

	<p>a. Items on the agenda – there were none</p> <p>b. Items not on the agenda – there were none</p>	
5	<p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes for the Cabinet meeting held on 7 March 2016 were agreed as a correct record of proceedings subject to the following amendment:</p> <p>Page 6, Item 8, Performance Management Report Quarter 3 2015/16 as at 31 December 2015 which was previously, “Pepper Potting” – spreading affordable housing around the district’, to read, “Pepper Potting” – spreading affordable housing within development’.</p> <p>Confidential updates to actions arising from Page 10, Item 15, Irrecoverable Arrears – National Non Domestic Business Rates were circulated.</p>	<p>Caroline McCafferty</p>
6	<p>2016/17 Fees and Charges</p> <p>Councillor John Parham, Portfolio Holder for Economic Development presented a report which set out the proposed fees and charges for 2016/17 which were to be implemented immediately. Appendix A to the report provided the detail of the charges and highlighted any changes from 2015/16.</p> <p>The following minor amendments were made to the report: Paragraph 11 (page 4/14) – correct cemetery fees to burial fees Appendix A (page 7/17) – note Street Trading is also out to consultation.</p> <p>During the discussion which followed, Councillor Terry Napper raised concerns over the timeframe for processing applications for Street Trading and whether this should have been implemented in stages. Councillor John Parham agreed that the area of Street Trading was very complex but that the Council would need to have a scale of charges in place for when the Street Trading Policy was introduced.</p> <p>Councillor Bente Height then asked when the Street Trading Policy would come into place as this had been discussed last year. Councillor Tom Killen assured Members that they would be kept updated.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>Cabinet resolved to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reinforce its commitment to, and robustly apply, the policy of setting fees and charges on the basis of full cost recovery as outlined in paragraph 5 of the Policy. 2. Note that the Licensing Board have proposed the licensing fees 	

	<p>set out in the report. These proposed fees were subject to public consultation and approval by the Licensing Board in due course.</p> <p>3. Note that if the Licensing Board varied the licensing fees set out in this report, that delegated authority be given to the Section 151 Officer and the relevant Portfolio Holder to increase / decrease the fees in the fees and charges framework.</p> <p>REASONS FOR THE RESOLUTION</p> <p>To set the fees and charges for the 2016/17 financial year.</p>	
7	<p>Frome Neighbourhood Plan – Advancement to Referendum</p> <p>Councillor Nigel Woollcombe-Adams presented a report which stated that Frome Town Council had prepared and submitted a Neighbourhood Plan for Frome (the Plan), in line with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The District Council had arranged an independent examination of the Plan and was in receipt of the Examiner’s Report.</p> <p>The Report concluded that the Plan, as modified in line with the Examiner’s recommendations, should proceed to referendum.</p> <p>The District Council had to decide what action to take in response to the recommendations, and determine whether or not the Plan should proceed to referendum. It should also determine the extent of the referendum area.</p> <p>Officers were in agreement with the findings and proposed modifications of the Examiner and recommended that the Plan proceed to referendum as proposed. The Examiner also concluded that there was no reason to alter or extend the referendum area beyond the Neighbourhood Plan area, and in light of this it was proposed that the referendum area conform to the designated Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>During the discussion which followed, Members of Mendip Council and Frome Town Council expressed disappointment that the Examiner had ‘watered down’ some aspects of the proposal. It was felt important by Members to have a recognised Neighbourhood Plan and the work put in by Councillors and Officers was congratulated.</p> <p>Councillor Philip Ham asked what numbers would be necessary from the referendum to pass the Neighbourhood Plan. Natasha Durham clarified that this would be more than 50% of the voting turnout.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>1. That the Neighbourhood Plan for Frome as modified by the</p>	Natasha Durham

