

# MINUTES OF COUNCIL

10 JULY 2024

## PRESENT:

The Mayor (Councillor Ward), Councillors Barnett, Bennett, Brown, Daly, Dumbleton, C Edwards, Freeman, Gillias, Harrington, Hassell, Henderson, Karadiar, D Keeling, J Keeling, Lawrence, Lewis, Livesey, Maoudis, McKenzie, Mistry, Moran, New, O'Rourke, Picker, Poole, Robinson, Roodhouse, Russell, Sandison, Sayani, Simpson-Vince, Thomas, Timms, Trimble and Willis.

## 15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors S Edwards, Garcia, Howling, Parker, Slinger and Srivastava.

## 16. MINUTES

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 5 June 2024 were approved and signed by the Mayor.

## 17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 6(a)(1) – Natural Capital Investment Strategy – Councillor Timms (non-pecuniary interest as defined by being the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Climate and Culture at Warwickshire County Council).

Item 7(f) – Urgent Decision – Armed Forces Covenant - Councillor Picker (non-pecuniary interest as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for being a member and Standard Bearer for the Hillmorton Branch of the Royal British Legion).

## 18. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (a) The Mayor announced he had the pleasure of meeting his cadet, Alessia Fracchia, who is a Royal Air Force Cadet Sergeant from the 29th squadron.
- (b) The recent OurJay Foundation festival and family fun day had been a huge success. The Mayor thanked everyone who had supported the event including the volunteers who gave up their time to help. Dan Sambell from BBC CWR provided some promotion work on the radio as part of his summer of trying out different sports. An incredible £23,498 was raised from the day which will go towards funding more 24/7 accessible defibrillators.
- (c) The Mayor will be arranging the first regular charity networking meeting to be held at the Town Hall. The Mayor asked that Members share this information with any local charities that might benefit from networking meetings and ask them to get in touch through the mayor's email address.

The Mayor reminded everyone that they may keep up to date with mayoral engagements by following his Facebook and Instagram pages.

**19. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10**

There were no questions.

**20. REPORT OF CABINET – 1 JULY 2024**

**RESOLVED THAT** – the report of Cabinet be confirmed and adopted.

**21. REPORT OF OFFICERS**

**(a) Appointment of Cabinet and shadow spokespersons 2024/25**

Council considered the report of the Chief Executive (Part 1 – agenda item 7(a)) concerning the appointment of Cabinet and shadow spokespersons for 2024/25.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the membership of Cabinet and shadow spokespersons for 2024/25, as detailed in the report, be noted.

**(b) Adoption of the Shopfronts Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

Council considered the report of the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment (Part 1 – agenda item 7(b)) concerning the adoption of the Shopfronts Design Guide SPD.

**RESOLVED THAT** –

- (1) the Shopfronts Design Guide SPD be adopted; and
- (2) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment to make minor amendments as necessary following adoption and prior to it being published.

**(c) UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Update**

Council considered the report of the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment (Part 1 – agenda item 7(c)) concerning an update on the UKSPF spend.

**RESOLVED THAT** –

- (1) the update in respect of UK Shared Prosperity Fund spend as of 31 March 2024 and the associated project progress be noted; and
- (2) the Pytchley Road path improvements scheme be added to the 2024/25 General Fund capital programme. This will be funded using underspends

from other UKSPF capital schemes. It is therefore requested that a virement of £0.021m (as detailed in 3.3 Table 2) be approved.

**(d) Scrutiny Review**

Council considered the report of the Chief Officer for Legal and Governance (Part 1 – agenda item 7(d)) concerning a review of the scrutiny function.

**RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the contents of the CfGS review as attached at Appendix 1 be noted; and
- (2) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Officer for Legal and Governance to co-ordinate cross party workshops to formulate an action plan to be considered by Scrutiny Committee.

**(e) Caldecott Park Tennis Courts funding**

Council considered the report of the Chief Officer for Leisure and Wellbeing (Part 1 – agenda item 7(e)) concerning funding for the improvement of the Caldecott Park Tennis Courts.

**RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) to enter into a legal agreement with the Lawn Tennis Association to accept the grant award; and
- (2) a supplementary capital budget of £73,850 be established and to be funded wholly by a Lawn Tennis Association grant award and section 106 funding ringfenced for Caldecott Park outdoor sports provision be approved.

**(f) Urgent Decision - Armed Forces Covenant**

Council considered the report of the Chief Officer for Legal and Governance (Part 1 – agenda item 7(f)) concerning an urgent decision taken under delegated powers.

**RESOLVED THAT – the report be noted**

**(g) Urgent Decisions – Annual Report 2023-24**

Council considered the report of the Chief Officer for Legal and Governance (Part 1 – agenda item 7(g)) concerning the annual report of urgent decisions for 2023-24.

**RESOLVED THAT – the summary of urgent decisions taken during 2023-2024, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be noted.**

### **(h) Designation of Streets**

Council considered the report of the Chief Officer for Regulation and Safety (Part 1 – agenda item 7(h)) concerning the designation of streets.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the Council designates all streets in the borough as consent streets with the exception of the Market Place, Town Centre; Sheep Street, Town Centre; High Street, Town Centre which the Council designates as licence streets.

### **(i) Low Carbon Skills Fund Proposals**

Council considered the report of the Chief Officer for Community and Safety (Part 1 – agenda item 7(i)) concerning the Low Carbon Skills Fund proposals.

#### **RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer of Communities and Homes, in consultation with the Chief Officer of Legal and Governance to accept the grant, of £58,300, subject to satisfactory terms and conditions, to complete activities as summarised in section 4.3 of this report;
- (2) a supplementary revenue budget of £58,300 be established for 2024/25 for the progress of the project, to be funded wholly by the resulting grant allocation;
- (3) however, if by 31 October 2024, no suitable alternative grant funding opportunity has been identified to progress the feasibility and design works then a supplementary revenue budget of £58,300 be established, utilising the Climate Emergency Reserve; and
- (4) regular updates on the progress of the feasibility and design programme of works, including risks, be provided to the Climate Emergency Working Group.

## **22. NOTICES OF MOTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 11**

Councillor Sandison informed the Council that he wished to withdraw the motion which had been given under Standing Order 11. This would allow time to pursue alternative solutions for the future of the historic section of the Hospital of St Cross and the motion topic would possibly be brought back to a future meeting.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the motion be withdrawn.

**MAYOR**