

## MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on Monday, 9 October 2017 in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Shepton Mallet commencing at 6.30 pm.

### COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Philip Ham	Portfolio Holder for Transformation
Tom Killen	Vice Chair of Cabinet and Deputy Leader of the Council
John Parham	Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Corporate Services
Nigel Taylor	Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood and Community Health Services
Nigel Woollcombe-Adams	Portfolio Holder for Planning, Growth and Housing Services

### ASSISTANT PORTFOLIO HOLDERS PRESENT:

Councillors Joanna Beale, Simon Davies, Linda Oliver, Mike Pullin

### OTHER COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Councillors Bryan Beha, Adam Boyden, Peter Bradshaw, John Carter, Rachel Carter, Bente Height, Roy Mackenzie, John Osman, Danny Unwin and Ros Wyke

### OFFICERS PRESENT:

Tracy Aarons	Deputy Chief Executive
Stuart Brown	Chief Executive
Claire Dicken	Committee Officer
Claire Malcolmson	Group Manager Community Health
Jane Sharp	Shape Mendip Project and Improvement Officer
Sara Skirton	Group Manager Corporate Services
Judi Thompson	Community Safety Project Officer

Agenda Item	Subject	Actioned by
1	<b>Chair's Announcements</b>  The Chair explained the procedures in the case of an emergency and asked that all mobile devices be switched to silent.	
2	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>  Councillor Harvey Siggs, Chair of Cabinet and Leader of the Council. Also Councillor Tim Rice, Assistant Portfolio Holder.	

3	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>None</p>	
4	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p>a. <b>Items on the agenda:</b> – none</p> <p>b. <b>Items not on the agenda:</b> – none</p>	
5	<p><b>Previous Minutes</b></p> <p>The minutes for the Cabinet meeting held on 11 September 2017 were agreed subject to the suggested changes in the updating sheets.</p>	<p><b>Claire Dicken</b></p>
	<p><b>The Vice Chair altered the order of the items as follows:</b></p>	
9	<p><b>Changing Places</b></p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Transformation presented a report which stated that Full Council was supportive of the Changing Places initiative and had previously agreed to look into ways of having a facility in each of Mendip’s five towns. He thanked the community that had brought the need for changing places to the Council’s attention. Possible locations had been explored in liaison with the Town Councils, the user group and other partners.</p> <p>This report was an update on progress and set out the next steps.</p> <p>The report went on to state that Wells City Council was keen to have a Changing Places facility in Wells and had identified a suitable room at the Town Hall. This would be a refurbishment and no new build is required.</p> <p>In Frome a possible location was an existing store room (originally built for the Shopmobility initiative) within Mendip’s toilet block in the Cattle Market car park. Currently, this room was used to store the Council’s market gazebos. A condition of agreeing this location would be finding alternative storage for the gazebos.</p> <p>The costs and funding packages for each of these were set out in the report and accompanying updating sheets.</p> <p>During the discussion that followed Members welcomed the project and noted the ideas for funding the gap in costs.</p>	<p><b>Jane Sharp</b></p>

	<p>Councillor Philip Ham proposed that the recommendations in the report, including the funding, be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Nigel Taylor. The proposal was carried unanimously.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p> <p>To note progress that had been made and endorse the recommendations of the Member Equalities Steering Group, which were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the suggested location for a Frome facility be progressed subject to finding alternative storage for the market gazebos;</li> <li>2. That the Council agrees to take on the on-going commissioning of a Frome Changing Places facility. The Council is committed to funding £3,000 per annum for maintenance of the facility;</li> <li>3. That the available Section 106 money for Frome be used to part-fund the proposed Changing Places facility. The Council is committed to £8,500 towards the facility; and,</li> <li>4. That the Council makes a contribution to Wells City Council for the proposed facility at Wells Town Hall. The Council is committed to £6,000 towards the facility.</li> <li>5. That the Council consider making a contribution to the Frome facility and approach potential match funders. The Council is committed to a minimum of £1,500 towards meeting the funding gap.</li> </ol> <p><b>Reasons for the resolution</b></p> <p>By working with willing partners and utilising available funding, this resolution would deliver two facilities in the district within a short timescale making a dramatic difference to the lives of people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, as well others with disabilities that severely limit mobility.</p>	
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Economic Development Update</b></p> <p>The Deputy Leader of the Council updated Cabinet with regard to recent economic development in the district.</p> <p>The Economic Development Team was continuing to establish Local Economic Partnerships for each town in the district. These groups would ensure a better economic focus for the area. The Deputy Leader explained the makeup of the groups.</p> <p>Meanwhile across the district, the Wells Technology Hub hoped to start operating soon and Street Business Park and Frome Commerce Park were each opening new units.</p>	<p><b>Jenny Pitcher</b></p>

