges be recommended for approval by Council;
- c) the net budget position of £0 for 2024/25 be agreed and recommended to Council for approval;
- d) a rent increase on dwellings of 7.7%. be agreed and recommended to Council for approval;
- e) Fees and Charges for the HRA (Appendix 2 of the report) be recommended to Council for approval; and
- f) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the timescales for setting the budget and Council Tax for 2024/25 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Speakers

Mrs Michele Kondakor
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To accept the report or request further information, having regard to the legal deadlines for setting of budgets

Reasons

To comply with regulations.

CB105 Capital Budget 2024/25

The Strategic Director – Finance and Governance presented the proposed Capital budget for consideration and submission to Council for approval.

RESOLVED that

- a) the budget for 2024/25 be recommended to Council for approval.
- b) the forecasted capital programme for 2023/24 be noted.
- c) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director – Housing & Communities to carry out procurement exercises in accordance with the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules in order to deliver the capital programme for the HRA.
- d) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director – Economy & Transformation and the Strategic Director – Finance & Governance to approve any new funding opportunities that arise to support the regeneration projects.
- e) the proposed capital budget for 2024/25 and future years for regeneration and the Pingles Decarbonisation cannot proceed without secured funding be noted
- f) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to the timescales for setting the budget and Council Tax for 2024/25 as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Speakers

Mrs Michele Kondakor
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To accept the report or request further information, having regard to the legal deadlines for setting of budgets

Reasons

To comply with regulations.

CB106 Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2024/25

The Strategic Director – Finance and Governance presented the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2024/25 to recommend for Council approval.

RESOLVED that

- a) It be recommended to Council for approval of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement including all Prudential Indicators, the MRP policy and Annual Investment Strategy; and
- b) the report be marked not subject to call-in due to urgency as recommendations require approval by full Council on 21st February.

Speakers

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To accept the report or request further information, having regard to the legal deadlines for setting of budgets.

Reasons

To comply with regulations.

CB107 Recommendations From Overview and Scrutiny Panels

None

CB108 Any Other Items

None

CB109 Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that the Regeneration Update report be heard in public session.

CB110 Regeneration Update

The Strategic Director – Economy and Transformation submitted a report to Cabinet to establish a Local Authority Trading Company to support the management of the Hotel at Grayson Place and provide an update on the proposed revised Regeneration Programme

RESOLVED that

- a) the proposed revised Capital Regeneration Programme for the purpose of budget setting be approved, and that delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Director – Economy and Transformation to enter associated contracts to support the delivery of the programme;
- b) Delegated Authority be granted to the Strategic Director – Economy and Transformation and the Strategic Director – Finance and Governance to adjust the Regeneration Capital Programme, within and up to the total level of capital borrowing detailed, to allow for any new funding sources secured, or variance within the programme;
- c) the establishment of a company which would be limited by shares and owned wholly by the council for the purpose of the Hampton by Hilton hotel operation be approved;

- d) the company trading name be registered as “Grayson Place (NBBC) Ltd” be approved;
- c) Delegated Authority be granted to the Strategic Director – Economy and Transformation and the Strategic Director – Finance and Governance to implement governance and board membership arrangements, to establish the local authority trading company and any other activities required in association with the set-up of the trading company;
- d) it be recommended to the Council the revision of the NABCEL Shareholder Committee, to Shareholder Committee with amended terms of reference to include Grayson Place (NBBC) Ltd and any future company(ies) that the Council may establish/ jointly establish; and
- e) the report be marked not for call in as provided for in paragraph 15(f) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Speakers:

Michele Kondakor
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

1. Continue without either setting up a Local Authority Trading Company or revising the Capital Programme.
2. Recommend an alternative action.

Reasons

The Council requires a Local Authority Trading Company to support the management relationship of the hotel operations.

The Regeneration Programme has required revision following changing economic conditions.

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 29TH FEBRUARY 2024

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 8TH MARCH 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 • Trustee for Abbey Theatre | |
| | 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 | |

| | Name of Councillor | Disclosable Pecuniary Interest | Other Personal Interest | Dispensation |
|--|--------------------|---|--|--------------|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Combined 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 | |