

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER

8TH MARCH 2016 (6:00 PM)

Present:

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

Observers:

Councillors: H E Dyke, N Knowles and J A Shaw.

CAB.65 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

CAB.66 Declarations of Interests by Members

No declarations of interest were made.

CAB.67 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 9th February 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CAB.68 Call Ins

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

CAB.69 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

There were no items requiring urgent attention

CAB.70 Leader's Announcements

The Leader of the Council updated Members on Devolution and the Worcestershire Deal. He confirmed that the Worcestershire offer would be the subject of a preliminary meeting with Lord Heseltine on 20th April in London which the Leader would attend as representative of the Worcestershire District Councils.

CAB.71 Strategic Asset Management Plan 2016-2021

A report was considered from the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place which sought agreement to adopt the Strategic Asset Management Plan 2016-2021. The recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting on 3rd March 2016 were also considered.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration led Members through the report. He advised that the core objectives of the Strategic Asset Management Plan focused on ensuring the Council's assets are used to support regeneration aspirations and perform at a significant level on their financial return.

He further explained that this was a robust and far reaching strategy that would ensure the District Council continued to deliver vital income that would help to support and deliver front line services, and ensure the delivery of regeneration aspirations.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee confirmed that the report had been discussed at length at its meeting on 3rd March 2016, and recommended to Cabinet that the Strategic Asset Management Plan be adopted.

Decision:

Adopt the Strategic Assessment Management Plan 2016-2021 and Property Disposal Strategy 2016 subject to any revisions as a result of technical asset re-classifications required as part of the 2015/16 Accounting Code

CAB.72 Exclusion of Press and Public

Decision: "Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of "exempt information" as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

CAB.73 Green Street Depot Project

A report was considered from the Director of Well-Being and Environment to consider options on the Green Street Depot Project.

Councillor Hart explained that options for partnership working or joint developments with other organisations had been considered as part of the review, but had been discounted because they did not meet the council's operational requirements or were not financially viable.

Councillor Knowles concurred that he fully supported the proposals in the report, as he felt that it was the most viable option.

Decision:

- i) Following extensive research into the options for the Council's depot facilities and the associated financial appraisals undertaken, it is more economically efficient and operationally effective to remain at the current location in Green Street, Kidderminster.**

- ii) **The Director of Community Well Being and Environment will commence a procurement exercise for a biomass combined heat and power (CHP) plant at Green Street (Option 2), in advance of the commencement of procurement – the final business case which demonstrates the deliverability of a biomass CHP plant and the tender evaluation criteria.**

The award of any contract will be subject to Council approving the amendment to the Capital Programme

- iii) **The revenue budget for 2016/17 is amended to reflect the revised expenditure requirements of this decision funded by additional income streams if the Biomass business case is proven deliverable from 2017/18 onwards.**
- iv) **In consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Operational Services, further plans are developed to improve and invest at the Green Street site in order to maximise commercial opportunities and income generation potential.**

RECOMMEND to Council:

Subject to the deliverability test being met on the installation of a biomass CHP at Green Street depot, the 2016/17 capital budget is amended to include the amount specified in the report for the costs of this scheme.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.21 pm