

CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held on 6 March 2018 at Council Chamber - County Hall, Lewes

PRESENT Councillors Keith Glazier (Chair)
Councillors Nick Bennett, Bill Bentley, David Elkin (Vice Chair),
Carl Maynard, Rupert Simmons, Bob Standley and Sylvia Tidy

Members spoke on the items indicated

Councillor Barnes	- items 5 and 7 (minutes 50 and 52)
Councillor Bennett	- item 8 (minute 53)
Councillor Bentley	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Godfrey Daniel	- items 5 and 8 (minutes 50 and 53)
Councillor Philip Daniel	- items 5, 6 and 7 (minutes 50, 51 and 52)
Councillor Elkin	- items 6 and 7 (minutes 51 and 52)
Councillor Galley	- items 5 and 6 (minute 50 and 51)
Councillor Liddiard	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Loe	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Maynard	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Osborne	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Pragnell	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Scott	- items 5 and 8 (minute 50 and 53)
Councillor Daniel Shing	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Stephen Shing	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Shuttleworth	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Simmons	- items 5 and 8 (minutes 50 and 53)
Councillor Standley	- items 5 and 6 (minutes 50 and 51)
Councillor Stogdon	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Swansborough	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Tutt	- item 5 (minute 50)
Councillor Ungar	- items 5, 6 and 7 (minutes 50, 51 and 52)
Councillor Webb	- items 5, 6 and 7 (minutes 50, 51 and 52)

48 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2018

48.1 The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23 January 2018 were agreed as a correct record.

49 REPORTS

49.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

50 LIBRARIES TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME - REVISED LIBRARIES STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING STRATEGY

50.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport, together with the comments of the Libraries Scrutiny Review Board and representations submitted from the lead petitioner in relation to Hollington Library. The following people addressed the Cabinet on behalf of petitioners: Miss Boniface (Polegate Library), Ms Budden (Polegate Library), Mr Lloyd MP (Langney Library), Ms Owen (Ringmer Library) and Councillor Pritchett (Willingdon Library)

50.2 It was RESOLVED to:

- (1) note the findings of the public consultation on the draft Libraries Strategic Commissioning Strategy, which took place between 21 September and 14 December 2017, and the resulting changes made to the Strategy which are described in the report (at paragraph 2.12);
- (2) agree the new library services that, in response to the consultation, the revised Strategy would implement, including an enhanced modern eLibrary with greater investment, a new children and young people's offer to support literacy and numeracy, increased outreach work in our most disadvantaged communities, and new Community Library Membership and Teachers Library Membership;
- (3) agree the revised Libraries Strategic Commissioning Strategy and its implementation, which will create a modern, sustainable library service that reflects the changing ways people access the service and which prioritises resources, including allocation of the Stock Fund, more closely towards specific groups and communities where we have identified highest need;
- (4) agree that, as part of the overall Strategy, Langney, Mayfield, Ore, Pevensey Bay, Polegate, Ringmer and Willingdon libraries and the Mobile Library close on 5 May 2018, and support to Northiam Village Library also ceases from this date; and
- (5) agree to give delegated authority to the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport, in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive, to consider any viable community proposals to take over the running of the seven libraries or the Mobile Library, and to enter into appropriate agreements on behalf of ESCC.

Reason

50.3 The revised Libraries Strategic Commissioning Strategy (LSCS) will enable the Council to create a modern, sustainable library service for East Sussex, which prioritises the needs of the county and is able to adapt to future needs, and which would enable the Council to meet its statutory duty to provide a 'comprehensive and efficient' library service that can be accessed using reasonable means. The revised LSCS would secure £653k of savings, comprising the final part of a Libraries Transformation Programme which would deliver a total saving of £1.9m.

50.4 In addition to providing a core library offer that would retain a very high level of accessibility to all those who live, work and study in East Sussex, by re-prioritising and developing new, more targeted services the revised LSCS presents a key opportunity for us to support and empower those with the greatest needs to make potentially transformational changes to their life chances. The implementation of a needs-based library service would enable resources to be targeted to communities where we have identified the highest needs.

50.5 Having carefully considered all of the consultation feedback, we do not consider that new information has been presented which means that the evidence base for the draft LSCS was incorrect or had been wrongly interpreted. In light of this, and taking into account the Vision and Strategic Outcomes for the East Sussex Library and Information Service and the financial and wider context in which it needs to operate, the revised LSCS was agreed. This will result in a smaller network of library buildings, with 17 libraries in appropriate locations across the county according to need. 92% of members of the current 24 libraries would be unaffected. Over 86% of East Sussex residents would be within a 20 minute journey time to a library by public transport and over 99% within a 20 minute journey by car.

51 COUNCIL MONITORING: QUARTER 3 2017/18

51.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive

51.2 It was RESOLVED to:

- 1) note the latest monitoring position for the Council; and
- 2) approve the proposed amendments to the performance measures and targets as set out in paragraph 2.1 of the report

Reason

51.3 The report sets out the Council's position and year end projections for the Council Plan targets, Revenue Budget, Capital Programme, Savings Plan together with Risks for 2017/18 quarter 3.

52 FAIR FUNDING REVIEW: REVIEW OF RELATIVE NEEDS AND RESOURCES CONSULTATION

52.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer.

52.2 It was RESOLVED to:

- 1) endorse the Council's response to the consultation, as set out at Appendix 1, and the Council's lobbying position that will be reaffirmed in Section 2 of this report; and
- 2) delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer, to agree the final consultation response for submission by 12 March 2018.

Reason

52.3 The Fair Funding Review will establish the base position and methodology for future national funding allocations based on need. It is therefore important that the Council engages in the process and responds to consultations in relation to the review.

53 PROPOSALS FOR THE CREATION OF A MAJOR ROAD NETWORK - CONSULTATION RESPONSE

53.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

53.2 It was RESOLVED to approve the consultation response attached as Appendix 1 to the report and delegate authority to the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport to take all other necessary actions in respect of the recommendation.

Reason

53.3 The proposal to create the Major Road Network is overwhelmingly positive and if the Government go ahead will provide funding opportunities to improve parts of the road network serving East Sussex. The Council's response to the consultation includes a number of areas where it is believed the proposals could be improved as set out in the report.

54 ITEMS TO BE REPORTED TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

54.1 The Cabinet agreed that item 6 be reported to the County Council.

(Note: The item being reported refers to minutes number 51)

