

Cabinet

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Thursday, 15th March, 2018.

Present: Cllr Robert Cook (Chair), Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Michael Smith and Cllr Norma Wilburn.

Officers: Neil Schneider (CE), Beccy Brown, Ged Morton (HR&L), Garry Cummings (F&BS), Ann Workman (AH), Martin Gray (CHS), Reuben Kench (CL&E), Richard McGuckin (EG&D), Jamie McCann, (CS), Julie Danks, Margaret Waggott, Peter Bell (DCE) .

Also in attendance: Members of the public.

Apologies: None.

CAB Welcome and Evacuation Procedure

130/17

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the evacuation procedure was noted.

CAB Declarations of Interest

131/17

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest with regard to agenda item 6 – Tackling Inequality as he was a Director of Catalyst.

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest with regard to agenda item 6 – Tackling Inequality as he was a member of the Infinity Partnership.

Councillor Ann McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest with regard to agenda item 6 – Tackling Inequality as she was a member SDAIS.

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 8 - Victoria Site Update on the Revised Scheme Redevelopment Proposal as he was a Director of Thirteen. Councillor Steve Nelson withdrew from the meeting and left the room during consideration of the item.

Councillor Ann McCoy declared a personal prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 8 - Victoria Site Update on the Revised Scheme Redevelopment Proposal as she was a member of SDAIS.

CAB Minutes

132/17

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2018 and 22 February 2018.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2018 and 22 February 2018 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

CAB Scrutiny Review of Security at Preston Park

133/17

Consideration was given to a report that presented the Crime and Disorder Select Committee findings and recommendations following the Scrutiny Review Security at Preston Park.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The types and incidence of anti-social behaviour and key vulnerabilities within Preston Park be noted.
2. The range of potential solutions to deter and reduce the incidence of anti-social behaviour within Preston Park be noted.
3. Enhanced CCTV, vehicle controls, improved signage and lighting are acknowledged as the main means by which the key vulnerabilities within Preston Park can be addressed.
4. The Select Committee report informs the development and implementation of the Masterplan for the Park.
5. A business case be developed for implementing appropriate safety and security measures from the range of measures highlighted in the Select Committee report.
6. The business case sets out the actual costs taking into account the likely savings in ongoing repairs and maintenance to enable Cabinet to make appropriate financial provision and/or consider the means by which income can be generated towards the costs of the improvements.

CAB 134/17 Tackling Inequalities in Stockton-on-Tees

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on The Council's work to tackle inequality in the borough.

The Council had to take difficult decisions about the basis on which services would be delivered with the limited resources available. In doing this the Council had to take account of a number of factors such as reduced funding, changing demographics, increasing demand for services, new legislation and national policy direction. Whilst the Council continued to balance all these factors it was clear that under-pinning all the decisions were our four policy principles and wherever possible the Council would:

- Protect the vulnerable
- Create economic prosperity
- Tackle inequality
- Help people to be healthier

An attached report was the first in a series of reports looking at how the Council was delivering against its four policy principles. The report looked at how the Council was addressing the third policy principle and specifically how it was tackling inequality across the borough.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

CAB 135/17 CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) – INSPECTIONS OF REGISTERED SERVICES

Consideration was given to a report that presented a briefing on the CQC's inspection of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) registered services.

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) had responsibility under the Health & Social Care Act 2008 to be registered as a provider of adult social care services with the Care Quality Commission (CQC). SBC was first registered on 1 October 2010 and was registered in respect of four specific regulated activities and had a separately registered manager for each activity.

There were five 'key lines of enquiry' the inspection focuses on. These were the fundamental questions about standards at the heart of the way CQC regulates services and they help to focus on the things that matter. They ask 'key questions' of each service.

After each inspection, the CQC produced a report and published it on their website. Each report set out the outcomes of each of the five key questions and what this meant for the people who use the service. The most recent report ratings for the four SBC services were detailed in the report.

The report provided case studies of how each CQC registered service had supported individuals requiring those services.

The most recent report ratings for the four SBC services were as follows:

1 Lanark Close - Outstanding
31 Oak Road - Good
Rosedale Centre - Good
Reablement Service – Good

The achievement of Outstanding in the recent Lanark Close CQC inspection was a positive outcome for Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council. It reflected the improvements in the standard of personal care provided to a group of people with learning disabilities since the service was reviewed and a new manager appointed in 2013/14. The changes had included investment in the building, changes to the booking of short break service placements and staff training and development.

The inspector's report summary included the following statement:

"The most striking aspect of this dynamic service was the strong sense of leadership, commitment and drive to deliver a service which improves the lives of the people who use the service and their relatives in a fulfilling and creative way. The culture embedded in the service was an absolute commitment to deliver a person-centred and responsive short-break service, which relatives described as a lifeline for them as well as a fantastic place for people to use. We found that the registered manager had encouraged staff to constantly think about improvements."

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

136/17

Consideration was given to a report that gave an update on the revised scheme redevelopment proposal at the Victoria Site.

Following a review of the potential options available to the Council to successfully secure the regeneration of the Victoria estate, Cabinet was asked to support the procurement of a partner to potentially establish a joint venture that will lead on the sites redevelopment.

