

## **HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL**

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on 5 February 2014

Present

Councillor Briggs (Chairman)

Councillors Branson, Cheshire, Fairhurst, Guest and Weeks

### **40 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor D Collins.

### **41 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 27 November 2013 were agreed as a correct record.

### **42 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

### **43 Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest from any of the members present.

### **44 Chairman's Report**

There were no matters the Chairman wished to report.

### **45 Portfolio Holder Delegated Decisions, Minutes from Meetings etc.**

RESOLVED that the following delegated decisions and minutes be noted:

- (i) Minutes of the Portchester Crematorium Joint Committee held on 9 December 2013;
- (ii) Portfolio Delegated Decision – Experimental Traffic Regulation Order: Southmoor Lane, Havant;
- (ii) Portfolio Delegated Decision – Chichester Harbour Management Plan; and
- (iii) Portfolio Delegated Decision – Cedar Financial System.

### **46 Democratic Process**

The Cabinet considered the following recommendations from the Scrutiny Board arising from a report by the Governance and Logistics Scrutiny Panel on the Council's Democratic Process:

THAT

- (1) The Cabinet agenda be published a minimum of ten working days before the meeting, to allow councillors and members of the public to make effective representation; and
- (2) Informal Cabinet Briefing meetings be opened to all councillors.

Whilst the Cabinet recognised the significant amount of work that had been done by the Panel to review various elements of the Council's democratic function, the Cabinet was satisfied that the arrangements currently in place for the publication of agenda allowed sufficient time for Councillors and members to make effective representation and that Cabinet Briefing meetings should continue in the present format in order to allow free and informal discussions between Cabinet members and senior officers. The Cabinet was minded, therefore, not to approve the recommendations.

#### **47 Revenue Budget and Medium Term Strategy 2014/15 - 2018/19**

The Cabinet considered a report setting out the proposed Revenue Budget, Capital Programme, Treasury Management Strategy and Prices for Services for 2014/15.

RECOMMENDED to full Council that the following be approved:

- (1) The proposed Revenue and Capital Budget for 2014/15, including a Council Tax rate of £192.78 at Band D (0% increase);
- (2) The Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators; and
- (3) Proposed Prices for Services for 2014/15.

#### **48 Joint Financial Information System**

The Cabinet considered a report setting out proposals for a new financial information system.

RECOMMENDED to full Council that:

- (1) approval be given to proceed with this project as outlined in the report; and
- (2) funding of £275k is released from earmarked reserves as Havant Borough Council share of the project costs. The current capital programme has allocated £210k for the proposal and a bid for the remaining has been included in the capital budget report for 2014/15.

#### **49 Review of Car Parking Prices in Havant Borough Town Centres**

*Cabinet (5.2.14)*

The Cabinet considered a report setting out recommendations arising from a review of car parking prices in Havant Town Centres.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the differential pricing strategy for all town centre car parks across Havant Borough as set out in Appendix 2 (Table A) be approved; and
- (2) the officers take forward and investigate the further recommendations as set out in section 5.3 of Appendix 1 to the report.

#### **50 Electoral Review**

The Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to request the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to undertake a review of the current Councillor to electorate ratio with a view to reducing the number of elected Members within the Borough Council.

RECOMMENDED to full Council that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England be asked to undertake a periodic electoral review at Havant Borough Council with a view to reducing the number of elected members representing the Council.

#### **51 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

RESOLVED that the press and the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items as:-

- (i) it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during that item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as specified in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (ii) in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The reports to be considered were exempt under Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial affairs or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

#### **52 Portfolio Holder Delegated Decision**

(This item was taken in camera)

RESOLVED that the delegated decision to approve the negotiation of a contract under General Provisions No 7 of the Council's constitution.

#### **53 Lease for Site of the Proposed new Hayling Seaside Railway Depot Building**

(This item was taken in camera)

The Cabinet considered a confidential report setting out proposals for the lease of a site for the proposed new Hayling Seaside Railway Depot building.

Having been presented with a proposal by Hayling Seafront Railway to construct a new depot, the Cabinet considered a number of potential locations, which resulted in the Cabinet approving, in principle, the grant of a ground lease for a site at the Eastoke Corner Car Park. The grant of a lease was subject to lease terms being agreed, the Railway obtaining planning consent and the Council approving the Railway's final plans/funding arrangements for the new building.

RESOLVED that the following be approved, in principle:

- (1) The grant of a ground lease to Hayling Seaside Railway of a site at Eastoke Corner Car Park for a new depot; and
- (2) A variation to the existing licence for the track to permit the necessary amendments to the layout of the track and associated fencing/signage works.
- (3) The grant of the lease to be subject to lease terms being provisionally agreed with Hayling Seaside Railway and receiving suitable plans and detailed specifications with costings for the new building, together with confirmation of funding arrangements and the grant of planning permission for the new depot. The Portfolio Holder for Asset Management and Property will consider whether to approve the lease terms under delegated authority.

**The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.20 pm**