	<p>Examiner, should proceed to referendum.</p> <p>2. That the referendum area correspond to the designated Neighbourhood Plan area for Frome.</p> <p>REASONS FOR THE RESOLUTION</p> <p>This fulfilled the Authority's statutory duty in relation to supporting neighbourhood plans and ensured that the Plan met the basic conditions and legal requirements of a Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	
8	<p>Business Rates in the Mendip Enterprise Area Discretionary Relief for Major Business Investment.</p> <p>Councillor Tom Killen, Deputy Leader of the Council introduced a policy which set the eligibility criteria for awarding discretionary rate relief for certain businesses in Mendip's designated Enterprise Area at the Bath and West Showground, and for other major business investments.</p> <p>During the discussion which followed Councillor John Parham noted that this was only the second Enterprise Area proposed by a District Council in the South West.</p> <p>Members agreed that it was good that rate relief was also applicable across the District in addition to the Enterprise Area which would encourage business and make a significant impact on jobs. It was felt that in order to maintain the balance of population, young families would need to be encouraged to work in the District.</p> <p>Concerns were raised with respect to engaging the hierarchy at the Bath and West showground to fully understand the implications of the Enterprise Area. It was confirmed that Councillors and Officers were working hard in this area to encourage development. Councillor John Parham stated that he had spoken to the Local Action Group who could provide funding for small business start up, and that a proposal had been passed for a food development unit within the Enterprise Area.</p> <p>Councillor Simon Davies requested that the Somerset Chamber of Commerce be fully briefed on the rate relief in order to have a thorough understanding to encourage business.</p> <p>The inconsistencies with business rates nationally and the need for reform was noted by Members.</p> <p>Councillor Philip Ham requested clarification of the Equalities Implications on Page 2 of the report.</p> <p>One Member was concerned that the appearance of some of existing industrial units in Glastonbury needed to be improved in order to encourage new businesses to move to Glastonbury. The Deputy Leader of the Council said that individual concerns should be raised directly with the relevant Portfolio Holder.</p>	Paul Deal

RESOLVED

Cabinet endorsed the following recommendations:

- Approve the policy to provide discretionary business rate relief for eligible businesses as set out in the report.
- Approve the policy conditions and eligibility criteria for awarding the relief as described in paragraphs 17 – 21 of the report.
- Approve the right to review the policy should a change in legislation involve the Council in additional cost and to note that the policy will, in any case, be reviewed after three years of operation.
- Approve the need for the Council to cover the government ‘tariff’ charge on any business rate relief provided.
- Note the temporary forfeiture of future potential business rates income as an investment for the future.

REASONS FOR THE RESOLUTION

This was a new way of trying to encourage business growth in Mendip. Business Rates liability could be a key factor in determining whether or not a business started up, expanded or moved into Mendip. The relief was focussed on businesses that Mendip wanted to support and helped in a significant financial way. Although the focus was on the Enterprise Area, there was scope for business development elsewhere in Mendip to have received some discretionary relief. Overall it was considered that this could act as a catalyst for other businesses to grow and expand in Mendip as part of the corporate priority to support business development and growth.

This policy was transparent and provided a simple to access mechanism for businesses which considered investment in Mendip, to have received this element of discretionary relief on their business rates and assisted them to develop and grow their businesses in Mendip.

9

Member Development Activity During 2015-2016 and Member Development for 2016-17.

Councillor Peter Bradshaw, the Chairman of the Member Development Group introduced a report which provided an update on Member Development Activity during 2015-16 and Member Development for 2016 -17 which assisted in the delivery of the Council’s priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan.

The report recommended Members suggest any additional areas for inclusion in the programme.

