

Cabinet

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the **12th April 2018**.

Present:

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

Cllrs. Mrs Bell, Bennett, Bradford, Clokie, Galpin, Pickering, Shorter, White.

Also Present:

Cllrs. Barrett, Buchanan, Burgess, Dehnel, Mrs Dyer, Hicks, Link, Ovenden, Wedgbury.

Chief Executive, Director of Place and Space, Director of Finance and Economy, Head of Legal and Democracy, Senior Commercial Development Manager, Programme Manager, Communications Officer, Senior Member Services Officer.

405 Declarations of Interest

Councillor	Interest	Minute No.
Clarkson	Made a Voluntary Announcement as a Director of A Better Choice for Property Ltd	407

406 Minutes

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on the 8th March 2018 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

407 Corporate Property Management Strategy 2018 to 2021

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which explained that the Corporate Property Management Strategy replaced the Council's previous Property Management Strategy and set out the Council's high level strategic framework for managing its Corporate Property Portfolio for the next three years. He reiterated that this report did not refer to assets of the Housing Revenue Account or the ABC Property Company and was part of the Council's commitment to increase its property portfolio to support both its Medium Term Financial Plan and Corporate Plan by securing alternative funding streams in the face of reducing Government grant. He further advised that, if implemented, the revised strategy would be reviewed in 12 months' time and then after that at three yearly intervals.

The Deputy Portfolio Holder said he fully supported the strategy. It looked at the Council's assets in an innovative and strategic way and showed the importance of the Council's property portfolio. He considered it was important for the Council to be risk aware but not risk averse in this sense.

Resolved:

That the content of the Corporate Property Management Strategy be noted and the strategy attached at Appendix A to the report be adopted.

408 Risk Management Framework

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which set out a draft Risk Management Framework which had been developed in collaboration with the Mid-Kent Audit Partnership. The framework had been designed to provide practical guidance and tools to enable potential risks facing the organisation to be identified, evaluated and managed in a consistent and effective way. He said that ensuring risks were properly responded to, played a large part in the certainty of achieving the Council's objectives and desired outcomes. The framework would replace the Council's current Risk Management Framework, adopted in September 2015.

A Member asked if the proposed risk management process was not missing a step, whereby evaluation of risk took place both before and after taking action to manage a risk. He also sought some assurance that the Council was not loosening its risk management arrangements too much at a time when further recession was likely. The Leader responded that the evaluation of risks did appear in the framework and the five-step process was a constant cyclical one. The Portfolio Holder re-iterated that the process involved constant checking and all strategic risks would continue to be monitored as appropriate.

Resolved:

That the Risk Management Framework, including the risk appetite, as set out at Appendix A to the report be approved.

409 Local Development Scheme (LDS) Update 2018

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which explained that the draft LDS 2018 set out the project plan and timetable for preparation of the Local Plan to 2030, and the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation DPD until the end of 2019. The LDS was required under legislation and compliance with it was a matter of 'soundness' for Development Plan Documents (DPDs). It was therefore essential that it was kept up to date.

The Cabinet said it wished to acknowledge the work of the Graduate Policy Planner for producing such an excellent report.

Recommended:

That the Local Development Scheme 2018 be adopted, as required under Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011).

410 Trading and Enterprise Board – 12th March 2018

Resolved:

That Minute Nos. 373 and 375 be approved and adopted.

Recommended:

That Minute Nos. 374 and 376 be approved

411 Economic Regeneration and Investment Board – 2nd March 2018

Resolved:

That the Notes of the Meeting of the Economic Regeneration and Investment Board held on the 2nd March 2018 be received and noted.

412 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.

Queries concerning these Minutes? Please contact Danny Sheppard:
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