

## **EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet held in a virtual environment on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

### **Present:**

Councillors D Goodfellow (Chairman), G Allen, E W R Barker, R A Faulkner and B R Peters.

### **Officers Present:**

The Chief Executive, the Heads of Service (Sal Khan and Mark Rizk), the Monitoring Officer, the Enterprise Manager (min no 69/20 only) and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

### **Also Present:**

Councillors Mrs B Ashcroft and S McGarry.

## **PART II**

### 64/20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations at the commencement of the meeting.

### 65/20 **MINUTES**

#### **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 be approved as a correct record.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
Councillor D Goodfellow		Councillor E W R Barker
Councillor G Allen		Councillor B G Peters
Councillor R A Faulkner		

### 66/20 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business submitted to the meeting pursuant to Rule 12.

67/20 **FORWARD PLAN**

The Forward Plan for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020 was submitted for information.

The Leader placed on record his thanks to all Council staff for all of their hard work in maintaining Council Services during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**NOTED.**

68/20 **SCRUTINY REVIEW OF DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS**

The report of the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services Scrutiny) Committee on the scrutiny review of Disabled Facilities Grants was considered. The following appendices had been circulated with the report:

- Appendix 1: Disabled Facilities Grants and Adaptations Policy 2018;
- Appendix 2: Proposed Internal Audit Report;
- Appendix 3: Disabled Facilities Grant Scheme

It was proposed and duly seconded:

- that recommendation 7.1 not be accepted;
- that recommendation 7.2 be accepted;
- that recommendation 7.3 not be accepted;
- that recommendation 7.4 be amended to read “a summary quarterly and a detailed 6 monthly report be provided by the Environmental Health Manager to the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee”;
- that recommendation 7.5 be amended to read “to undertake a follow up of the DFG Scrutiny review following the review in December 2020 (Corporate Pan Target EHW24 refers)”

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
Councillor D Goodfellow		
Councillor G Allen		
Councillor E W R Barker		
Councillor R A Faulkner		
Councillor B G Peters		

69/20 **WASHLANDS ENHANCEMENT PROJECT BUSINESS CASE AND MASTERPLAN**

The report of the Chief Executive (Andy O'Brien) on the final business case and masterplan for the Washlands Enhancement project was considered.

The following appendices had been circulated with the report:

- Appendix 1: Masterplan
- Appendix 2: Specification
- Appendix 3: Costings
- Appendix 4: Risk Register

Cabinet noted that the proposals incorporated a range of environmental improvements through hard and soft landscaping, changing the landscape, and formation of water concepts and also included proposals for significantly enhancing the play area, introducing new lighting and street furniture, and generally creating a more attractive public realm space. The proposed project would provide new street furniture, improved pathways (to Sustrans minimum standards) and amenity enhancements linked to environmental enhancement, which would involve the utilisation of the current occasional wet area of mown grassland, to turn it into amenity wetland incorporating wild play. The result would be to increase the offer that Burton had for residents and visitors' thus potentially increasing visitor numbers.

The total project cost would be £1,931,326.10, which was made up of £1,819,333.60 in capital works and £111,922.50 in revenue maintenance, for which there was already a provision in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The project had already been allocated funding from the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) of £1m, leaving £931,326.10 to be funded by the Council. The Council had provisionally allocated £1,050,000 to the project and allocating the full £1,050,000 would enable the project to have a 15% contingency budget, which was in line with other recent regeneration works, specifically the Station Street project.

The reasons for making the decision below were set out in the report.

**Resolved:**

- 1) That the final business case and masterplan for the Washlands Enhancement Project be approved on the basis that the project move forward to delivery with a budget of £2.05m (£1.0m GBSLEP, £1.05m ESBC);
- 2) That the proposed works to the Garden of Remembrance be put on hold until the end of the project, with any future delivery decisions being delegated to the Deputy Leader (Regeneration & Planning Policy), as per section 8 of this report,
- 3) That the project be delivered as a two phased approach, as detailed by section 9 of this report;
- 4) That Cabinet take on board the feedback from the Washlands Member Working Group as detailed section 12 and that the group continue to inform the advice that Officers provide to the Deputy Leader (Regeneration & Planning Policy) on necessary decisions needed to

be taken during delivery of the Washlands Enhancement project, for the Deputy Leader to be responsible for the taking of those decisions.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

<b>Those voting for the motion</b>	<b>Those voting against</b>	<b>Those abstaining</b>
Councillor D Goodfellow		
Councillor G Allen		
Councillor E W R Barker		
Councillor R A Faulkner		
Councillor B G Peters		

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### **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

#### **Resolved:**

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

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Chairman