The establishment of a joint venture could allow for risk and reward sharing with a partner and access to skills and capacity (specifically an experienced commercial development and sales team) without ceding full control of the site.

Through this procurement exercise the Council would identify a partner who shared the vision for the site “to create a vibrant new community, providing exemplar and sustainable urban living which transformed the north eastern quadrant of the Town Centre and showcase the wider transformation of the Town Centre”.

The importance of the new development’s connectivity to Norton Road and the town centre were critical and the joint venture would be tasked with exploring every opportunity to improve the key gateways and connectivity along Norton Road.

In addition the report also updated Members on the recently completed and costed demolition option appraisal of Elm House.

RESOLVED that:-

1. Approval be given to proceed with a procurement exercise to seek a potential Joint Venture partner.
2. On completion of the procurement exercise a further report be received to include a detailed business case for the joint venture, including any proposed corporate or contractual structures and to appoint the recommended partner.
3. The outcome of the comprehensive demolition appraisal which has been undertaken by council officers in relation to demolition of the Thirteen asset ‘Elm House Apartments’ be noted.
4. The development masterplan will ensure that the Norton Road gateway is an integral part of the development and enhanced to reflect the quality of development the Council aspires to achieve.
5. The mix of development will reflect a complementary offer to the housing market ensuring affordability, desirability and targeted need, including older persons and supported persons accommodation, are integral.

CAB **Local Plan Update**
137/17

Consideration was given to a report on the work undertaken since the last report to Cabinet in September 2017 in respect of submission of the publication draft

version of the Local Plan - supporting documents and evidence base and sought approval for delegation for amendments to the draft plan both prior to, during and after Examination in Public to enable the next stage of progress towards adoption.

In June 2016, Cabinet agreed to the production of a new Stockton on Tees Local Plan (STLP) and supporting documents to replace the existing policy documents and supersede the previous approach of the production of the Regeneration and Environment Local Plan.

Members were reminded that consideration was given to the Regulation 18 Consultation version of the draft STLP and supporting documents in November 2016. Followed by a report to Cabinet seeking approval for consult on the Publication Draft Local Plan in September 2017.

Following approval to consult on the Publication Draft Local Plan, a six week consultation was undertaken. Drop in sessions for the public, stakeholders and Members were held across the Borough with a total of 411 representations made from 116 individuals. All of the representations and summary of responses were set out within the Consultation Statement which was available on the Council's website.

Following consideration of representations and completion of accompanying evidence base and supporting documentation, the Publication Draft Local Plan and all supporting documents was submitted for examination to the Secretary of State on 21st December 2017.

Matthew Birkenshaw had been appointed as Planning Inspector for the Examination in Public (EiP) with the date of 5th June 2018 set as the opening day of what was expected to be a three week EiP.

In the lead up to EiP, the Planning Inspector would identify specific matters where he required more clarity or greater explanation and which could require officers to reflect on the proposed policy wording or policy principle resulting in a proposed amendment, variation, modification, revision, withdrawal or revocations to the Local Plan which the Planning Inspector would then consider at the EiP. Furthermore the Inspector could also recommend amendments, variations, modifications, revisions, withdrawals or revocations for inclusion.

It was possible that the outcome of the various matters scrutinised at the EiP would be the need for modifications to the plan in order that the plan meets the tests of soundness within the National Planning Policy Framework. At this stage, any modifications will be at the recommendation of the Planning Inspector and would therefore be crucial to the plan being found to be sound by the Planning Inspector.

A period of public consultation may be required for modifications that emerge from the EiP before they were incorporated into what would be the Publication Draft Local Plan including main modifications which would then be presented to Cabinet and ultimately Council for formal adoption.

During the consultation period, briefing sessions would be held for members to ensure any queries around modifications to the plan could be fully explained

and that Members had opportunity to formally comment on modifications before it was presented to Council for adoption. It was expected that the plan would be in position where it was presented to Council for adoption in Autumn 2018.

RESOLVED that:-

1. Approval of amendments, variations, modifications, revisions, withdrawals or revocations to the Publication Draft Local Plan recommended by the Inspector appointed to examine the local plan in advance of Examination in Public be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.
2. Approval of amendments, variations, modifications, revisions, withdrawals or revocations to the Publication Draft Local Plan recommended by the Inspector appointed to examine the local plan following Examination in Public be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development in consultation with Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.
3. Approval of amendments, variations, modifications, revisions, withdrawals or revocations to the Publication Draft Local Plan that are recommended by the Inspector appointed to examine the local plan during the Examination in Public be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development and such other officers as he may nominate.

RECOMMENDED to Council that:-

4. **The request that in the event that further modifications are required to the Local Plan in accordance with section 20(7B) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 be endorsed to ensure the plan satisfies the requirements in section 20(5)(a) of the 2004 Act and is a sound document, that the Inspector appointed to carry out the examination of the Stockton on Tees Local Plan, be requested to recommend modifications of the document, in accordance with section 20(7C) of the 2004 Act and that the determination of the modifications to be requested to be made be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development and such other officers as he may authorise.**
5. **Approval to consult, where necessary, on the main modifications recommended by the Inspector appointed to examine the Local Plan or additional modifications to the Publication Draft Local Plan following Examination in Public and before adoption of the Local Plan be delegated to the Director of Economic Growth and Development in consultation with Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing.**