

Cabinet

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the **10th November 2016**.

Present:

Cllr. Clarkson (Chairman);
Cllr. Bell (Vice-Chairman);

Cllrs. Mrs Bell, Bennett, Mrs Blanford, Bradford, Clokie, Galpin, Knowles, Shorter.

Apologies

Cllrs Hicks, Michael, Ovenden

Also Present:

Cllrs. Burgess, Link, Smith, Wedgbury.

Chief Executive, Corporate Director (Law and Governance), Director of Development, Head of Finance, Accountancy Manager, Health, Parking and Community Safety Manager, Head of Housing, Principal Solicitor – Strategic Development, Senior Policy, Performance and Scrutiny Officer, Communications and Marketing Manager, Member Services Manager.

189 Minutes

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 13th October 2016 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

190 Leader's Announcements

The Leader advised that he was pleased to report that the final meeting had been held to consider due diligence in terms of the Elwick Phase 1 Leisure Scheme and that the Council was now happy to proceed to the signing of the necessary legal documents. The Leader said that this would allow the construction work to commence in the New Year.

The Leader also said that he had started to receive favourable feedback on the work Aspire was undertaking in the Borough and advised that marked changes were already apparent. The Portfolio Holder for Public Interaction and Borough Presentation explained that Aspire had been making a special effort for the forthcoming Remembrance Services in the Memorial Gardens and in those Churchyards they had responsibility for in the Borough.

191 The Council's Approach to Compliance and Enforcement: One year on

The report set out the progress made on various enforcement issues by the Policy and Compliance Task Group following its establishment in 2015.

The Portfolio Holder explained that tightening the Council's approach to enforcement and anti- social behaviour was a major manifesto commitment of the Administration and considered that the issues outlined within the report demonstrated progress made to date.

The Portfolio Holder for Highways, Wellbeing and Safety reported that several Public Spaces Protection Orders were currently out for public consultation.

Resolved:

That the progress made by the Task Group and the proposed focus of the Board moving forward be noted.

192 Budget Monitoring – Quarter 2, 2016/17

The report presented an assessment of the outturn position for the financial year based on the first half of the year for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account and the Collection Fund. During this period the General Fund was projected to have a balanced budget after transfers to reserves and there was a forecast underspend of £89,000. The Housing Revenue Account was projecting an overall deficit of £1,578,000.

The Portfolio Holder said that the report presented a broadly balanced budget position and advised that despite the effects of Brexit the Council's investments were returning between 4% and 5% which he considered represented a fair return.

Resolved:

- That**
- (i) the Budget Monitoring position as at 30th September 2016 be noted.**
 - (ii) the approval by Management Team of the installation of a Beacon in North Park to celebrate future events be noted.**
 - (iii) the work done towards jointly procuring a cash collection contract be noted.**

193 Ashford Borough Council's Performance – Quarter 2 2016/17

The report provided a headline overview of performance against the Council's Corporate Plan for Quarter 2 - 2016/17. This included information on what the

Cabinet had achieved through its decision making, key performance data, and consideration of the wider Borough picture which impacted upon the Council's work.

The Portfolio Holder drew attention to the benefits of the new Performance Dashboard and encouraged all Members to view the various types of data on the system. He also advised that in due course elements of the data would be made available for access by the public.

Resolved:

That the Council's performance against the Corporate Plan in Quarter 2 of 2016/17 be noted.

194 Joint Transportation Board – 13th September 2016

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Transportation Board held on the 13th September 2016 be received and noted.

195 Ashford Strategic Delivery Board – 30th September 2016

Resolved:

That the Notes of the meeting of the Ashford Strategic Delivery Board held on 30th September 2016 be received and noted.

196 Schedule of Key Decisions to be Taken

Resolved:

That the latest Schedule of Key Decisions as set out within the report be received and noted.

(KRF/AEH)

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Queries concerning these Minutes? Please contact Keith Fearon:
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