

COUNCIL**Wednesday, 12th December, 2018**

Present:-

Councillor Brittain (The Mayor)

Councillors	Bagley	Councillors	Falconer
	P Barr		P Gilby
	Bellamy		T Gilby
	Bingham		Hill
	Blank		Huckle
	Borrell		Ludlow
	Brady		Miles
	Brunt		A Murphy
	Burrows		T Murphy
	Callan		Niblock
	Catt		Rayner
	L Collins		Redihough
	Derbyshire		Rogers
	Dickinson		Sarvent
	A Diouf		Serjeant
	V Diouf		Simmons
	Dyke		Slack
	Elliott		Wall

47 MINUTES**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10 October, 2018 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chair.

48 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor referred to the following Mayoral engagements:

- The laying of wreaths at World War One memorial sites within the Borough in the lead up to Armistice Day, the planting of a tree as a

lasting memorial to the centenary commemorations and the Remembrance Service and wreath laying ceremony in front of the poppy cascade at the Town Hall. He thanked all those involved in the World War One Working Group, particularly the Chair, Councillor Steve Brunt.

- A visit to Wallis Barracks to welcome the 53 Military Intelligence Company, where he had unveiled a plaque in honour of Captain Jack Oldfield who fought in the Intelligence Corps in World War 2 and had this year reached his 104th birthday.
- A tour of the site of the new Premier Inn hotel at the end of November.
- A celebration event at Gussie's Kitchen in St Augustines' Church to acknowledge the fantastic work that the volunteers do in their community bringing together families and individuals to share a hot cooked meal in a friendly atmosphere.
- Switching on the Christmas lights in New Square, accompanied by Paddington Bear and the stars of the pantomime.

He also expressed the Council's thanks to Dr Michael Rich, the Council's Executive Director, for his hard work, dedication and commitment to the Council and the people of Chesterfield over the previous four years following his recent appointment as Chief Executive of the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority.

49 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Barr, Caulfield, Davenport, Flood, Hollingworth, J Innes, P Innes and Perkins.

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

No declarations of interest were received.

51 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

Under Standing Order No. 12, the following question was asked by Paul Stone:

“Do Chesterfield Borough Councillors and the Council agree that it is very important that all parties and individuals taking part in next year's local council elections, regardless of political affiliation and none, can have full faith in the election process and for it to be seen as true and fair, and free of undue influence?”

The Cabinet Member for Governance provided a verbal response to the question.

52 PETITIONS TO COUNCIL

No petitions had been received.

53 QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER

Under Standing Order No.14 Members asked the following questions and received verbal responses to their questions:

- Councillor Rogers asked what arrangements were in place for the collection and recycling of plastic bags;
- Councillor Borrell asked whether there would be any new initiatives in respect of car parking to attract more visitors from within and outside the borough in to the town centre.

54 CHANGE TO ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO POLITICAL GROUPS AND TO MEMBERSHIP OF MEMBER LEVEL COMMITTEES - 2018/19

The Chief Executive reported that he had undertaken a review of the political balance of committees in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, following the notification to him of a change to political groups within the Borough Council, as with effect from 13 November, 2018, Councillor Parsons had advised that he was no longer a member of the Labour Group and wished to be recognised as an Independent member.

The majority political group had also proposed changes to the memberships of the Appeals and Regulatory Committee and the Planning Committee.

RESOLVED –

That the recent changes to the political composition of the Council be noted and that the following changes to the membership of committees as proposed by the political groups be approved:

Appeals and Regulatory Committee

- removal of Councillor Parsons as a majority group member
- addition of Councillor Parsons as an Independent member
- addition of Councillor Elliott as a majority group member to fill the currently vacant seat

Community, Customer and Organisational Scrutiny Committee

- removal of Councillor Parsons as a majority group member
- addition of Councillor Parsons as an Independent member

Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum

- removal of Councillor Parsons as a majority group member
- addition of Councillor D Collins as a majority group member

Planning Committee

- removal of Councillor Elliott as a majority group member
- addition of Councillor Dickinson as a majority group member.

55 ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2017/18

The Cabinet Member for Governance presented the Annual Audit Letter for 2017/18 submitted by KPMG, the Council's external auditors for 2017/18.

The annual audit letter summarised the outcome from the audit of the Council's financial statements and assessment of arrangements to achieve value for money in the use of resources. The letter confirmed that KPMG had issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statements for 2017/18 and an unqualified conclusion on the arrangements to secure value for money for 2017/18 on 30 July, 2018, confirming that the financial statements gave a true and fair view of the Council's financial position and its expenditure and income for the year and that the Council had appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

RESOLVED -

That KPMG's Annual Audit Letter for 2017/18 be received.

56 **QUARTER 2 BUDGET MONITORING 2018/19 & UPDATED MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

Pursuant to Cabinet Minute No.49 the Director of Finance and Resources submitted a report outlining the budget position at the end of the second quarter, covering the General Fund Revenue account, the General Fund Capital Programme and the Housing Revenue account.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Council's financial performance in the first half of the financial year and the new medium term forecast as set out in sections 4 and 6 of the officer's report be noted.
2. That the changes to the medium term forecast outlined in section 4 of the officer's report be approved.
3. That the supplementary estimate for registration of electors detailed at paragraph 4.2.7 of the officer's report be approved.
4. That the proposed use of reserves as set out in section 5 of the officer's report be agreed and the new application of funding in paragraphs 5.2, 5.3 and 5.6 be approved.
5. That the updated capital programme outlined in section 7 of the officer's report be noted.
6. That the additions to the capital programme detailed in paragraph 7.2 of the officer's report be approved.
7. That the position on HRA budgets set out in section 8 of the officer's report be noted.
8. That the indexation of the housing repairs contract from 2017/18 onwards as set out in paragraph 8.1 of the officer's report be approved.
9. That the application for 75% Business Rates Pilot status for 2019/20 as set out in section 9 of the officer's report be noted.

