

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER

14TH JULY 2015 (6.00 PM)

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**Present:**

Councillors: M J Hart (Chairman), J-P Campion, S J Chambers, N J Desmond, S E Fearn and I Hardiman.

**Observers:**

Councillors: N Knowles and F M Oborski MBE.

**CAB.11 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**CAB.12 Declarations of Interests by Members**

No declarations of interest were made.

**CAB.13 Minutes**

**Decision: The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**CAB.14 Call Ins**

No decisions had been called in since the last Cabinet meeting.

**CAB.15 Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There were no items requiring urgent attention.

**CAB.16 Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

**CAB.17 Leader's Announcements**

The Leader of the Council congratulated Councillor Oborski on her recent MBE in recognition of her service to the local community. Members were informed that the official launch of the new leisure centre had taken place with the burying of a time capsule, work on the Hoobrook link road was underway and the public realm work had commenced along Vicar Street/High Street in Kidderminster.

The Council were watching the progress of the seven authorities in Birmingham and the Black Country were working towards a proposal for a combined authority. It was anticipated that the Council would have to make a decision on combined authorities but no decisions had yet been made as to timescales.

**CAB.18 Wyre Forest District Local Plan Revision: Issues and Options Consultation**

A report was considered from the Planning Policy Manager to seek Cabinet approval for the Issues and Options Consultation Paper for a six week public consultation commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> September. This represented the first stage in the District's Local Plan Review.

Members were taken through the report and informed that the Local Plans Review Panel had done a tremendous amount of work that had fed into the process. The Panel members were thanked for the work they had already undertaken.

**Decision:**

- 1. The Draft Issues and Options Consultation Paper as attached at Appendix 2 of the Cabinet report be published for a six week consultation period, commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015.**
- 2. The Draft Consultation Plan as attached at Appendix 1 of the report to Cabinet be approved as the basis for the Issues and Options consultation arrangements in accordance with the Council's Adopted Statement of Community Involvement.**
- 3. Delegated authority be granted to the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to make any final changes to the formatting and images of the Issues and Options Consultation Paper prior to its publication.**

**CAB.19 Wyre Forest District Local Plan Review: Revised Local Development Scheme (Project Plan 2015 – 2018)**

A report was considered from the Planning Policy Manager to seek Cabinet approval for the publication of a Revised Local Development Scheme (LDS), which guides the timetable for the production of the District's Local Plans. To also consider the recommendations from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee from its meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015.

**Decision:**

- 1. The Revised Local Development Scheme as set out at Appendix 1 of the report to Cabinet for publication be approved.**
- 2. Delegated authority be granted to the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to make any final changes to the formatting of the Revised Local Development Scheme prior to its publication.**

3. **The possibility of introducing a reasonable charging structure for Parish and Town Councils to contribute towards the resource requirements in developing Neighbourhood Development Plans within the District be explored.**

**CAB.20 Revised Local Development Order, South Kidderminster Enterprise Park: Adoption**

A report was considered from the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to report the results of the public consultation on the revised Local Development Order (LDO) for the South Kidderminster Enterprise Park and to agree the adoption of the revised document for a period of three years from 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

Members were informed that LDO had been a success for the district and it was important that the Order was adopted with many local companies benefitting from the Order.

**Decision: The revised Local Development Order for South Kidderminster Enterprise Park, as attached at Appendix 1 of the report to Cabinet be adopted for a period of three years from 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015.**

**CAB.21 Regeneration of Kidderminster Western Gateway Use of Compulsory Purchase Powers**

A report was considered from the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to seek authority for the Council to consider the use of Compulsory Purchase Powers (CPO) to facilitate the regeneration of Kidderminster's Western Gateway.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration led Members through the report and informed them that the opening of the Bullring and the river would ensure an interesting and vibrant area for local residents. It was perceived that the proposals would also support private businesses. The Council wanted the town of Kidderminster to be better and fit for purpose. The next phase for the redevelopment was now needed and it was important that the implementation of the CPO was authorised. It was hoped that settlement with local businesses could be agreed before the CPO be put into place.

