

**MINUTES OF: THE CABINET**

**Date of Meeting: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**Present: Councillor A Barnes (Chair)  
Councillors Lythgoe, McInnes, M Smith and Walmsley**

**Rob Huntington, Chief Executive  
David Smurthwaite, Director of Economic Development  
Clare Birtwistle, Head of Legal (Monitoring Officer)  
Karen Spencer, Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer)  
Jane Riley, Facilities & Safety Manager  
Susan Chadwick, PPU Manager  
Kimberly Haworth, Head of Finance**

**Also present: Councillor Neal  
1 member of the public**

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> March and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

**3. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor McInnes declared that she was a member of the Friends of Whitaker Park.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions.

**6. UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There had been no meetings since Cabinet last met.

**7. FIXED PENALTY NOTICE FEES**

The Lead Member for Planning, Licensing and Enforcement outlined the report which asked Cabinet to agree and adopt the revised Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) fines to address the Government change to increase the upper limits of FPNs for fly-tipping, littering and failure in householder duty of care.

Cabinet were invited to comment on the report:

- Fly tipping was an issue and hopefully this would be a deterrent.
- Proper enforcement would result in less fly tipping.
- It was difficult to collect the fines.

- Fines should be proportionate to the damage and the cost of dealing with the issues.
- Thanks was given to the officers.

Members were invited to comment on the report:

- It was not just relevant for individuals but also companies in Whitworth.

**Resolved:**

1. Cabinet agreed to adopt the revised Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) fines to address the Government change to increase the upper limits of FPNs for fly-tipping, littering and failure in householder duty of care.

**Reason for Decision:**

Fly-tipping was an environmental hazard which could destroy habitats and could be poisonous to humans and wildlife. Measures to reduce fly-tipping and other environmental crimes would have a positive ecological impact on the environment. The FPN fine levels were intended to discourage the anti-social behaviour that blights our Borough and undermines the broader community enjoyment of the environment. The FPN fine levels were a response to the Government's call for stronger action to tackle environmental offences.

**Alternative Options Considered:**

None.

**8. WHITAKER PARK PLAY**

The Lead Member for Environment and Corporate Services outlined the report, which asked Cabinet to approve the improvements to the play facilities and add the project to the Capital Programme.

Cabinet were invited to comment on the report:

- Thanks to all involved in the project including officers and external community groups.
- The Council was working with local communities to bring in funding to improve facilities.
- Community groups had an excellent relationship with the Council.
- It was pleasing to see that consultation responses were being addressed and taken on board.

**Resolved:**

1. Cabinet approved the improvements to play facilities at Whitaker Park and agreed to add the project to the Capital Programme.
2. Authority was given to officers to obtain external funding for the works.
3. If successful, acceptance of the external funding be delegated to the Head of Operations in consultation with the Lead Member.
4. Cabinet approved the tendering of the works and delegated acceptance of the successful tender to the Head of Operations in consultation with the Lead Member.

**Reason for Decision:**

The development of Whitaker Park Play facilities will mean the Council is investing to ensure the park's destination site status. Much needed refurbishments of the existing area will ensure it is safe and remains an asset to residents, while provision of challenging and exciting equipment for youths will mean the parks fills a much needed gap in Rossendale's play provision.

**Alternative Options Considered:**

None.

## **9. CAPITAL CONTRACT 2024/25**

The Lead Member for Environment and Corporate Services outlined the report which asked Cabinet to approve the list of works on the 2024/25 Capital Building Repairs Contract and authorise officers to go out to tender.

Cabinet were invited to comment on the report:

- Recognition was given for the work involved and it was right to take it out to tender.
- There were challenges around escalation of cost in the market place.
- Thanks was given to the officers involved.

### **Resolved:**

1. Cabinet approved the list of works on the 2024/25 Capital Building Repairs Contract and authorised officers to go out to tender.