10. That the budget preparation guidelines detailed in paragraph 10.1 of the officer's report be approved.

11. That the approach to budget consultation outlined in paragraph 10.3 of the officer's report be considered.

57 LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2019-20

Pursuant to Cabinet Minute No.71 the Director of Finance and Resources submitted a report seeking approval for the Council Tax Support Scheme to be applied in 2019/20. The report noted that the scheme being recommended for adoption in respect of the next financial year (2019/20) was unchanged from that operated in 2018/19.

RESOLVED –

1. That Council approve the continued operation of a Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20. The scheme was 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 Council Tax that will be eligible for reduction is 91.5% of their full 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%.
2. That delegated powers be granted to the Director of Finance and Resources to update the 2019/20 scheme to reflect such up-ratings of premiums, allowances and non-dependent deductions as may be determined by the Department of Work and Pensions, and for other minor technical changes which may be required.
3. That the current local council tax discounts, which had originally been implemented in 2013/14, as outlined in paragraph 3.4 of the officer's report be continued.

58 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S ALLOCATIONS POLICY

Pursuant to Cabinet Minute No. 50, the Assistant Director – Housing submitted a report to inform members of the feedback from the consultation with current applicants and stakeholders regarding the proposed changes to the Council's Allocations Policy and to seek approval to adopt the Home Options Policy, incorporating local differences for Chesterfield, following feedback from the consultation process.

RESOLVED –

1. That the feedback from the consultation be noted.
2. That the new Home Options Policy be adopted and its implementation be approved, incorporating local differences for Chesterfield.
3. That the Local Lettings Plan, approved in June 2017, be rescinded.
4. That the Assistant Director - Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Homes and Customers be granted delegated authority to make minor operational amendments to the Home Options Policy.

59 CHESTERFIELD GROWTH STRATEGY 2019-2023

Pursuant to Cabinet Minute No. 72, the Assistant Director - Economic Growth submitted a report seeking approval of the Chesterfield Growth Strategy (2019-2023).

RESOLVED –

That the Chesterfield Growth Strategy (2019-2023) be adopted.

60 CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN

Pursuant to Cabinet Minute No. 73, the Strategic Planning and Key Sites Manager submitted a report on the new Chesterfield Borough Local Plan (2018 to 2033). The report provided an update on the results of the consultation on the draft Local Plan and advised members of the

arrangements for formal consultation on the Local Plan prior to its submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination, subject to its approval by Council.

RESOLVED –

1. That based on consideration of the results of the previous stages of consultation and the evidence base, the Chesterfield Borough Local Plan be approved for formal consultation under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)(England) Regulations and for subsequent submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination by an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State.
2. That delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Planning and Key Sites Manager, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and the Assistant Director – Economic Growth, to make minor consequential changes to the plan (that do not materially alter the plan) as may be required to prepare the plan for consultation and subsequent submission.
3. That delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Planning and Key Sites Manager, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and the Assistant Director – Economic Growth, to prepare the technical submission documents required under Regulation 22 (1) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

61 GAMBLING ACT 2005 - STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Pursuant to Licensing Committee Minute No. 2, the Licensing Officer submitted a report seeking approval of the Council's Statement of Principles concerned with the administration of the licensing functions required of the Council under the Gambling Act 2005. In accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 the Statement of Principles was required to be published every three years.

No comments had been received on the draft statement of principles during the period of consultation.

RESOLVED –

That the revised Statement of Principles be approved and published to come in to effect on 31 January, 2019.

62 MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT AND CHARTER

Pursuant to Cabinet Minute No. 70, the Assistant Director – Policy and Communications submitted a report updating members on the approval of the Council’s Modern Slavery Statement for 2019/20 and seeking approval for the Council to sign up to the Co-operative Party Charter against Modern Slavery.

RESOLVED –

That Chesterfield Borough Council sign up to the Co-operative Party Charter against Modern Slavery and work towards its implementation.

63 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the following Committees be noted:-

- Appeals and Regulatory Committee of 26 September (two meetings), 10 (two meetings), 17, 24 and 31 October and 7, 14 and 21 November, 2018;
- Employment and General Committee of 12 November, 2018;
- Licensing Committee of 24 October, 2018;
- Planning Committee of 29 October and 19 November, 2018;
- Standards and Audit Committee of 26 September, 2018.

64 MINUTES OF CABINET

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meetings of Cabinet of 2 and 23 October and 13 November, 2018 be noted.

65 MINUTES OF THE JOINT CABINET AND EMPLOYMENT AND

GENERAL COMMITTEE**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Joint Cabinet and Employment and General Committee of 2 and 23 October, 2018 be noted.

66 MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY FORUM**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum of 11 September, 2018 be approved.

67 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY, CUSTOMER AND ORGANISATIONAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Community, Customer and Organisational Scrutiny Committee of 2 October, 2018 be approved.

68 MINUTES OF THE ENTERPRISE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee of 25 September, 2018 be approved.

69 QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 19

No questions had been submitted.