The Leader of the Council stated that Cabinet had had due regard to Human Rights issues and The Equality Act 2010 in reaching its conclusion.

Members discussed the proposals and felt that it was the best way forward and which would help grow the economy in the town centre. It was an exciting project for the town and with the demolition of the Crown House building, the whole area would be regenerated.

**Decision:**

- 1. The progress achieved to date in the purchase of properties through private treaty be noted; and subject to there being no reasonable prospect of such purchases reaching a final conclusion by the end of September 2015,**
  - 1.1 Subject to entering into an indemnity agreement with HUK in respect of the total costs associated with the compulsory purchase and acquisition of the land; and an agreement for the acquisition of properties as set out in 2.4 below, the Council makes a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) under section 226(i) (a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and section 13 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 for the acquisition of the land and new rights within the areas shown shaded on the Plan attached to the Cabinet report for the purpose of securing the comprehensive redevelopment of the land in accordance with Policy KCA.WG3 of the Adopted Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan Local Development Plan Document for retail purposes.**
- 2. The Director of Economic Prosperity and Place in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council be authorised to:**
  - 2.1 Take all necessary steps to secure the making, confirmation and implementation of the CPO, including the publication and service of all notices and the presentation of the Council's case at any Public Inquiry.**
  - 2.2 Acquire interests in land and new rights within the CPO either by agreement or compulsorily.**
  - 2.3 Approve agreements with land owners setting out the terms for the withdrawal of objections to the CPO, including, where appropriate, seeking exclusion of land from the CPO and/or making arrangements for relocation of occupiers.**
  - 2.4 Enter into an Agreement with HUK for the acquisition of the properties to be purchased compulsorily (a 'back to back' Agreement) before any CPO is made.**
- 3. Subject to the above referenced indemnity agreement being entered into, the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place appoints consultants as required to act on behalf of the Council in progressing the CPO, including any negotiations for the purchase of any land.**

**4. Recommend to Council:**

**That the Capital Programme be amended to include the acquisition of properties that are the subject of the CPO, while recognising that there will be no cost to the Council as a result of the indemnity agreement and “back-to-back” agreement as set out in recommendations 1 and 2.4 above.**

**CAB.22 Review of Car Parking Charges**

A report was considered from the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to introduce new car parking charges for the ‘central’ car parks across the three towns in the district; and to introduce a new ‘seasonal’ car parks charging band for car parks in Stourport on the Riverside.

The Cabinet Member for Operational Services took Members through the report. Members believed that the car park charges were fair across the district. It was also noted that free parking in the three towns in the district was also offered. It was pointed out that the council car park charges were cheaper than the charges for the car park at Weavers Wharf.

**Decision:**

- 1. To include the new ‘seasonal’ category of car park with its published charges and to levy an initial charge of £2.00 for up to 2 hours; £5.00 for up to 24 hours and £10.00 for up to 48 hours on the car parks at Severn Meadows 2 and 3 and Riverside Meadows to take effect from 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015.**
- 2. Charges be increased in the ‘central’ car parks of Raven Street, Load Street and Market Street to £1.00 for up to 30 minutes and £1.50 for up to one hour, to take effect from 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015.**
- 3. A new requirement be agreed that a ticket be obtained from the pay & display machines in the appropriate car parks for any of the free parking periods in operation at that time and for the ticket to be displayed in the vehicle in the usual manner.**

**CAB.23 Appointment of Honorary Alderman**

A report was considered from the Chief Executive which asked Cabinet to consider a recommendation to Council in respect of appointment of an Honorary Alderman.

Members were informed that the Council had first introduced the scheme in 2005. It was proposed that the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on Councillor Pauline Hayward . She had been an elected member for 33 years until her retirement in May 2015 and had given so much to her community.

It was noted that a special Council meeting would be held and a discussion would be held with the Chairman of the Council as to the date.

**Decision: Recommend to Council: The title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on Councillor Pauline Hayward in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.**

The meeting closed at 19.09 pm.