

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in Main Hall, The Glebe Centre, Murton on **Wednesday 17 July 2013 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor S Henig (Leader of the Council)

Members of Cabinet:

Councillors J Brown, N Foster, L Hovvels, O Johnson, A Napier, M Nicholls, M Plews, B Stephens and E Tomlinson

Other members:

Councillors J Clare, M Dixon, J Maitland, P Stradling and A Surtees

1 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 5 and 24 June 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 Declarations of interest

Declarations of interest were made by the following members in relation to item 6 concerning the review of community buildings:-

- Councillor S Henig as a member of Pelton Fell Community Partnership
- Councillor A Napier as a member of Murton General Management Committee
- Councillor N Foster as a member of Tudhoe Community Association
- Councillor J Brown as a member of Delves Lane Community Association, and Citizens House Management Committee
- Councillor M Nicholls as a member of Thornley and Wheatley Hill Community Associations

3 2012/13 Final Outturn for General Fund and Housing Revenue Account

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Resources which provided details of the Final Outturn for both the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2012/13 including an Annual Treasury Management Review. The report further considered both Revenue and Capital (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

4 Medium Term Financial Plan (4), Council Plan and Service Plans 2014/15-2016/17
Key Decision CORP/R/13/02

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director, Resources and Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update on the development of the 2014/15 Budget, the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP(4)) and Council Plan / Service Plans (for copy see file of Minutes).

Cabinet members spoke at length about the further difficult decisions it would be required to make over the coming years, in-line with the continued reductions in funding from central government.

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

5 Proposed change to the Age Range of St Oswald's Church of England (CE) Aided Infant and Nursery School from 3-7 to 3-11 from 1 September 2014, to establish a Primary School
Key Decision: CAS/01/13

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adult Services which sought approval to change the age range of St Oswald's CE Aided Infant and Nursery School from age 3-7 to age 3-11 to establish a primary school from 1 September 2014 and agree that the Admission Limit is changed from 30 pupils to 15 from that date (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

6 Community Buildings: Progress Report
Key Decision: CORP/A/05/11/3

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update on the implementation of the Community Buildings Strategy and sought further delegations required to address emerging issues.

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

7 Updated Street Lighting Policy
Key Decision: NS/21/13

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for consultation to commence on the revised Street Lighting Policy. The Street Lighting Policy which supported the Street Lighting Energy Reduction Project generated savings towards the Medium Term Financial Plan whilst also reducing carbon emissions (for copy of report see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

8 Corporate Asset Management Plan and Property Strategy

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which sought approval of the Council's Corporate Asset Management Plan and Property Strategy. A revised report had been circulated to members, and had been made available on the website (for copy of revised report see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

9 Residential Car Parking Standards

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which provided background to residential car parking standards used by the County Council and the proposed change to the current guidance to developers. The new standards would furthermore be incorporated into the emerging Durham Plan and adopted as Council Policy (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

10 NHS and Public Health Reform

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services and the Director of Public Health County Durham which provided an update on recent developments related to NHS and public health reform (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

11 Restoration of Wharton Park Project

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which provided an update on the Wharton Park restoration project, highlighting the on-going increased revenue and capital implications of the project and sought approval to proceed with a Stage 2 Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Parks for People bid (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.