

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

9th October 2024

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 9th October, 2024 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall.

Present

Councillor J. Sheppard (Deputy Leader and Environment & Public Services)
Councillor S. Hey (Resources & Customer Services)
Councillor R. Roze (Planning & Enforcement)
Councillor N. King (Business and Regeneration)

CB37 Apologies

Councillor C. Watkins (Leader and Housing) and Councillor T. Jenkins (Leisure, Communities and Health)

CB38 Declarations of Interest

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

CB39 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 11th September 2024, be approved, and signed by the Chair subject to an amendment at CB29 to read '17th July 2024'

CB40 Museum Operational Hours

The Strategy Director – Public Services submitted a report recommending to approve the change in museum operational hours from April 2025

RESOLVED that

- a) the proposed operational hours for the museum be approved as per section 4.1 of the report; and
- b) Delegated Authority be given to the Assistant Director – Recreation and Culture in consultation with the Assistant Director – Finance and Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Communities and health to restructure the museum to accommodate the operational hours.

Speakers:

Mr K. Kondakor
Mr P. Smith
Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options

- a) the recommendations are not approved and
- b) alternative opening times be proposed

Reasons

The museum has been operating on seasonal hours and significantly reduced hours for the last 18 months, following several vacancies and a recruitment freeze. This has led to the museum opening hours being inconsistent and running the museum on skeleton staff.

CB41 Nuneaton Markets Operations

The Assistant Director – Economy and Regeneration submitted a report to Cabinet outlining the proposal to move the Market operation to a fully self-supply and erect model of market stall set up and the financial implications.

RESOLVED that the proposed move to a self-erect model by January 2025 be approved.

Speakers:

Mr K. Kondakor
Mrs B. Tooby
Mr P. Smith
Councillor Michael Bird
Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options

- 1) Continue with the existing model of operation which would present a significant financial burden on the general fund.
- 2) Investigate other operating models. Please note external operator model already considered and rejected.

Reasons

Falling trader numbers across the UK, together with pressures on Local Authority funding and rising operational costs, necessitate a review of the current operation of our town centre markets. We aim to consider all alternative options for the future delivery of the service to ensure value for money and resilience. We want to provide opportunities for markets to thrive as town centres evolve in the face of the changing retail and town centres landscape.

CB42 Green Bin Update

The Strategic Director – Public Services presented to Cabinet an update on the Green Bin service.

RESOLVED that the following be noted :-

- a) a review of the green bin charges to take place as part of the Council's annual process of reviewing all its fees and charges.
- b) to ensure the service is meeting the needs and expectations of residents, a full review of the service, including a public consultation will take place in June and July 2025. This review will also examine the impact of the mandatory requirements on food waste collections.

- c) the portfolio holder will be undertaking a review of the impact of food waste collections for the Borough, working with the Environment and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Speakers

Mr K. Kondakor
Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options

N/A

Reasons

The price of the service has remained unchanged since its introduction in 2018 and has never been reviewed. The Environment Bill 2001 will require the Council, as a waste collection authority, to collect food waste through a separate weekly collection. The Green Bin will no longer be able to accept food waste once a weekly food waste collection service is implemented.

CB43 Bedworth Physical Activity Hub (BPAH)

The Strategic Director – Public Services provided and update to the Leisure Development update in relation to Bedworth Physical Activity Hub and leisure management procurement timetable.

RESOLVED that

- a) the progress on the BPAH be noted and further reports and updates be brought back to Cabinet as appropriate; and
- b) the progress on the Leisure Procurement be noted and further updates be brought back to Cabinet as applicable on the final procurement outcomes

Speakers

Mr K. Kondakor
Mr P. Smith
Councillor Michele Kondakor

Options

Note the update reports
Do not accept the updates

Reasons

To note the progress made on the BPAH project and Leisure Operator procurement activities.

CB44 Council Tax Premium Charges

The Assistant Director – Finance submitted a report to Cabinet seeking approval to introduce an additional levy on the Council Tax charge from April 2025 for long term empty dwellings and second homes from April 2026

RESOLVED that

- a) the proposed change to introduce an additional levy of 100% on properties empty for a period in excess of 12 months from April 2025 be approved.
- b) the proposed change to introduce an additional levy of 200% on properties empty for a period in excess of 5 years from April 2025 be approved.
- c) the proposed change to introduce an additional levy of 300% on properties empty for a period in excess of 10 years from April 2025 be approved.
- d) the proposal to remove the 100% discount that is applied for the first 14 days that a property is empty and unfurnished from April 2025 be approved.
- e) the introduction of the Second Homes Levy up to a maximum of 100% from April 2026 be approved.
- f) a brief consultation process as outlined at paragraph 4 of the report be approved.

Speakers

Mr K. Kondakor

Mr P. Smith

Councillor M. Kondakor

Options

To accept the report; or

To oppose the recommendations

Reasons

To reduce empty homes across the Borough

CB45 Recommendations From Overview and Scrutiny Panels

None

CB46 Any Other Items

None

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 14TH OCTOBER 2024

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 22ND October 2024

Cabinet - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2024/2025

	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. Hey	Director – - Heywire Ltd - Brilliant Bookings Ltd	Member of the Labour Party, National Trust, CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale), Royal Photographic Society. Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Employers Board (NBBC representative) • Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board • Grayson Place (NBBC) Limited • West Midlands Employers • Nuneaton and Bedworth Older People's Forum 	
	T. Jenkins	Managing Partner – Gribblybugs LLP	The Labour Party (sponsorship) - Committee Member of Warwickshire Amphibian & Reptile Team - Member of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust - Member of Equity – Trade Union Members of National Trust and English Heritage Representative on the following Outside Bodies:	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Sports Forum, • Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board, • Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board, • Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel, • Biodiversity Champion • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground • Exhall Education Foundation • Foleshill Charity Trustee – Proffitt's Charity 	
	N. King	Employed by Love Hair and Beauty	Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Town Deal Board 	
	R. Roze	Director – InfiniTEN Ltd	Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Member Partnership • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd • PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside of London) Joint Committee Services. • Building Control Partnership Steering Group • Bedworth Town Deal Board 	
	J. Sheppard		Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherbourne Asset Co Shareholder Committee • Warwickshire Direct Partnership • Warwickshire Waste Partnership • Nuneaton Neighbour Watch Committee 	
Director of Wembrook Community Centre.			Dispensation to speak and vote on any matters of Borough Plan that relate to the Directorship of Wembrook Community Centre	
Member of Labour Party				

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	C.M. Watkins	Employee of Nutri Pack	<p>Representative on the following outside bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd. (NABCEL) • Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley and Bosworth Joint Committee • Local Government Association • Nuneaton and Bedworth Home Improvement Agency • Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd • Warwickshire Housing Support Partnership • West Midlands Combined Authority Board (WMCA) • West Midland Combined Housing and Land delivery Board 	