

CABINET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 MARCH 2018

AT 4.30 PM

IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WILLITON

Present:

Councillor A Trollope-Bellew Leader

Councillor M Chilcott
Councillor A Hadley
Councillor S Pugsley
Councillor D J Westcott

Councillor M Dewdney
Councillor C Morgan
Councillor K Turner

Members in Attendance:

Councillor S Dowding
Councillor A Hadley
Councillor P Murphy
Councillor P Pilkington
Councillor R Woods

Councillor S Goss
Councillor B Heywood
Councillor J Parbrook
Councillor N Thwaites

Officers in Attendance:

Assistant Chief Executive (B Lang)
Section 151 Officer (P Fitzgerald)
Assistant Director – Place and Energy Infrastructure (A Goodchild)
Community and Housing Impact Lead (L Redston)
Meeting Administrator (K Kowalewska)

CAB59 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

CAB60 Minutes

(Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held on 7 February 2018 - circulated with the Agenda.)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held on 7 February 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.

CAB61 Declarations of Interest

Members present at the meeting declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Member of a County, Parish or Town Council:

**WEST SOMERSET COUNCIL
CABINET 07.03.18**

Name	Minute No.	Member of	Action Taken
Cllr M Chilcott	All	SCC	Spoke and voted
Cllr C Morgan	All	Stogursey	Spoke and voted
Cllr A Trollope-Bellew	All	Crowcombe	Spoke and voted
Cllr K Turner	All	Brompton Ralph	Spoke and voted
Cllr D Westcott	All	Watchet	Spoke and voted
Cllr S Goss	All	Stogursey	Spoke
Cllr P Murphy	All	Watchet	Spoke
Cllr J Parbrook	All	Minehead	Spoke
Cllr P Pilkington	All	Timberscombe	Spoke
Cllr N Thwaites	All	Dulverton	Spoke

In addition, the following interests were declared:

Name	Minute No.	Description of interest	Personal or Prejudicial	Action Taken
Cllr M Chilcott	CAB65	Lives near to Minehead Recreation Ground	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr D Westcott	CAB65	Lives near to Minehead Recreation Ground. Sent in letter of support for Watchet Bowling Club project	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr S Dowding	CAB64	RNLI Member	Personal	Spoke

CAB62 Public Participation

Item 7 – HPC Planning Obligations Board – Allocation of CIM Funding, Grant Applications over £100,000

Mike Webber, Chairman of Watchet Bowling Club, and Jan Ross, Engage Development Worker, both spoke in support of the Watchet Bowling Club application and provided detailed information on the project. They were devastated that the Planning Obligations Board had recommended not to approve the project.

CAB63 Forward Plan

(Copy of the Forward Plan for the month of May 2018 – circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of this item was to approve the Forward Plan.

RESOLVED that the Forward Plan for the month of May 2018 be approved.

CAB64 HPC Planning Obligations Board – Allocation of CIM Funding, Grant Applications under £100,000

(Report No. WSC 11/18 – circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to present the recommendations of the Hinkley Point C Planning Obligations Board (POB) for the allocation of monies from the Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) Fund for grant applications under £100,000 received on 1 January 2018.

The Lead Member for Resources and Central Support presented the report and provided information on the three applications submitted for grant funding under £100,000. She proposed the recommendation which was duly seconded by Councillor M Dewdney.

Members expressed support for the West Somerset Young People's Outreach Sexual Health Support project. This was believed to be a good and beneficial project as it was important to have regular professional health advice and support for the young people in West Somerset. Members were also pleased that the project would focus on mental health issues as well.

A brief discussion ensued on the Minehead D Class Lifeboat Appeal project and the Assistant Director for Place and Energy Infrastructure provided further clarification on the POB comments in relation to the applicant working with others to understand the need and the most appropriate location for additional craft requirements if required.

RESOLVED that it be recommended to Council to endorse the recommendations of the Hinkley Point C Planning Obligations Board, as follows:

- (1) To not approve the allocation of funding to the Minehead RNLI for the D Class Lifeboat project.
- (2) To not approve the allocation of funding to the ATWEST for the Grow Moor Rover project.
- (3) To approve the allocation of £71,150 from the 2nd Annual Payment to Minehead Eye for the West Somerset Young People's Outreach Sexual Health Support project.

