

MINUTES OF: THE CABINET

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 30th November 2016

**Present: Councillor A Barnes (in the Chair)
Councillors Ashworth, Lamb, Marriott and Oakes**

**In Attendance: Mr S Sugarman, Chief Executive
Ms S Davies, Director for Business
Ms C Birtwistle, Legal Services Manager
Mr P Seddon, Head of Finance and Property Services
Mrs J Cook, Committee Officer**

**Also Present: Councillors Cheetham, Farrington, Haworth, Hughes,
Johnson, Kempson, Robertson and Stansfield
0 press
5 members of the public**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 There were no apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

3. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

3.1 There were no urgent items.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4.1 Councillor Oakes declared an interest in Item C1 Rossendale Council and Neighbourhood Forum Grants 2017/18 and 2018/19 as she was a trustee of some of the organisations receiving grants.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

5.1 Mr Cuan Hoare had submitted his question in writing prior to the meeting, which asked about the Spinning Point development. Mr Hoare asked about the risk assessment implications should the Secretary of State not grant the Stopping Up Orders, whether the Council saw this as a large risk and stated that objectors had not been contacted.

The Leader of the Council stated that the likelihood of the order not being granted was very small and the risk was being monitored. Discussions and meetings with statutory objectors and other objectors were planned.

- 5.2 Mr Michael Pickup had submitted his question in writing prior to the meeting, which asked about the Spinning Point development. Mr Pickup asked about the Local Growth Fund and whether RTB Partnership Limited would indemnify the Council against any further claim from the LEP.

The Leader of the Council stated that the Local Growth Fund allows for outputs for phase 1 and phase 2 of the scheme and the funding secured to support the overall delivery of the scheme. She noted that the regeneration work being undertaken was an improvement on the former derelict and boarded up Valley Centre.

- 5.3 Mr Peter Wood asked why there was no mention of park and ride in the report at Item C2. The Leader of the Council stated that not all detail was in this update report and more detail would be reports as and when it was available. Information sessions would be held which would give more information as to the details and timescales.

- 5.4 Mr John Atherton referred to the £200k to be used from the Transport and Infrastructure reserves to support the anticipated costs of the Local Plan and asked whether the plan could be made self-funding by charging developers more money. The leader of the Council stated that the setting of fees was not localised and this was not possible.

6. ROSSENDALE COUNCIL AND NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM GRANTS 2017/18 AND 2018/19

- 6.1 The Leader of the Council introduced the report which outlined the proposed allocation of Council grants and Neighbourhood Forum grants for 2017/18 and 2018/19. The report outlined the grant funding arrangements for voluntary organisations within the Borough.

- 6.2 The report outlined a focus on awarding grants to support social inclusion for organisations which helped residents within the borough and it was noted that there had been an increase in referrals and usage for all such organisations.

- 6.3 The report also outlined the process for applying for Neighbourhood Forum grants.

- 6.4 Members were invited to comment on the report:

- The funding was vital to organisations such as the Credit Union and the Citizens Advice Bureau and although lottery grants had been obtained, the core funding for these organisations came from the Council.

Resolved:

1. That Cabinet supports the allocation of up to £62,000 funding each year in 2017/18 and 2018/19 for Rossendale Council Grants and Neighbourhood Forum Grants.
2. That Cabinet supports the commencement of a grants application process for the allocation of 2 year Rossendale Council Grants following the principles and

criteria previously agreed in 2014 – targeted funding to support financial inclusion services.

3. That as part of the grant monitoring process, recipients of Rossendale Council Grants attend the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee to report on outcomes delivered through the grant.
4. All future minor amendments to the grants process to be delegated to the Director of Business in consultation with the portfolio holder.

Reason for Decision

To provide a clear process for the allocation of grants and to continue to support financial inclusion services and neighbourhood forums.

Alternative Options Considered:

None.

7. SPINNING POINT DEVELOPMENT PHASE ONE

- 7.1 The Leader of the Council introduced the report which provided an update on the Spinning Point development and outlined the immediate works due to start mid-January 2017.
- 7.2 The report provided details around the agreement with Together Housing and government arrangements and practicalities. Sessions with stakeholders would be held in the New Year and a member briefing session had taken place.
- 7.3 Members were invited to comment on the report:
 - The project was moving on and was an improvement on the boarded up Valley Centre Site.
 - Regeneration took time and Phase 2 would be the more interesting aspect of the scheme.
 - It was good to see the Old Town Hall being refurbished and investment into this heritage asset.

Resolved:

That the report is noted.

Reason for Decision

To ensure members are updated and that progress is noted.

Alternative Options Considered:

None.

8. ADRENALINE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP AND PROMOTION

- 8.1 The Leader of the Council introduced the report which provided members with an update on the Adrenaline Valley Strategy proposals and the current offer within the Rossendale area.

8.2 It was noted that the Adrenaline Valley Strategy would promote the valley and encourage people to enjoy the outdoor sports that were on offer.

8.3 Members were invited to comment on the report:-

- The report had listed a large adrenaline offer which was good to see.
- There were sports on offer which attracted national and international interest.
- More marketing and promotion needed to be done on this matter.

Resolved:

That the report is noted and members were asked to feed back any comments directly to the Media and Engagement Officer.

Reason for Decision

To ensure members are updated and encouraged to feedback comments.

Alternative Options Considered

None

9. FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT 2016/17

9.1 The Portfolio Holder for Resources & Performance outlined the report which updated members on the current financial monitoring report for 2017/18 and the latest position regarding the medium term financial strategy.

9.2 The report detailed some risks and updated members on key changes including the Empty Homes Scheme, Licensing and Operations.

9.3 The Head of Finance noted that the report also highlighted areas of uncertainty, in particular the New Homes Bonus and negotiations on pensions with the Actuary.

9.4 Members were invited to comment on the report; no comments were made.:

Resolved:

That the report was noted.

Reason for Decision

To ensure robust monitoring of the Council's finances.

Alternative Options Considered:

None.

10. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Resolved:

That the public and press be resolved from the following item of business under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 since the item involved the likely disclosure of exempt information under Part 1 Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

11. DISPOSAL OF LAND AND LAND TITLES

- 11.1 The Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance outlined the report and members were asked to consider the recommendations therein.
- 11.2 Members commented on the report.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report are agreed.

Reason for Decision

To facilitate the site.

Alternative Options Considered

None

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 7.05pm

_____ CHAIR _____ DATE