	<p>Wild Beer Brewery had submitted a planning application for its proposed premises at the Bath and West Showground.</p> <p>Forthcoming events included a Mendip Business Exchange event on Wednesday, 8 November at Strode College and the Heart of the South West LEP's annual conference on 10 November.</p> <p>During the discussion that followed Members welcomed the report. One member added that Gigiclear, the internet provider, would be setting up a number of additional communities this week.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p> <p>To note the report.</p>	
7	<p><b>Corporate Performance Management Report Quarter 1 Plus 2017/18</b></p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Corporate Services presented a report which showed the high level actions and projects that would support the delivery of the Council's new Corporate Strategy 2017-20 Shape the District. A status update had been provided for those actions and projects that were already live.</p> <p>Additionally, the report provided performance information in relation to corporate complaints and praise, Freedom of Information (FOI) and Data Protection Act (DPA) requests, Finance and Human Resources (HR) statistics for Quarter 1 2017/18.</p> <p>He explained that each of the projects that were marked as "amber", were so because each of these projects was either in its early stages or long term pieces of work.</p> <p>Members were asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and comment on the information contained within the report</li> <li>• Consider and comment on the format of the report and levels of detail provided</li> <li>• Identify any issues or performance exceptions that the committee wished to highlight as a concern</li> <li>• Where performance exceptions were identified consider whether the proposed actions were adequate to improve performance to the desired level and take actions to address concerns as appropriate.</li> </ul>	Sara Skirton

	<p>The Group Manager explained that this was the first report measured against the Council’s new Corporate Strategy.</p> <p>One of the Assistant Portfolio Holders explained that in an effort to save on printing and postage a number of Councillors would be piloting mod.gov software. Members were keen that this project be inclusive so that all Councillors were able to use the technology.</p> <p>There was a discussion about sickness levels. The incidents of sickness were across all of the departments. However, there were a number of individuals who were on long term sick. These cases were being constantly monitored and the individuals involved supported in their return to work.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b></p> <p>To note the report. Where performance exceptions were identified, the proposed actions were considered adequate to improve performance to the desired level.</p>	
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs)</b></p> <p>The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood and Community Health Services presented a report, the purpose of which was to seek approval of the proposed Public Space Protection Order which was in accordance with local authority powers under the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) within the provisions of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.</p> <p>The report asked Members to note the results of the feedback from the public and stakeholder consultation with regard to Public Space Protection Orders</p> <p><b>Options Considered</b></p> <p>Given the existing Designated Public Protection Orders would expire Autumn 2017 and on the basis they should be renewed with Public Space Protection Orders the Council had some options;</p> <p><b>Option A</b> - do nothing, although not taking the required steps to review existing Designated Public Protection Orders and not exercising the authority’s power to use the Public Space Protection Orders would leave the Council and our Police partners with limited powers to tackle anti-social behaviour within our communities.</p>	<p><b>Judi Thompson</b></p>

**Option B** – do nothing, but all the existing Designated Protection Orders automatically transfer to a Public Space Protection Order. However, the Council would be required to replace all existing signage and notify the public and Police of the changes and would not improve the complicated area maps where enforcement was allowable.

In response to queries the Officer explained the extent of the consultation which had taken place. This had been very thorough including good use of the parishes and twitter.

Members agreed that any new signage would have to be very clear. The Portfolio Holder explained that only badly behaved dogs would be asked by authorised officers to be put on a lead in most places.

The Portfolio Holder further confirmed that it was a possibility that contractors would be engaged to enforce the Public Space Protection Orders.

Members congratulated the Officers in getting this piece of new legislation to this stage on time. It was noted that enforcement would need to be looked at in due course.

## **RESOLVED**

1. To approve the formal making of a Public Space Protection Order for the whole of the Mendip District in respect of;
  - Failure to remove dog faeces
  - Failure to put dogs on a lead as directed by an authorised officer
  - Failure to stop consuming intoxicating substances when directed by an authorised officer (replace existing DPPOs)
  - Failure to surrender intoxicating substances when directed by an authorised officer (replace existing DPPO).
2. To approve the making of a formal Public Space Protection Order which relates to all Council owned, under 5's, play areas namely;
  - Not to allow a dog within a play area for mainly under 5's
3. To evaluate the impact of introducing Public Space Protection Orders when reviewing consideration of extending or varying orders. In this regard a further report will be brought back to Cabinet for consideration.

	<p>4. To note that the Dog control Orders previously made by Frome Town Council in respect of Mary Baily, North Parade, Rodden Meadow, Welshmill, The Dippy, Weylands and New Road would automatically be transposed into Public Space Protection Orders on 20 October 2017.</p> <p><b>Reasons for the resolution</b></p> <p>To enable the Council to implement Public Space Protection Orders within Mendip to try to improve the quality of life of visitors and residents and to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from particular nuisance and anti-social behaviour.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Portfolio Holder Decisions</b></p> <p>The following recent Portfolio Holder decisions were noted.</p> <p>2017 283 – Wells Christmas Market</p>	
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Forward Plan</b></p> <p>The Council's Forward Plan was noted.</p>	
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Minutes for Information</b></p> <p>There were no minutes for information on this occasion.</p>	
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Urgent Business</b></p> <p>None</p>	

The meeting closed at approximately 7.45 pm.