

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

24th May 2023

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 24th May, 2023 in the Council Chamber which was recorded and live streamed.

Present

Councillor K. Wilson (Leader and Business and Regeneration (Chair))
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)

CB1 **Apologies**

None

CB2 **Declarations of Interest**

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

CB3 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 12th April 2023, be approved, and signed by the Chair.

CB4 **Bedworth Civic Hall – Update – Next Steps**

The Strategic Director – Public Services submitted a report to Cabinet setting out the next steps for consideration on the future operation of the Civic Hall (Venue).

RESOLVED that

- a) the proposed selection criteria at Appendix 1 of the report be approved; and
- b) Delegated Authority be given to the Strategic Director – Finance & Governance and Strategic Director – Economy & Transformation in consultation with the Leisure & Health Manager and Portfolio Holder for Public Services to undertake the selection exercise in accordance with the timetable as set out at Appendix 2 of the report.

Speakers:

Sam Margrave
Joanne Browning
Jane Law (submitted a statement that was circulated to Cabinet prior to the meeting)
Steven Young
Nikki Smith
Christine Robson
Rachel Hardy
Janet Batterbee
Wendy Snell
Julie Whitehouse

Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Emma Shiers
Councillor Brian Hammersley

Options

Accept recommendations in full.
Do not accept the recommendations.

Reasons

At Cabinet on 9th November 2022, the recommendation for Cabinet to approve 'Expressions of Interest' (EOI's) to be sought from suitable interested parties for the potential future operation and management of the Venue was approved in full.

On the 12th April, the EOIs were accepted as valid and Cabinet agreed to approach the next stage on the basis of a lease, the terms of which are to be agreed under delegated authority. The next stage in the process is to undertake a formal selection exercise in accordance with the legislation and guidance that is being followed in this instance.

CB5 **Reimagining Museum & Art Gallery Parks Revival**

The Strategic Directors – Public Services and Economy & Transformation provided Cabinet with a project update for the Parks Revival and Reimagining Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery Schemes, following the completion of the surveys, designs, and cost estimates to Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Stage 3

RESOLVED that

- a) the update report on the delivery of the projects be noted;
- b) the RIBA Stage 3 report for the Museum Appendix 2 of the report be accepted;
- c) Delegated Authority be given to the Strategic Directors for Economy & Transformation and Finance, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Public Services and Health & Environment to deliver the projects within available funding and as per agreed outcomes and approved summarised business case as at Appendix 1 to this report;
- d) Further update reports be presented to Cabinet at timely intervals, along with the ongoing engagement with DHLUC to meet monitoring and evaluation reporting to release grant funding be noted; and
- e) Delegated Authority be given to the Strategic Director – Public Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Public Services and Health & Environment to pursue funding opportunities for elements of the Museum and Parks schemes not currently funded.

Speakers:

Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Emma Shiers

Options

Accept the recommendations contained within this report and move to delivery stage of the projects.

Do not accept the recommendations.

Reasons

This report provides Cabinet with the most up to date information relating to the capital project as part of the Towns Deal / DLUHC funding. The project now requires approval to move to the next stages of RIBA delivery, following its sign off by the Board and formal acceptance by DLUHC following changes from the initial submission to meet budget shortfalls.

CB6 Creation of Flexible Tenancies, Downsizing Policy and Local Lettings Plan within the Council Housing Stock

The Head of Housing & Responsive Repairs submitted a report seeking to approve recommendations pertaining to the creation of Flexible Tenancies (Fixed Term Tenancies) for specific Council housing stock, namely four and five bed houses and stock that has been significantly adapted for a disabled household.

RESOLVED that

- a) flexible tenancies be approved for issuing to all new or VOID 4+ bedroom properties;
- b) flexible tenancies be approved for issuing to all new or VOID significantly adapted properties;
- c) the Tenancy Policy and supporting Local Lettings Plan be approved;
- d) Delegated Authority be given to the Head of Strategic Housing Services and Head of Housing & Responsive Repairs to determine the adapted property meets the criteria for a Flexible tenancy; and
- e) the Downsizing Initiatives and supporting policy be approved.

