

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet**
held on Tuesday, 11th July, 2017 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor Rachel Bailey (Chairman)
Councillor D Brown (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors A Arnold, P Bates, JP Findlow, P Groves, D Stockton, G Hayes
and L Wardlaw

Councillors in Attendance

Councillors Rhoda Bailey, G Baxendale, E Brooks, S Corcoran, M Deakin,
L Durham, S Edgar, L Gilbert, G Merry, B Moran, M Simon, B Walmsley,
G Williams and J Wray

Officers in Attendance

Frank Jordan, Peter Bates, Mark Palethrope, Jan Willis, Dan Dickinson and
Rachel Graves

11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor J Clowes.

12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

13 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

Councillor Carolyn Lowe, Sandbach Town Council, spoke on the closure of Arclid Household Waste Recycling Centre and asked that before a decision was made the Council assess the impact of users from other local authorities on Cheshire East facilities and look if income generation from rubble charges and trade waste could offset the costs of the Arclid Recycling Centre.

Mr Dick Macaulay, Chairman of the Sandbach Woodland and Wildlife Group, spoke in objection to the closure of Arclid Household Waste Recycling Centre. He stated that the Waste Centre was an essential resource for his Group, who regularly used it to dispose of rubbish collected during their woodland restoration work. He was concerned that the closure would lead to increased incidents of fly tipping.

Councillor Andrew Lindsay, Vice Chairman of Brereton Parish Council, addressed the meeting on the closure of Arclid Household Waste Recycling Centre. He stated that this was the nearest Centre to Brereton

and its closure would mean travelling further away to the Congleton, Alsager or Middlewich sites which had their own traffic and congestion issues. The closure would lead to increased fly tipping and a reduction in recycling.

Councillor Sue Helliwell, Alsager Town Council, spoke about the Supported Bus Service Review and asked about the proposals and costs for the 78 bus service and the 315 bus service. She also asked that the consultation was advertised as widely as possible to encourage residents to respond.

Councillor D Brown responded by saying that the consultation was open to 26 July and that residents could respond on-line at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/busreview or pick up a consultation pack at their local library. A drop in event had been held in Alsager on 26 June, with a further event being held on 13 July at Mount Pleasant Village Hall, Scholar Green. Owing to commercial reasons, he could not give out the costs of individual bus contracts but the combined costs of the 78 and 315 services was well into six figures. The consultation had been advertised through media releases, posters had been provided to bus operators and town and parish councils and consultation packs had been provided to operators to put on board buses and at libraries across Cheshire East.

Councillor Jonathan Parry, Middlewich Town Council, stated that air quality was an ever increasing problem and action was required. The Government was looking at the removal of speed humps as it had been proven that humps almost double the amount of harmful gases that vehicles pump out. He asked what the Council was planning to do about the numerous and excessive amount of speed humps around Middlewich.

Councillor D Brown responded that the humps had been installed in response to road safety concerns. The Council undertook air monitoring in residential streets in Middlewich. The Council would be holding an air quality workshop event in September to engage the public and Town Council on the issue and consider ideas and suggestions to improve air quality. The use of chicanes also produced emissions from cars as slowing and accelerating away produced more pollution. The traffic calming measures are reviewed on an annual basis and are re-considered when resurfacing roads so that the best option is provided.

Michael Unett spoke in relation to the urgent need for investment in the infrastructure in Alsager, especially the provision of a new burial ground as the current provision was expected be full by the end of the year. Investment as needed as the increasing number of housing developments was having an effect on the infrastructure with roads and pavements crumbling and doctors and schools becoming full.

The Leader responded by saying that a response would be brought to the September meeting of Cabinet.

Paul Redstone referred to the Supported Bus Service Review and said that as the number of young people taking their driving test was reducing and the population ageing, he believed that the provision of bus services was ever more important.

14 QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

Councillor G Baxendale asked about the timeline for work on the Congleton Relief Road.

Councillor D Brown responded that the Inspector's report was awaited on the compulsory purchases of land. It was expected that the 2 stage tender process would start in July 2017 with construction due to be complete in Summer 2020.

Councillor S Corcoran stated that there were plans for a roundabout at J17 Sandbach which would eliminate the queues but developers wanted to build an inferior one which would result in queues of over half a mile long for 3 hours a day and asked if Cabinet agreed with him that this was not a non-material amendment to a planning application.

The Leader responded that she noted the question but as this was a regulatory matter it would be inappropriate for Cabinet to respond.

Councillor M Deakin asked about graveyard provision in Alsager as he understood that the number of plots available was in single figures and people wished to be buried where they had lived all their lives. The Local Plan team had tried to tackle the problem but had got no further forward and he asked if Cabinet could kick start talks with local residents to try to solve this issue.

The Leader responded to say that a conservation had been held with Orbitas, a strategy was under commission and a paper would be brought to Cabinet in the future to look at the issue, with engagement taking place with Alsager Town Council to find a solution.

15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2017 be approved as a correct record, subject to the addition of Councillor L Durham to the list of Members in Attendance.

