

CABINET**Tuesday, 5th December, 2017**

Present:-

Councillor Serjeant (Chair)

Councillors Bagley
Blank
A DioufCouncillors Huckle
LudlowNon Voting J Innes
Members

*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

**82 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS
RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received.

83 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brunt, Catt, Dickinson, P Gilby and T Gilby.

84 MINUTES**RESOLVED –**

That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 14 November, 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

85 FORWARD PLAN

The Forward Plan for the four month period 1 January 2018 to 31 April 2018 was reported for information.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Forward Plan be noted.

86 DELEGATION REPORT

Decisions taken by Cabinet Members during November 2017 were reported.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Delegation Report be noted.

87 CULTURAL VENUES FEES AND CHARGES 2018/19

The Arts and Venues Manager submitted a report recommending for approval proposed fees and charges for venue and equipment hire at the Pomegranate Theatre, the Winding Wheel, the Assembly Rooms in the Market Hall and Hasland Village Hall for 2018/19.

Following a review in 2011, the Council had implemented an improvement programme for the venues with the key aims of integrating the operation of the venues, improving the arts and cultural offer and reducing the overall subsidy to the council tax payer. It was noted that the annual fees and charges review had contributed in part to the reductions in subsidy required by the venues, with net controllable costs reduced by a total of £342,084 since 2011/12.

The Arts and Venues Manager advised the Cabinet that despite these savings, the venues had operated at a deficit through 2016/17. In light of the ongoing resource pressures faced by the Council, the venues had been tasked with reducing their net controllable costs to nil by the end of 2020/21.

*** RESOLVED –**

1. That the proposed theatre hire charges for the Pomegranate Theatre, as detailed at Appendix A of the officer's report, be approved and implemented from 1 April 2018.
2. That the proposed room hire charges for The Winding Wheel, as detailed at Appendix B of the officer's report, be approved and implemented from 1 April 2018.

3. That the proposed equipment hire charges at The Winding Wheel, as detailed at Appendix B of the officer's report, be approved and implemented from 1 April 2018.
4. That the proposed theatre hire charges for The Winding Wheel, as detailed at Appendix C of the officer's report, be approved and implemented from 1 April 2018.
5. That the proposed room hire charges at the Assembly Rooms in the Market Hall, as detailed at Appendix D of the officer's report, be approved and implemented from 1 April 2018.
6. That the proposed room hire charges at Hasland Village Hall, as detailed at Appendix E of the officer's report, be approved and implemented from 1 April 2018.

REASON FOR DECISION

To make further progress towards a sustainable financial position for the venues.

88 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED –

That under Regulation 21(1)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 – as they contained information relating to

3. information relating to financial and business affairs.

89 PEAK GATEWAY FEASIBILITY PROJECT

The Economic Development Manager presented a report recommending for approval a budgetary contribution towards the undertaking of a feasibility study, to determine the Council's future engagement in the Peak Gateway project.

The report noted that representatives of Peak Worldwide had met with Councillor P Gilby and Huw Bowen, to discuss the opportunity for the Council to lead in delivering and operating the Peak Gateway building.

To enable the Council to make an effective decision as to its future role in the delivery and operation of a Gateway Building at Peak Resort, it was recommended that a feasibility study be undertaken, which would provide:

- Advice on the likely design and estimated build costs of the Gateway Building.
- Advice on the commercial viability of operating the building through the public or private sector, or as a shared investment. This would include an assessment of the commercial risks; financing arrangements; detailed capital and revenue investment requirements; detailed income and investment return projections; and the payback period.
- Advice on the likely legal arrangements that would need to be agreed with Peak Worldwide for the operation of the building to include a review of all relevant models and leasing arrangement options
- A view on the operational costs of operating the building.
- The likely demand for end users and the undertaking of a market assessment.

*** RESOLVED –**

1. That the Council's engagement in the Peak Gateway feasibility project, be approved.
2. That the proposed budgetary contribution of £30K revenue in 2017/18 towards the cost of a feasibility study, be approved.
3. That the findings of the feasibility study be presented to the Finance and Performance Board and Cabinet, to inform decisions around the Council's future engagement in the Peak Gateway project.

REASON FOR DECISION

To ensure that Chesterfield Borough Council is well informed and able to determine its future role in the Peak Gateway building at Peak Resort, to ensure maximum benefit to Chesterfield and its communities from the opportunities that the project may present.

90 RE-ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC

That after consideration of an item containing exempt information the public be re-admitted to the meeting.

91 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FEES AND CHARGES 2018/19

The Senior Environmental Health Officer submitted a report recommending for approval proposed fees and charges for various environmental health functions, including Environmental Permitting, Dog Control and Pest Control for 2018/19. The proposed fees and charges were outlined at Appendix A of the officer's report.

