

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET DECISIONS

TUESDAY, 24 APRIL 2018

PRESENT: Councillor S E Ralphs MBE (Chair)

Councillors M Bowen, A Forrester, T Hall, D Ogden, S Scalise and E Wain

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor B Cawley

54 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED)**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2018 were approved.

55 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY**

There were no declarations of interest made.

56 **JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES - 17 APRIL 2018**

DECISION: That the Minutes of Meeting of the Local Joint Employees Consultative Committee held on 17 April 2018 be received and the recommendations contained therein approved.

57 **FORWARD PLAN**

DECISION: That the Forward Plan for April 2018 be approved for publication.

58 **ACCELERATED HOUSING DELIVERY PROGRAMME**

The purpose of the report was to prepare for the delivery of the Local Plan subject to submission to the Planning Inspectorate this summer and successful examination thereafter. The report aimed to inform members of the issues and potential opportunities for accelerating housing delivery in the District and sought approval for a comprehensive package of approaches to tackle low level development activity and to maintain the 5 year supply in order to deliver the Local Plan.

Options considered:

1. To not approve the Accelerated Housing delivery proposal. This was not considered the preferred option because the government was imposing sanctions on local authorities who were unable demonstrate a delivery of the housing target. This was currently based on OAN of 320 dwellings per year until the new local plan is adopted. The community benefits in the form of Council Tax, New Homes Bonus and Business Rate would be reduced. Not recommended

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2. To approve the accelerated housing delivery programme. Having an implementation plan in place would help in demonstrating the Council's commitment to delivering the emerging Local Plan and maintaining a 5 year land supply. The government was focused on housing delivery and was encouraging local authorities to take a more proactive approach. The accelerated housing delivery programme coordinates the council's effort to access funding and attract investment into the area. Recommended

DECISION:

1. That the proposal for the Accelerated Housing Delivery programme as outlined in para 7.5 and 7.7 of the report be approved.
2. That the expenditure as outline in para 6.4 of the report be approved.
3. That the options in section 5 of the report be noted and that the recommended option as outlined in paragraph 5.2 of the report be approved.

59 **HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY**

The purpose of the report was to submit the Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan for approval.

Options considered:

Option 1- Proceed with the recommendation to approve the attached Homelessness Strategy, that had been developed in relation to appropriate legislation and consultation with a range of stakeholders (preferred option).

Option 2- Reject the recommendations and not adopt the Strategy (not recommended).

DECISION:

That the Alliance wide Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan at Appendix A of the report be approved.

60 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY POLICY**

The purpose of the report was to review the Council's Corporate Equality Objectives and the Corporate Equality Policy. The report was considered by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 18 April 2018.

Options considered:

That the Cabinet considers and comments on the revised Equality Policy and Corporate Equality Objectives. (Recommended)

That the Cabinet does not consider or comment on the revised Equality Policy and Corporate Equality Objectives. (Not recommended)

DECISION:

The Cabinet considered the Council's Corporate Equality Objectives 2018/19 and adopted the revised Corporate Equality Policy.

61 **NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK CONSULTATION**

The report informed councillors of the proposals in the draft National Planning Policy Framework which were subject to consultation. The report also proposed recommendations regarding responding to the consultation.

Options considered:

Option 1 (recommended) – that the Council liaise with the Local Government Association to submit a joint response to the consultation. This was recommended as it was considered that such a response would carry more weight.

Option 2 (not recommended) – that the Council submitted its own response or did not respond to the consultation. This was not recommended as it would provide the Council with less or no influence over national policy.

DECISION:

1. That the proposals in the draft National Planning Policy Framework and the proposal to work with the Local Government Association to submit a joint response (Option 1 in Section 5) be noted.
2. That the implications for the Local Plan Submission Version be noted.

62 **FOXT CONSERVATION AREA DESIGNATION AND CHARACTER APPRAISAL**

The purpose of the report was to present the results of the public consultation exercise regarding the designation of a conservation area at Foxt and the accompanying draft character appraisal.

Options considered:

There are two principal options:

Option 1 – Accept all the recommendations

It was a statutory duty for Councils to periodically review and determine whether any of their areas warrant conservation area designation. Through the Churnet Valley Masterplan, Foxt had been identified as an area that potentially retained sufficient architectural and historic interest to warrant designation. Designating the proposed conservation area and adopting the character appraisal would maximise the protection afforded to the hamlet.

Recommended

Option 2 – Not accept any of the recommendations

The proposed conservation area boundary was designed to ensure the protection of Foxt's special character. Failure to designate the conservation area at Foxt would

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not meet a key action point arising from the adopted SPD (Churnet Valley Masterplan). Not recommended

DECISION:

That the public consultation responses be noted and that designation of the proposed conservation area at Foxt and the accompanying character appraisal as set out in appendix 2 and 3 of the report be approved.

63 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - That, pursuant to Section 100A(2) and (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings whereby it is likely that confidential information as defined in Section 100A (3) of the Act would be disclosed to the public in breach of the obligation of confidence or exempt information as defined in Section 100 I (1) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act would be disclosed to the public by virtue of the Paragraphs indicated.

64 REVIEW OF PUBLIC REALM CCTV SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

The Cabinet considered a report which presented options for the future of the public realm CCTV system and approved option 2 for the future direction of the system.

65 ALLIANCE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - PHASE 2 TRANSFER OF SERVICES

The Cabinet agreed the process for the transfer of further Council functions to Alliance Environmental Services (AES).

66 FACILITIES MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

The Cabinet approved a report which presented proposals for new arrangements for the Council's facilities management services.

The meeting closed at 2.31 pm

Chairman