During the discussion which followed Councillor Roy Mackenzie stated

Claire Dicken

	<p>that Media Training should be available to all. He suggested that distance learning could be made available to engage further participants which would increase the percentage of Councillors attending training.</p> <p>Councillor John Parham stated that the benefits of training could be seen in the quality of the decision making at the Council, which was second to none.</p> <p>Councillor Helen Sprawson-White stated that she and Councillor Peter Bradshaw had met in their roles as Mental Health Champions, and that they felt it was important to include training on mental health issues and how to facilitate access to services for this vulnerable section of society.</p> <p>Members felt that Parish Councils would benefit from Planning Training so that they might have an understanding of planning issues and be able to manage the expectations of their residents whilst still maintaining a broad opinion.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That Cabinet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the outcomes following Member Development activity during 2015-16 • Suggested topics for inclusion in the Member Development Programme 2016-17 <p>REASON FOR RESOLUTION</p> <p>This enabled Councillors to have opportunities to update their knowledge and learn new skills, and enabled them to play an effective role in delivering the priorities for the Council.</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA)</p> <p>Councillor Philip Ham, Joint Portfolio Holder for Services and Corporate Finance presented a report which stated that the Office of the Surveillance Commissioner (OSC) was responsible for RIPA compliance, and the Commissioner reported annually to Parliament on the use of the powers by the police, security services and authorised public bodies including local government.</p> <p>The Council was subject to audit inspections every three years by an Assistant Surveillance Commissioner. An audit took place on 5 November 2015 and the Commissioner's report and recommendations had been received.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>To:</p>	<p>Lesley Dolan</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report of His Honour Norman Jones QC, Assistant Surveillance Commissioner and the five recommendations. In particular, recommendation 4 in connection with updating the Council's Corporate Policies and Procedures on RIPA, which was set out in more detail at paragraphs 25 and 28 of the report. Recommend to Council that the amended Corporate Policies and Procedures on RIPA as set out at Appendix 2 of the report be adopted with immediate effect. 	
11	<p>Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.</p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Services and Corporate Finance introduced a report which sought approval to implement the use of tools and powers as provided by the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") and to seek delegated authority under the Council's Scheme of Delegation of Functions to Officers for the Corporate Manager, Regulatory Services to be able to issue Community Protection Notices/Order (CPNs) in appropriate circumstances.</p> <p>OPTIONS CONSIDERED</p> <p>Option A – do nothing. This would mean that enforcement powers granted by the Act could not be invoked within the District.</p> <p>Option B – seek approval to implement the new tools and powers contained within the Act so that where appropriate enforcement powers granted by the Act could be acted upon.</p> <p>During the discussion which followed, members raised various issues including alcohol consumption in public, dogs not on leads and dog fouling, all of which which could be covered by this legislation.</p> <p>Councillor Terry Napper read out a letter from a member of the public with reference to an ongoing noise nuisance in his Ward. He was advised to discuss this issue with the relevant Officer outside of the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>To:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the new tools and powers granted by the Act. Recommend to Council that the new tools and powers (with the exception of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) which has already been considered by Cabinet) be implemented. To delegate to the Corporate Manager, Regulatory Services authority to issue Community Protection Notices and to 	Lesley Dolan

	<p>recommend that the Scheme of Delegation of Functions to Officers be updated accordingly.</p> <p>REASONS FOR THE RESOLUTION</p> <p>This enabled the new tools and powers contained within the Act to be utilised throughout the District.</p>	
12	<p>Portfolio Holder Decisions</p> <p>Cabinet noted two recent Portfolio Holder Decisions.</p> <p>DECISION 1 – SHEPTON MALLET LIDO A Capital Investment was agreed, of £76,279 to Fusion Lifestyle, with a depreciation period of 5 years, for specialist repairs to the pool structure of Shepton Mallet Lido.</p> <p>REASON FOR THE DECISION This enabled identified investment for the improvement of the important community facility to be undertaken in time for the seasonal opening.</p> <p>This gave an opportunity for Fusion’s operating plans to properly stabilise, which gave opportunities for further investment to be considered over the following 5 years.</p> <p>DECISION 2 – ELIM DIRECT ACCESS COMMUNITY PROJECT A maximum grant funding of £100, 000 was awarded to deliver the Rough Sleeper Direct Access Community (DAC) project 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.</p> <p>REASON FOR THE DECISION To continue to offer a direct access provision for rough sleepers.</p>	
13	<p>Forward Plan</p> <p>Cabinet noted the forward plan.</p>	
14	<p>Minutes for Information</p> <p>The following minutes were noted:</p> <p>Draft Audit Committee Minutes 23 March 2016 Draft Scrutiny Board Minutes 21 March 2016 Draft Wells Recreation Ground Trust Committee Minutes 24 November 2015</p>	
15	<p>Urgent Business</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Members noted that the confidential update circulated at the beginning</p>	

	of the meeting with regard to irrecoverable arrears would be actioned as discussed at the previous meeting.	
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The meeting closed at approximately 8.05 pm.

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