

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

Wednesday, 8th October, 2014

Present: Cllr N J Heslop (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J A Anderson, Cllr J A L Balcombe, Cllr M A Coffin, Cllr B J Luker, Cllr Mrs S Murray and Cllr M R Rhodes

Councillors O C Baldock, M A C Balfour, T Bishop, P F Bolt, A K Sullivan and R Taylor were also present pursuant to Access to Information Rule No 22.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs M F Heslop

PART 1 - PUBLIC

CB 14/64 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor M Coffin declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the item on Council Tax Discounts on the grounds of being a landlord of residential and commercial property in the Borough and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of that item.

CB 14/65 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 25 June 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL

CB 14/66 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR REVIEW 2014/15

The report of the Director of Finance and Transformation advised that a report detailing treasury management activity undertaken during the period April to August of the current financial year had been considered by the Audit Committee on 6 October 2014. The action taken by officers had been commended for endorsement together with the retention of the current risk parameters and the change in management responsibility for the Council's core fund investments noted.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) the action taken by officers in respect of treasury management activity for the period April to August 2014 be endorsed;
- (2) the transfer of responsibility for core fund investments to In-house management with effect from 1 August 2014 be noted; and

- (3) the existing parameters intended to limit the Council's exposure to investment risks be retained.

***Referred to Council**

CB 14/67 COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS

Item FP 14/59 referred from Finance, Innovation and Property Advisory Board minutes of 24 September 2014

The Cabinet received the recommendations of the Finance, Innovation and Property Advisory Board at its meeting on 24 September 2014 regarding the outcome of consultation on possible changes to certain council tax discounts from 1 April 2015.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) the period of 100% discount for vacant and unfurnished properties be reduced from three months to two months with effect from 1 April 2015;
- (2) the current twelve months discount for uninhabitable properties and those undergoing repair be retained at 100% from 1 April 2015;
- (3) a premium of 50% be charged on properties that have been empty for longer than two years with effect from 1 April 2015.

*** Referred to Council**

DECISIONS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 4, PART 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION

CB 14/68 FUTURE GAS AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACTS

Decision Notice D140118CAB

CB 14/69 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH PARISH COUNCILS 2015/16

Item FIP14/56 referred from Finance, Innovation and Property Advisory Board minutes of 24 September 2014

Decision Notice D140119CAB

CB 14/70 CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE

Decision Notice D140120CAB

In considering the next steps, the Chief Executive outlined the framework encompassing a number of work strands to be considered in bringing forward the transformation agenda.

CB 14/71 COLLECTIVE ENERGY SWITCHING

Decision Notice D140121CAB

CB 14/72 BUSINESS RATE POOLING

Decision Notice D140122CAB

MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION**CB 14/73 MATTERS REFERRED FROM ADVISORY BOARDS**

The notes of the meetings of the following Advisory Boards were received, any recommendations contained therein being incorporated within the decisions of the Cabinet reproduced at the annex to these Minutes.

Finance, Innovation and Property Advisory Board of 23 July 2014
Local Environmental Management Advisory Board of 2 September 2014
Economic Regeneration Advisory Board of 3 September 2014
Leisure and Arts Advisory Board of 15 September 2014
Communities and Health Advisory Board of 23 September 2014
Finance, Innovation and Property Advisory Board of 24 September 2014

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

CB 14/74 MATTERS REFERRED FROM ADVISORY PANELS AND OTHER GROUPS

The Minutes of the meetings of the following Advisory Panels and other Groups were received, any recommendations contained therein being incorporated within the decisions of the Cabinet reproduced at the annex to these Minutes.

Tonbridge Forum of 30 June 2014
Parish Partnership Panel of 4 September 2014
Tonbridge Forum of 8 September 2014
Joint Transportation Board of 22 September 2014

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

CB 14/75 LOCAL INDICATORS 2014/15

The Director of Central Services presented the results for the first quarter of the current financial year for those local indicators that were monitored regularly.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

CB 14/76 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman moved, it was seconded and

RESOLVED: That as public discussion would disclose exempt information, the following matters be considered in private.

**DECISIONS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 4,
PART 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION****CB 14/77 GROUND MAINTENANCE SERVICES - RETENDERING OF
CONTRACT**

**(LGA 1972 Sch 12A Paragraph 3 – Financial or business affairs of
any particular person)**

Decision Notice D140123CAB

The meeting ended at 9.05 pm
having commenced at 8.05pm