



**CABINET**

**17:30 to 18:20**

**11 July 2018**

Present: Councillors Harris (vice chair in the chair), Davis, Jones, Kendrick, Maguire, Packer and Stonard

Apologies: Councillor Waters (other council business)

Also present: Councillor Carlo

**1. Public questions/petitions**

No public questions or petitions were received.

**2. Declarations of interest**

Councillor Harris declared a 'pecuniary' interest in item 6 below 'Western Link road consultation response' as she was a board member of the Broads Authority.

**3. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to agree the accuracy of the minutes (including the exempt minute at item \*14 on the agenda) of the meeting held on 13 June 2018.

**4. Amendment to the Minimum Revenue Policy (MRP) (supplementary agenda)**

(The chair referred to the supplementary agenda and agreed to take this item first.)

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources, presented the report.

The chief finance officer said that there had been a proofreading error at paragraph 38 of the original report which was approved by council on 17 January 2018; however, the MRP charges had been calculated against what was intended.

**RESOLVED** to ask council to amend paragraph 38 of the MRP Policy '..that the MRP charge was to be calculated on a 2% annuity basis..' to read '...that the MRP charge would be calculated on an annuity basis using the prevailing rate of interest at the time.'

## **5. Norwich – A Sharing City**

Councillor Jones, cabinet member for safer, stronger neighbourhoods, presented the report.

In response to a question from Councillor Carlo, the director of communications and culture said that the Norwich Business Improvement District (BID) had social goals as well as economic goals and the BID had offered to work together with Norwich City Council on this initiative.

**RESOLVED** to agree:

- (1) to join the shareNL alliance and formally describe Norwich as a Sharing City,
- (2) that Norwich City Council devolve the day to day administration to the Norwich BID; and
- (3) that Norwich BID will pay any membership fees for the shareNL alliance

## **6. Response to the Norfolk County Council consultation on the Norwich Western link**

(Councillor Harris having declared a pecuniary interest in this item and left the room. Councillor Kendrick took the chair).

Councillor Stonard, cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth, presented the report. He said that there was an error in recommendation 1(b) with the omission of the word 'ongoing'. The resolution should read:

'An ongoing assessment of the environmental impacts of the river Wensum being carried out and a package of mitigation measures being agreed and implemented.'

Councillor Stonard said that the use of non-carbon based vehicles was just as important as when the original Norwich Area Transport Strategy was first introduced. Air quality in Norwich had improved with the reduction of traffic congestion in the city and would continue on introducing lower emission vehicles.

Although the Western Link would not enter the Norwich boundary, it would impact on the city and environmental safeguards were built into the approach to the Western Link.

In response to two questions from Councillor Carlo, the cabinet member holder for sustainable and inclusive growth said the council was currently responding to the county council's consultation and progress would be monitored and any concerns about the process would be raised. Regarding Councillor Carlo's question on levels of particulates in the air, he added that one of the issues in Norfolk was the lack of dual carriage way which led to cars braking more often and bringing in the Western Link would help with this.

**RESOLVED to:**

- (1) advise Norfolk County Council that the city council fully supports the principal of the proposal to construct the Norwich Western link and does not wish to comment on the particular choice of route. This support is subject to;
  - a) the delivery of a programme of measures to secure significant transport improvements to encourage sustainable forms of transport as promoted by Transport for Norwich; and
  - b) an ongoing assessment of the environmental impacts on the river Wensum being carried out and a package of mitigation measures being agreed and implemented
- (2) request that the Norfolk County Council, through detailed design, ensures that the Norwich Western Link enhances the potential for walking, cycling and public transport use to ensure any potential severance effects are fully mitigated.
- (3) request that the Norfolk County Council ensures that adequate resources are made available to guarantee the long term maintenance and viability of all sustainable transport measures in the City as well as wider transport infrastructure.

**7. Capital budget carry forwards 2017-18**

(Councillor Harris returned to the meeting and took the chair).

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources, presented the report.

In response to a question from Councillor Carlo, the chief finance officer said that examples of the underspends had been reported to cabinet on 13 June 2018 in the budget monitoring report.

**RESOLVED** to delegate to the director of regeneration and development, director of neighbourhoods and chief finance officer, in consultation with the portfolio holder for resources, approval of carry-forward of unspent 2017/18 capital budgets still required, to the 2018/19 capital programme.

**8. Scrutiny committee recommendations**

The strategy manager presented the report. He highlighted that the scrutiny committee would use two meetings to consider the impact of Operation gravity.

In response to a question from Councillor Carlo, Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources said that a trail of a 'tourist tax' was due to take place in Bath and that the success of this would be monitored.

**RESOLVED to:**

- (1) Agree to consider promotion of a way for people to report sub-standard short term let properties to the council; and
- (2) Note the additional recommendations as outlined in the report.

**9. Procurement of PV for free on housing contracts – Key decision**

Councillor Harris, deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing presented the report. NPS Norwich had carried out a full tender review but were not currently in a position to award the contract as not all criteria has been met by the submissions. She added that a notice of key decision would be published once the contract had been awarded.

In response to a question from Councillor Carlo, the head of neighbourhood housing said that he would research figures on the number of properties with photovoltaic panels and forward this information.

**RESOLVED** to delegate approval to the director of neighbourhoods in consultation with the portfolio holder for social housing, to award the contract for a PV for free programme on council homes.

**10. Procurement for the supply, installation and commissioning of a temporary boiler plant room and equipment at Barnard's Yard – Key decision**

Councillor Harris, deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing, presented the report. A ground source heating system was proposed for the site but a system was needed in the interim whilst work was ongoing.

In response to a question from Councillor Carlo, the associate director of NPS Norwich said that these were complicated systems to install and that the success of this project would be monitored to evaluate whether similar systems could be used elsewhere.

**RESOLVED** to delegate approval to the director of neighbourhoods in consultation with the portfolio holder for social housing to award the contract for installing a temporary boiler room to continue district heating at Barnard's Yard.

**11. Exclusion of the public**

**RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of items \*12 to \*13 (below) on the grounds contained in the relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

**\*12. Managing assets (housing) – key decision (paragraph 3)**

Councillor Harris, deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing, presented the report.

**RESOLVED** to approve:

- (1) the disposal of the freehold interest in the asset on the open market; and
- (2) the capital receipt from the disposal to be reinvested in the housing capital program for improving, repairing and maintaining our housing stock or for enabling new affordable housing.

**\*13. Norwich Airport – expiry of Public Private Partnership agreement – key decision (paragraph 3)**

Councillor Harris, deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing, presented the report.

**RESOLVED** to agree the recommendations detailed in the report.

CHAIR