16 SAFER PARKING FOR COMMUNITIES AROUND SCHOOLS TASK AND FINISH GROUP - FINAL REPORT

Cabinet considered the report and findings of the Safer Parking for Communities around Schools Task and Finish Group.

Cllr M Simon, Chair of the Task and Finish Group, attended the meeting and spoke to the report.

RESOLVED:

- 1 That Cabinet:
 - a receive the Safer Parking for Communities around Schools Task and Finish Group report; and
 - b note the recommendations detailed in the Task and Finish Group report;
- 2 the Portfolio Holders undertake to come back to the next meeting of Cabinet with a formal response to each recommendation and the response be submitted to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

17 IMPLEMENTATION OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE REVIEW: ARCLID.

Cabinet considered a report on the implementation of the Household Waste Recycling Centre Review.

At the meeting of Council on 23 February 2017 the decision on closure of Arclid Household Waste Recycling Centre was deferred to allow time for the Council, Sandbach Town Council and local members to evaluate alternatives to closure.

This work had taken place and concluded that a viable and suitable alternative to closure was not available and therefore the strategy going forward was for the Arclid site to close on 30 September 2017.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet

- 1 note the questions posed from Sandbach Town Council and the Council's response;
- 2 having reviewed submissions from Sandbach Town Council, support the closure of Arclid Household Waste Recycling Centre from 30 September 2017; and
- 3 authorise the Corporate Manager for Waste and Environment Services, in consultation with the Chief Operating Officer and Director of Legal Services, to take the necessary actions to close the Arclid site.

18 HOME REPAIRS AND ADAPTATIONS FOR VULNERABLE PEOPLE POLICY

Cabinet considered the revised Home Repair and Adaptations for Vulnerable People Policy.

The Policy had been reviewed in order to refocus the help offered to ensure delivery of Outcome 5 of the Council's resident-outcomes: 'People live well and for longer'. The Policy set out a series of six grants and loans that would help residents.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

- 1 approve the Housing Repairs and Adaptations for Vulnerable People Financial Assistance Policy; and
- 2 delegate approval to the Executive Director Place to put all necessary steps in place to implement the Policy.

19 THE SELF-BUILD AND CUSTOM HOUSEBUILDING REGULATIONS 2016

Cabinet considered a report on the changes to the Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Regulations.

The Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 provided for local authorities to create and maintain a register of persons in their area who wish to build their own home. The Housing and Planning Act 2016 and associated Selfbuild and Custom Housebuilding Regulations 2016 placed further duties upon the Council relating to duty to grant permission, time for compliance, serviced plots, exemptions, local eligibility conditions and charging of fees.

It was proposed that the local connection test, as set out in paragraph 5.12 of the report, be amended to say:

- Live in Cheshire East
- Work in Cheshire East
- Have an offer of employment in Cheshire East

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

- 1 agree to the introduction of a local connection test for entry onto the Self Build Register, as defined in paragraph 5.12 of the report;

- 2 agree that the Council should not carry out a financial assessment of applicants to the self-build register;
- 3 approve the charging of a fee for entry onto the self-build register, set at a level to cover the Council's reasonable costs incurred, in accordance with the Regulations; and
- 4 delegate authority to set the charging level to the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning.

20 HUMAN RESOURCES AND FINANCE SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

Cabinet considered a report detailing the results of the evaluation of the final submission for the provision of a replacement Human Resources and Finance system (ERP system) for the Council, to be procured in partnership with Cheshire West and Chester Council, and recommended the appointment of a Preferred Bidder.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

- 1 appoint Agilisys Ltd as Preferred Bidder and conditionally awarded the Human Resources and Finance System framework contract
- 2 note the updated business case;
- 3 note the Human Resources and Finance System Replacement capital budget is included within the Council's Capital Programme with an overall provision of £5.380m, of which the proposal requires £4.890m;
- 4 approve one off revenue expenditure of £1.01m, to be funded in 2017-18 and 2018-19 from underspends against the Council's existing revenue budgets and a specific earmarked reserve;
- 5 note the Council's share of the business case savings, being £0.5m corporate service savings, plus the Council's share of £0.4m Transactional Service Centre savings, plus the Council's share of £1.1m ICT Delivery savings, which will be used to repay the cost of investment;
- 6 approve the principles underpinning the Inter Authority Agreement;
- 7 approve the principle of a contractual framework agreement, operated by Cheshire East Council, allowing Cheshire West and Chester and the other named Councils (Stockport MBC, Trafford Council, Warrington MBC, Wirral BC) the ability to call off from the framework during the first four years of the contract;

- 8 delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer and the Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer to award the Human Resources and Finance System framework contract to Agilisys unconditionally, subject to the satisfactory resolution of all outstanding matters;
- 9 delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer and the Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer to finalise outstanding contractual issues and the Inter Authority Agreement with Cheshire West and Chester Council; and
- 10 authorise the Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer to enter into all necessary contractual documentation with the chosen supplier and with Cheshire West and Chester Council.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.27 pm

Rachel Bailey (Chairman)