The fees and charges proposals had taken into account:

- The general principles that govern the Council's approach to charging.
- The demand for, and income received from these services.
- A comparison of fees and charges made by other authorities in Derbyshire.
- The Council's corporate concessions policy.

*** RESOLVED –**

1. That the proposed fees and charges for Environmental Health Services including concessionary rates where applicable, as detailed at Appendix A of the officer's report, be approved and implemented from 1 April 2018.
2. That the Senior Environmental Health Officer be granted discretion to offer reduced charges for the micro-chipping of dogs at promotional events and during campaigns.

3. That the Senior Environmental Health Officer be granted discretion to offer an alternative enforcement option for fly-tipping offences, where appropriate, instead of issuing a fixed penalty notice.

REASON FOR DECISION

To set the fees and charges for Environmental Health Services for 2018/19.

92

USE OF FORMER QUEEN'S PARK SPORTS CENTRE SITE

Councillor Simmons, Scrutiny Project Group Leader, presented the report and findings of the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on the Future Use of Former Queen's Park Sports Centre Site. The report was attached at Appendix B to the officer's report.

It was reported that the Scrutiny Project Group had considered the feasibility of operating an ice rink on the site, following on from the petition presented to Council in February 2017 (Minute No. 81, Council 2016/17), determining that it would not be financially sustainable to progress such a development on the site.

Councillor Sarvent, Chair of the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, noted that the activity and progress of the Scrutiny Project Group had been reported on a regular basis to the Committee, to ensure that the Council's Scrutiny Procedures were adhered to.

The Cabinet thanked Councillors Simmons and Sarvent for attending, and noted the hard work and effort of all scrutiny members throughout the process.

The Executive Director, Michael Rich, then presented a report recommending that the Cabinet approves and supports the development of an artificial sports pitch on the site of the former Queen's Park Sports Centre.

It was reported that FMG consultants had been retained to develop a full business case for the preferred option, as set out at Appendix 1 to the officer's report, and prepare a planning application. It was noted that the planning application was expected to be submitted in early 2018.

The Cabinet were advised that a range of internal and external financing arrangements were to be explored, to ensure that the Council achieves the most resource-beneficial outcome.

*** RESOLVED –**

1. That the report and recommendations of the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee be received with thanks, and that the contributions of the Scrutiny Project Group as part of the pre-decision scrutiny process be noted, and their offer of continued engagement during the implementation stage be agreed.
2. That the business case for providing an artificial sports pitch within the footprint of the site of the former Queen's Park sports centre, be endorsed.
3. That the preferred option, as detailed in the business case, be approved in principle noting that this approval will remain subject to the outcome of the heritage assessment that is currently being undertaken.
4. That the work being carried out to prepare and submit a planning application for the preferred option, be noted.

That the Cabinet recommends to the full Council that:

5. Approval be given to the proposed allocation within the capital programme, as set out in Section 7 of the officer's report, to cover the capital investment required for the preferred option and endorse the work underway to reduce costs and maximise contributions from other funding sources.
6. Approval be given to the inclusion of the revised income and expenditure figures for the new facility within the budget setting process for 2018/19 and beyond, in line with the estimates set out in the business case.

REASON FOR DECISION

The recommendations support a preferred option that offers the best mix of enhancing the heritage value of the park whilst also providing new sports facilities that can bring a revenue return to the Council.

93 LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2018/19

The Director of Finance and Resources submitted a report seeking approval for the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19.

It was reported that the proposed scheme being recommended for adoption in 2018/19 was unchanged from 2017/18.

*** RESOLVED –**

That the Cabinet recommends to the full Council that:

1. Approval be given to continue with the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19. The scheme is based on The Council Tax Reduction Scheme England Regulations 2012 amended to reflect the following local decisions concerning the key principles of the scheme:
 - For those of working age the maximum amount of the Local Council Tax that will be eligible for reduction is 91.5 per cent of their Council Tax Liability.
 - The Council continues its policy of disregarding war pensions for the purposes of calculating income in respect of the Council Tax Support scheme.
 - The ‘taper’, i.e. the rate at which support is withdrawn as income increases be maintained at 20 per cent.
2. Delegated powers be granted to the Director of Finance and Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Homes and Customers, to update the Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2018/19, to reflect such up-ratings of premiums, allowances and non-dependent deductions as may be determined by the Department for Work and Pensions, and other minor technical changes which may be required.
3. Approval be given to continue the current local council tax discounts, which were originally implemented in 2013/14.

REASON FOR DECISION

To ensure that the Council is able to continue to operate a localised scheme providing council tax support from April 2018.