Speakers:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Councillor Emma Shiers

Options

To approve the recommendations

To not approve the recommendations.

Reasons

To allow the Council to encourage tenants under occupying 4+ bed roomed homes to move to smaller accommodation that better suits their needs. This will then allow families that require that size of accommodation to be housed, which will have a positive impact on temporary accommodation costs.

This will also apply to disabled adapted properties which are no longer required by the household.

CB7 **Funding Arrangements – Economic Development and Public Safety**

The Strategic Director – Housing & Community Safety and Strategic Director – Economy & Transformation submitted a report to Cabinet proposing a redistribution of discretionary funding previously provided to the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP)

RESOLVED that

- a) the establishment of a Town Centre Business Grant Scheme be approved;
- b) Delegated Authority be given to the Head of Economic Development and Communities, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member – Business & Regeneration to administer the Scheme; and
- c) to increase capacity within the Communities and Public Safety team within the financial envelope detailed within the financial implications be approved.

Speakers

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To accept the recommendations

To reject the recommendations

Reasons

The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) functions are now subsumed within Warwickshire County Council's duties, negating the historical discretionary £20k annual funding contribution to the LEP that NBBC has made for many years. The Coventry & Warwickshire Growth Hub is an "add on" function set up by the LEP which has attracted annual discretionary funding of £15k from NBBC and the other four district and borough councils in Warwickshire [as well as larger annual contributions from Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council]. Coventry & Warwickshire Growth Hub has now been established as a Community Interest Company separate from the LEP functions that have been subsumed within the County Council. However, given the level of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) investment proposed to support businesses, coupled with existing local and regional arrangements, it is recommended that the £35k of funding contributions previously made to the LEP and the Growth Hub is redirected to provide more locally focused resources for the benefit of the borough.

CB8 **UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)**

The Strategic Director – Housing & Community Safety provided Cabinet and members with information regarding progress to date against agreed UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) projects.

RESOLVED that

- a) progress against Year One projects be noted;
- b) the Town Centres Commercial Units Conversion Grant Scheme attached at Appendix A of the report, be endorsed; and

- c) Delegated Authority be given to the Strategic Director – Housing & Community Safety, Strategic Director – Economy & Transformation, and Strategic Director – Public Services, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holders, administer the projects.

Speakers

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

To accept the recommendations

To reject the recommendations

Reasons

The UKSPF replaces European Funding and is intended to reduce the inequalities between communities. The three intervention themes of Community and Place, Supporting Local Businesses and People and Skills, reflect the priorities of the Council and which are contained within the Build a Better Borough corporate Plan. The proposed interventions and projects contained within this report provide a cohesive approach to supporting local businesses, improving the local economy, reducing crime and disorder and offering improved life chances and opportunities for residents.

CB9 Recommendations From Overview and Scrutiny Panels

None

CB10 Any Other Items

a) **Water Safety**

Cabinet wished to highlight the dangers of swimming in open water especially Ensor Pool and to express thanks to the fire officers who recently visited Ensor Pool and assisted in ensuring the safety of residents.

b) **Knife Angel**

Cabinet wished to highlight the arrival of the Knife Angel on 1st June to the Nuneaton Town Centre and the event starting at 7pm.

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 2ND JUNE 2023

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 12TH JUNE 2023

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 – W.C.C.	<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 	
	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 Authority and Land Delivery Board 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	K.D. Wilson	Acting Delivery Manager, Nuneaton and Warwick County Courts, HMCTS, Warwickshire Justice Centre, Nuneaton	Deputy Chairman – Nuneaton Conservative Association	
			Corporate Tenancies: properties are leased by NBBC to Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd, of which I am a Council appointed Director.	
			Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <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 • Director of Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd (CWLEP) • West Midlands Combined Authority 	