### **Reason for Decision:**

To approve the level of works and tender process for the 2024/25 contract to maintain Council owned assets, ensuring that the same do not suffer from deterioration with health and safety implications and increased repair cost when finally addressed.

### **Alternative Options Considered:**

None.

## **10. PURCHASE OF FOOD WASTE REFUSE COLLECTION VEHICLE**

The Lead Member for Environment and Corporate Services outlined the report which asked Cabinet to approve the purchase 4 Terberg Orus 6 Food Waste Collection vehicles at a cost of £408,000 to meet the demands of the service.

Cabinet members were invited to comment on the report:

- It was good to see external funding and officers' timely approach to purchasing the vehicles.
- There would be a positive environmental impact.
- There were concerns around cost of when we come to deal with the collection of food waste generally.
- Technology was not yet in place relating to electric vehicles (EV), so this remains an environmental challenge
- Thanks was given to the officers.

Members were invited to comment on the report:

- Future potential use of hydrogen as fuel.

### **Resolved:**

1. Cabinet approved the purchase 4 Terberg Orus 6 Food Waste Collection vehicles at a cost of £408,000 to meet the demands of the service.

### **Reason for Decision:**

Food Waste Collections were scheduled to begin in April 2026 and approving the purchase of the required vehicles now would ensure the Council was ready for the mandatory go live date.

### **Alternative Options Considered:**

None.

**The meeting concluded at 18.59pm**

\_\_\_\_\_ CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_ DATE

**MINUTES OF: THE CABINET (SPECIAL)**

**Date of Meeting: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**Present: Councillor A Barnes (Chair)  
Councillors Lythgoe, McInnes, M Smith and Walmsley**

**Rob Huntington, Chief Executive  
Clare Birtwistle, Head of Legal (Monitoring Officer)  
Clare Law, Head of People and Policy  
Kimberly Haworth, Head of Financial Services  
Sean O'Hagan, LUF Programme Manager  
Andrew Taylor, Head of Environmental Services**

**Also present: Councillors Cheetham and Neal  
14 members of the public (in part)**

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A number of written questions had been received. Written responses to be provided followed by a meeting with members of the public at a date to be agreed in the near future.

**4. ROSSENDALE LUF REGENERATION PROGRAMME – RAWTENSTALL MARKET STAGE 3 DESIGN APPROVAL**

The LUF Programme Manager and Leader/Lead Member for Economic Development outlined the report which asked Cabinet to approve the designs for Rawtenstall Market and to delegate the procurement and appointment of the most economically advantageous relevant construction contracts to deliver Rawtenstall Market.

Cabinet members were invited to comment on the report:

- The recommendation to be amended to read Lead Member for Economic Development and Lead Member for Resources.
- The timeline and cost envelope was challenging but it was great to see this kind of investment in the borough.
- The construction industry has seen significant inflation so this brings some challenges as to what we can do.
- The Council were looking to make the building more economical to run.
- The rear of the market would generally be used as a bin store etc. but further work would be done on this area.
- The towns fund injected into the wider Rawtenstall boundary would be in the sum of £20million over 10 years.

Members were invited to comment on the report:

- There were parking issues with commuters going out of the borough.

- Clarification on SRB funding in the borough.

**Resolved:**

1. Cabinet approved the RIBA Stage 3 design of the Rawtenstall Market in order to proceed with the planning application.
2. Cabinet delegated Authority to the Director of Economic Development in consultation with the Corporate Management Team and Lead Members for Economic Development and Resources to procure and appoint the most economically advantageous relevant construction contracts to deliver Rawtenstall Market.

**Reason for Decision:**

The Delivery of the Capital Levelling Up Fund will support Rossendale to have a Thriving Local Economy and in turn support our Economic Development Aspirations. Approval to move forward with the proposed plans for Rawtenstall Market Place will enable delivery of the programmes within the approved timescales.

**Alternative Options Considered:**

None.

**The meeting concluded at 7.02pm**

\_\_\_\_\_ CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_ DATE