

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on 7 March 2022

Present

Councillor Rennie (Chairman)

Councillors Bains (Vice-Chairman), Bowerman, Denton, Pike, Robinson and Satchwell

51 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

52 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting of 16 February 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

53 Declarations of Interests

Councillor	Minute No	Item Title	Nature of Interest
Cllr Bains	57	Freeports	Cllr Bains informed members that she is a Director of the Board. The Monitoring Officer advised that Cllr Bains 'abstain' from voting on this item.

54 Chairman's Report

The Leader expressed his shock and deep sadness regarding the events taking place in the Ukraine and extended his thoughts and prayers to the Ukrainian people.

The Leader further commented regarding the overwhelming generosity and support of the residents of the Havant Borough and notified Cabinet that the Council has been able to open a vacant unit in the Meridian Centre for the use of a local charity that is collecting warm clothing, towels, blankets and other humanitarian aid in support of the Ukrainian refugees.

More information is available on the Council's website.

55 Recommendations from the Scrutiny Board

Cllr Francis, as Vice-Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee informed Cabinet of the Committees findings and recommendations in relation to item 8, 9 & 10 on the agenda.

56 Options Appraisal and Business Case for Withdrawal from Joint Management and Shared Staff Arrangements

Councillor Rennie invited Kim Sawyer as Acting Chief Executive to introduce the item.

Proposed by Councillor Rennie and seconded by Councillor Denton, following debate, Cabinet RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council:

- a) To approve the preferred option for the future of the Council as set out in the Options Appraisal and Business Case (Appendix 1).
- b) To approve the outline business plan for the delivery of the preferred option, as set out in the Options Appraisal and Business Case (Appendix 1).
- c) To note the findings of the independent report by CIPFA (Appendix 2) into the affordability of the option to end the Joint Management Team Arrangements.
- d) To approve the arrangements for managing transition as set out in section 7 of the Options Appraisal and Business Case (Appendix 1), and that the Chief Executive be delegated authority, in consultation with the s151 Officer, Monitoring Officer and Head of OD, to develop and implement a robust transition plan, including the entering into contracts or variation agreements which may be required.

57 Freeports

Councillor Bains introduced the item as relevant Cabinet Lead.

Representatives from KPMG answered questions and provided clarification for Members.

Proposed by Councillor Bains, seconded by Councillor Bowerman, following debate and a vote in which there were 6 in favour and 1 abstention, it was RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- 1) Note the update in respect of the development of the Solent Freeport Programme and with regard to the opportunities for Havant borough.

- 2) Note the update on progression of the Full Business Case (FBC) and delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the formal sign off of the FBC to enable the submission to Government.

- 3) Note the update on progression of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the sign off of the MoU on behalf of the Council.

58 Hayling Island Seafront Strategy - Regeneration Ambition - Update

Councillor Satchwell introduced the item as relevant Cabinet Lead and thanked Officers for their work in producing the strategy.

The Leader confirmed that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee noted the report at their meeting of 01 March 2022.

Proposed by Councillor Satchwell and seconded by Councillor Pike, following debate, it was RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- (i) note the update on work underway to develop a Hayling Island Seafront Strategy.

- (ii) note the update on the engagement programme

- (iii) Endorse the revised ambition document for Hayling Island Seafront to provide a framework for the wider Seafront Strategy and direct the Hayling Island Seafront Regeneration Programme.

- (iv) Endorse the work done to develop a brand for Hayling Island Seafront and agree next steps

- (v) Agree the high-level delivery plan which will form the basis for the Hayling Island Seafront Regeneration Programme.

59 Havant Regeneration & Economy Strategy - A Refreshed Approach

Councillor Pike introduced the item as relevant Cabinet Lead.

The Leader confirmed that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee noted the report at their meeting of 01 March 2022.

The Leader further thanked Councillor Pike for bringing this refreshed regeneration strategy forward.

Proposed by Councillor Pike and seconded by Councillor Satchwell, following debate it was RESOLVED that Cabinet endorse the Havant Regeneration & Economy Strategy and recommend its adoption to Full Council.

60 Havant Town Centre Regeneration - Priority Projects

Councillor Pike introduced the item as the relevant Cabinet Lead.

Councillor Francis introduced the recommendation from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee from their meeting held on 01 March 2022 which is detailed in the Committees report.

Councillor Pike, supported the recommendation from the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, subject to it being amended to read:

“The Cabinet Lead for Regeneration to consider the full range of options available to the Council in addition to selling its assets for development and will bring them back to Cabinet at a later date with a recommendation on the steps forward”.

Cabinet discussed the recommendation set out in the report together with Councillor Pike’s amendment – RESOLVED.

Proposed by Councillor Pike and seconded by Councillor Rennie, following debate it was RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- 1) note the updates set out in this paper in respect of the three priority projects.
- 2) Approve the development of a full Business Case for the Plaza East car park to be brought back to Cabinet for approval.
- 3) Approve the outline Business Case for Bulbeck Road car park and to agree to the development of a full business case, subject to available funding.
- 4) Approve the Havant Town Centre Access & Public Realm package and agree to the progression of the priority projects, including Havant Park, subject to available funding.
- 5) Approve the development and in accordance with the appropriate delegations and subject to availability of funding and resources, the submission of a round two Levelling Up Fund bid.
- 6) The Cabinet Lead for Regeneration to consider the full range of options available to the Council in addition to selling its assets for development and will bring them back to Cabinet at a later date with a recommendation on the steps forward.

61 Council Tax Empty Homes Premium Review

Councillor Denton introduced the item as the relevant Cabinet Lead.

Proposed by Councillor Denton and seconded by Councillor Robinson following debate, it was RESOLVED that Cabinet recommend to Full Council to approve the introduction of a Premium Deferral process to the existing Council Tax Empty Homes Premium scheme as detailed in Appendix C.

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and concluded at 7.07 pm

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Chairman