

CABINET

Wednesday, 12th January, 2022
Time of Commencement: 2.00 pm

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Present:	Councillor Simon Tagg (Chair)		
Councillors:	Stephen Sweeney Gill Heesom	Trevor Johnson Paul Northcott	Jill Waring
Officers:	David Adams Martin Hamilton Simon McEneny Daniel Dickinson Denise French Sarah Wilkes	Executive Director Operational Services Chief Executive Executive Director - Commercial Development & Economic Growth Head of Legal & Governance /Monitoring Officer Democratic Services Team Leader Head of Finance / S151 Officer	

16. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest stated.

17. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2021 be approved as a correct record.

18. **WALLEYS QUARRY UPDATE**

Cabinet considered an update report on odour issues from Walley's Quarry. The report outlined the current position following the operator's appeal against the Abatement Notice served by the Council on 13 August 2021. Members were informed of the requirement for data sharing with the operator and the rules around this. There had been no agreement to undertake mediation at this stage. The complaint data was presented which showed recent increases in complaint levels; this issue had produced the largest source of complaints to the council. Air quality monitoring was being undertaken until March 2022 with static monitors at four stations; data from April 2021 was presented. The council had also procured two Jerome monitors which were deployed in selected residents homes or business premises; current data was outlined.

Resolved: that the report was noted.

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19. DRAFT REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET AND STRATEGIES 2022/23

Cabinet considered a report on progress with the draft Revenue and Capital Budget for 2022/23 along with the 5 year Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2022/23 to 2026/27.

Cabinet also considered draft strategies as follows - the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy (updated for 2022/23), the Capital Strategy for 2022/32, the Treasury Management Strategy for 2022/23 and the Investment Strategy for 2022/23 – all of which would be submitted to Council for approval in February.

Resolved: that:

- (a) the progress on the completion of the Revenue (Appendix 1) and Capital Budgets (Appendix 4) be noted.
- (b) The updated Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2026/27 (Appendix 2) be approved.
- (c) The strategy for ensuring a balanced revenue outturn position for 2021/22 be noted.
- (d) The mid-year estimate of capital expenditure be approved (Appendix 4).
- (e) The calculation of the Council Tax base and the Council Tax increase to be proposed for 2022/23 of 1.99% per Band D equivalent property be noted.
- (f) The risk assessment at Appendix 3 and S151 Officer's recommendation on the level of reserves and contingencies provisionally required to be maintained in 2022/23 be noted.
- (g) The draft Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy (Appendix 6) for 2022/23 be noted.
- (h) The draft Capital Strategy (Appendix 7) for 2022/32 be noted.
- (i) The draft Treasury Management Strategy (Appendix 8) for 2022/23 be noted.
- (j) The draft Investment Strategy (Appendix 9) for 2022/23 be noted.
- (k) The draft Budget and Council Tax proposals be referred to Finance, Assets and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee for comment before the final proposals are considered at Cabinet on 2 February 2022.

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20. SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES 2022/23

Cabinet considered the proposed schedule of fees and charges for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Resolved: that the fees and charges proposed to apply from 1 April 2022, as set out in Appendix 1, be approved.

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21. MARKETS UPDATE

Cabinet considered an update report on the Newcastle under Lyme town market following adoption of the Service Improvement Plan for Markets by Cabinet on 5 June 2019. The report outlined that a number of speciality markets now took place alongside the general weekly market and there were plans for a further range of market events. The report also listed current stall occupancy and compared this data to earlier Performance Indicators.

Resolved: that:

- (a) The report and progress to date be noted.
- (b) The town centre market performance and health be monitored
- (c) A new market management software system be in place to meet the future needs of the service.
- (d) The service improvement plan continue to be delivered.

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22. CHATTERLEY VALLEY

Cabinet considered a report on progress with Chatterley Valley, a 100 acre (42 ha) site in private ownership located to the west of the Stoke-Manchester railway line, currently undeveloped. The Borough had successfully bid for Town Deal funding and the Kidsgrove Town Deal programme included a sum of £3.6 million to cover the costs of constructing a new site access into Chatterley Valley and diversion of a Severn Trent Water main.

Resolved: that:

- (a) Cabinet notes progress made to date on the development of the Chatterley Valley Industrial Park proposals with the landowner, Harworth, Staffordshire County Council and the Borough Council to get the project from an unviable situation to one where the scheme is ready to start on site.
- (b) The Executive Director – Commercial Development and Economic Growth, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, Finance, Town Centres and Growth be authorised to take such actions and enter such agreements with Harworth and Staffordshire County Council and associated end users of the development to invest into the project, via retained business rate investment.

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23. COMMUNITY RENEWAL FUND

Cabinet considered a report on the Council's success in securing funding from the UK Community Renewal Fund for a range of projects including LED lighting schemes and a feasibility study to assess the suitability of potential solar generation on land at Keele. The report sought approval to accept the grant funding.

Resolved: that:

- (a) The Community Renewal Funding be accepted for the projects outlined.
- (b) The Executive Director, Commercial Development and Economic Growth, be authorised to enter into the Grant Funding Agreement with the County Council.
- (c) The Executive Director, Commercial Development and Economic Growth, in consultation with the portfolio holder for Environment and Recycling be authorised to enter into contracts for the delivery of the projects; their evaluation and to submit the final evaluation.
- (d) That the outcome of the feasibility studies be shared with the relevant community centre management committees to enable them to plan for their future investment plans.
- (e) That the outcome of the feasibility studies be used to direct the future Council investment through the Sustainable Environment Strategy.

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24. PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AGENCY PERSONNEL - OPERATIONAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Cabinet considered a report seeking authority to enter into a contract for the delivery of a Neutral Vendor Managed Service option for the supply and delivery of temporary staffing for both Recycling and Waste, and Streetscene for a period of two years plus possible two one year extensions

Resolved: that

- (a) The Neutral Vendor Managed Service option be approved for the supply and delivery of temporary staffing for both Recycling and Waste, and Streetscene service areas;
- (b) The Executive Director of Operational Services be granted delegated authority for the award of contract on the completion of the supplier assessment currently being undertaken.

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25. FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to the Forward Plan listing upcoming key decisions to be made by Cabinet.

Resolved: that the Forward Plan be received.

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26. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no Urgent Business.

27. DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION

Resolved:- That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following matters because it is likely that there will be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

28. LEASING OF INDUSTRIAL SITE - PLOT E, APEDALE BUSINESS PARK, CHESTERTON

Cabinet considered a report about the potential leasing of Plot E, Apedale Business Park, Chesterton.

Resolved: that the Executive Director – Commercial Development and Economic Growth, be authorised to take such actions and enter such agreements as are necessary to conclude the leasehold disposal of Plot E, Apedale Business Park at an initial rental of £90,000 per annum.

29. SCALE OF FEES AND CHARGES 2022/23 - CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX

Cabinet considered the schedule of fees and charges in the confidential appendix.

Resolved: That the fees and charges proposed to apply from 1 April 2022, as set out in the confidential Appendix be approved.

**Councillor Simon Tagg
Chair**

Meeting concluded at 3.13 pm