CAB65 HPC Planning Obligations Board – Allocation of CIM Funding, Grant Applications over £100,000

(Report No. WSC 12/18 – circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to present the recommendations of the Hinkley Point C Planning Obligations Board for the allocation of monies from the Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) Fund for grant applications over £100,000 received on 1 December 2017.

The Lead Member for Resources and Central Support presented the report and provided information on the six applications submitted for grant funding over £100,000. She advised that the process for dealing with applications over £100,000 had changed and applicants were now invited to meet with the Planning Obligations Board to answer questions as well as having an opportunity for them to present their project in more detail to the Board. The Lead Member drew attention to Appendix A of the report which detailed the funding criteria comments and provided extra background information for each of the applications.

The Lead Member proposed the recommendation which was duly seconded by Councillor A Hadley.

During the debate the following main points were raised:

- A new community and sporting facility such as the one proposed by Watchet Bowling Club was needed in Watchet.
- Support was expressed for the Minehead Recreation Ground project as it would benefit both local people and the wider community. The addition of a condition to reinvest surplus monies back in the building and community activities was welcomed.
- It was noted that further information was required in the Watchet Bowling Club's business plan in terms of demonstrating the sustainability of the project.
- The opportunity of obtaining section 106 planning obligations funding for the Watchet Bowling Club had been discussed with the applicants as there was potential for match funding.
- Assurance was requested that the governance concerns raised by the S106 Planning Obligations Group (POG) in relation to the application submitted by Minehead Town Council were also addressed by POB when dealing with the CIM fund application. It was agreed that a written response be provided in this regard due to no representative from POB being present at the meeting.
- The impact of the Watchet Bowling Club new build proposal on other community facilities in the locality and the need to ensure these all complemented each other to be financially sustainable and to meet the needs of the community and the range of users was discussed.
- Various other detailed points and questions were raised by Cllr P Murphy in regard to the consistency of how POB decisions were made, and the governance arrangements for the Watchet Bowling Club application. The Leader requested that these be submitted in writing prior to the report being discussed at the next full Council meeting.
- Reference was made to the fact that the POB comments contained within the report represented the views and comments made by all four organisations and voting partners.

RESOLVED that it be recommended to Council to endorse the recommendations of the Hinkley Point C Planning Obligations Board, as follows:

- (1) To allocate £382,047 from the 1st Annual CIM Fund Payment to Minehead Town Council for the New Changing Rooms and Community Hall at Minehead Recreation Ground.
- (2) To not approve the application for funding for Watchet Bowling Club for funding towards the Watchet Bowling Club, Gym and Community Facility.
- (3) To allocate £112,235 from the 1st Annual Payment to Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership for the Naturally Active project.
- (4) To allocate £159,035 from the 1st Annual Payment to Somerset Wildlife Trust for the Brilliant Coast project.
- (5) To not approve the allocation of funding for the Somerset Rural Youth Project for the Coastal Character project.
- (6) To allocate £500,000 from the 1st and 2nd Annual Payments to YMCA Somerset Coast for the Great Western Hotel project.

CAB66 Financial Monitoring 2017-2018 as at 31 December 2017

(Report No. WSC 13/18 – circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to provide Members with an update on the projected “outturn” – end of year – financial position of the Council for the financial year 2017-2018 (as at 31 December 2017).

The Lead Member for Resources and Central Support presented the report proposed the recommendations of the report which were seconded by Councillor M Dewdney.

A discussion took place on the Scrutiny Committee comments and Cabinet considered the recommendations proposed by the Committee. The Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee drew attention to the recent Council decision to put in extra funding into the sustainability reserve to support the employment of a member of staff to bring forward ‘invest to save’ projects, and he reminded Members that during the debate at Council it was considered that this extra resource would not be sufficient to fund the post.

The Section 151 Officer advised that the recommendations contained within the report were based on prudent proposals to mitigate financial risk.

On consideration, the Lead Member committed to review the figures and the final position at the end of the financial year, and to then consider options for allocating additional funds to the Sustainability Fund from residual underspends if they were to arise.

RESOLVED (1) that the Council’s forecast financial performance as at 31 December 2017, with the estimated position at the end of the financial year, be noted.

RESOLVED (2) that it be recommended to Council to approve the transfer of:

- (a) £600,000 to the Business Rates Smoothing reserve;
- (b) £70,000 to the Transformation reserve; and
- (c) £30,000 to the Asset Management and Compliance reserve.

The meeting closed at 6.12 pm.