



CABINET

17:30 to 18:50

12 November 2014

Present: Councillors Arthur (chair), Waters (vice chair), Bremner, Driver, and Harris

Also present: Councillors Boswell and Wright

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stonard.

2. PUBLIC QUESTIONS / PETITIONS

There were no public questions or petitions.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held 8 October 2014.

The portfolio holder for resources explained that due to the timing of key meetings at which the monthly finance reports are agreed, there were no finance reports on this particular agenda.

As a brief update for members he said that the September forecasts for revenue were for underspends of £1.5 million on both the general fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). These compared to forecasts of £1.4 million for the general fund and £1.2 million for the HRA at the end of August.

There was a forecast underspend of £17.5 million on the non housing capital programme and £5.8 million on the housing capital Programme. These compared to

forecast underspends at the end of quarter one of £17.7 million for non housing and £4.6 million for housing.

5. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS

The portfolio holder for resources presented the report. He added that a letter had been received from the Returning Officer which said that the changes proposed were within parameters that would allow her to undertake an efficient election and an accurate count.

RESOLVED to recommend council to make the following changes to the polling scheme:

- 1) change the boundary between polling districts MX2 and MX3, to move voters living adjacent / north of Drayton Road into MX2;
- 2) change the polling station in polling district CG5 to Shipfields Community Room from St Georges Church Hall; and,
- 3) identify the preferred reserve polling stations as listed in Appendix C

6. ADOPTION OF NORWICH'S LOCAL PLAN DOCUMENTS

The portfolio holder for housing presented the report.

In response to a member's question the Head of planning explained that going forward, limited modifications could take place to an adopted plan. He added that this was a public process which would include consultation, and a realistic minimum timeframe for alterations to a local plan was approximately one year.

RESOLVED to recommend council to:

- 1) adopt the *Development management policies local plan* as modified by the Inspector's report and additional (minor) modifications (set out in Appendix 1);
- 2) adopt the *Site allocations and site specific policies local plan* as modified by the Inspector's report and additional (minor) modifications (set out in Appendix 2);
- 3) adopt the Policies map as modified by the Inspector's report, which forms part of both local plan documents (Appendix 3); and,
- 4) delegate authority to the head of planning, in consultation with the portfolio holder for environment, development and transport, to make any further minor factual updates and corrections required to each local plan document prior to adoption, and to proceed with the necessary legal and administrative procedures to secure adoption of both local plan documents to form part of the development plan for Norwich.

7. BYELAW TO MANAGE SKATEBOARDING IN THE CITY CENTRE

The portfolio holder for neighbourhoods and community safety presented the report and clarified that the area to be covered by the byelaw was as detailed on the map of page 46 of the agenda.

The portfolio holder for customer services said that misleading information had been circulating on social media. She added that as a large number of skaters come to Norwich from outside the city, proper information should be readily available to make it as easy as possible for them to access the city's skate parks. She said that the council should consider creating further skating facilities.

The portfolio holder for resources said that the byelaw represented a proportionate and sensible way to protect the large investment the city council had made in the refurbishment of the war memorial.

RESOLVED to recommend to council to make a byelaw to manage skateboarding in the city centre.

8. CONSULTATION: GREATER NORWICH HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2015-20

The portfolio holder for housing presented the report.

In response to member's questions, the housing strategy manager acknowledged that the current layout of the strategy document made it appear that work was compartmentalised. He emphasised that, as the re-drafting procedure is undertaken, the work of the different councils would become more integrated.

RESOLVED to approve the consultation document: *Greater Norwich homelessness strategy 2015-20*.

9. CONTRACT AWARD – ST JAMES'S HOUSE SHELTERED HOUSING SCHEME REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

The portfolio holder for housing presented the report.

RESOLVED to award the refurbishment contract to T Gill & Sons (Norwich) Ltd.

(The chair explained that the item on the award of various contracts for structural repairs and improvements to council homes would be considered in public.)

10. AWARD OF VARIOUS CONTRACTS FOR STRUCTURAL REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO COUNCIL HOMES

The portfolio holder for housing presented the report.

RESOLVED to:

- 1) award of the following structural repair and improvement contracts:
 - a) Manchester Place, Somerleyton Gardens and Walpole Gardens – Concrete repairs and walkway membrane replacement to Thomas Sinden Ltd.
 - b) Vale Green Phase 1– Roof upgrade, masonry and concrete repairs to Foster Property Maintenance Ltd.
 - c) Godric Place Phase 1 – Concrete repairs and walkway membrane replacement to Foster Property Maintenance Ltd; and,
- 2) delegate to the executive head of strategy people and neighbourhoods authority to award the following two contracts in consultation with the portfolio holder for housing:
 - a) Derby Street Phase 2 – Concrete stair repairs and walkway membrane replacement
 - b) Douro Place and Golding Place – Concrete stair repairs and walkway membrane replacement

11. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the items *12 to *16 below on the grounds contained in the relevant paragraphs of schedule 12a of the local government act 1972 (as amended).

***12. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT TO NORWICH CITY COUNCIL SHELTERED HOUSING TENANTS (EXEMPT UNDER PARAGRAPH 3)**

The portfolio holder for housing presented the report.

RESOLVED to award an extended contract for the provision of laundry equipment to Norwich City Council sheltered housing tenants.

***13. MANAGING ASSETS (HOUSING) (EXEMPT UNDER PARAGRAPH 3)**

The portfolio holder for housing presented the report.

RESOLVED to:

- a) approve the option to dispose of the freehold interest in the asset outlined in the report on the open market; and,
- b) delegate the method of disposal to the head of city development services.

***14. MANAGING ASSETS (GENERAL FUND) 1
(EXEMPT UNDER PARAGRAPH 3)**

The portfolio holder for resources presented the report.

RESOLVED to approve the acquisition of land and property for the general fund account as described in the report.

***15. MANAGING ASSETS (GENERAL FUND) 2
EXEMPT UNDER PARAGRAPH 3)**

The portfolio holder for resources presented the report.

RESOLVED to approve the disposal of land and property and the reassignment of a long lease as described in the report.

***16. LOCAL GROWTH FUND – HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BORROWING
PROGRAMME 2015-17 (EXEMPT UNDER PARAGRAPH 3)**

The leader of the council presented the report.

RESOLVED to approve the submission of a bid for an increase in the HRA borrowing headroom for 2016-17 under the local growth fund.

CHAIR