

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D170066CAB
Date: 11 October 2017

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

To Consider Objections to Statutory Notice in respect of Disposal of Open Space Land at River Lawn Road, Tonbridge

(Report of Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer)

Further to Decision No D170016CAB, the report presented the responses received to the notices advertising the intended disposal of open space land at River Lawn Road, Tonbridge. The Cabinet was also invited to consider the petition submitted by “Keep River Lawn Green” in respect of the intended disposal following its presentation at the meeting of the full Council on 11 July 2017 when oral representations from the petition organisers had been heard (Minute C 17/53 refers).

The report summarised and commented upon the responses made to the statutory notices, details of which were set out at Annex 5 to the report. The Cabinet was advised that an application from the Barden Road Residents Association to register the open space land as an Asset of Community Value had been accepted on 21 August 2017. Whilst its inclusion in the register of Assets of Community Value would not preclude the Council from seeking to dispose of the land, the implications of the registration were explained.

Considerable discussion ensued and the Cabinet heard the views of Local Members and other Councillors. Reference was made to the significant financial challenges facing the Council and the need to take difficult decisions to support the continued delivery of services throughout the Borough. It was noted that the proposed sale of the land at River Lawn would contribute to the adopted Savings and Transformation Strategy which sought to consider opportunities to realise capital and/or increase income streams from the Council’s existing asset base.

After careful consideration the Cabinet resolved that:

The disposal of the open space land at River Lawn Road, Tonbridge be agreed subject to any process arising from the inclusion of the land on the register of Assets of Community Value.

[Councillor Mrs M Heslop wished it to be recorded that she had voted against the disposal of the land.]

Reasons: As set out in the report of the Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer and in order to realise assets to support the continued delivery of services throughout the Borough in accordance with the adopted Savings and Transformation Strategy.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 13 October 2017

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.

Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D170067CAB
Date: 11 October 2017

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Waste Services Contract Retender

(Item SSE 17/11 referred from Street Scene and Environment Services Advisory Board minutes of 9 October 2017)

Consideration of recommendations to the Cabinet from the Street Scene and Environment Services Advisory Board of 9 October 2017.

The Cabinet resolved that:

The recommendations of the Street Scene and Environment Services Advisory Board be approved as follows:

- (1) the way forward with regard to the Waste Services Contract specification and service levels outlined in the report be agreed;
- (2) a further report on the Inter Authority Agreement, cost analysis and financial arrangements be reported to the November meeting of the Advisory Board;
- (3) the evaluation criteria for the award of the contract be considered at the November 2017 meeting of the Advisory Board;
- (4) a detailed marketing and communications plan be reported to a future meeting of the Advisory Board; and
- (5) opportunities for joint client management across the West Kent Partners be explored.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Street Scene and Environment Services Advisory Board of 9 October 2017.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 13 October 2017

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Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D170068CAB
Date: 11 October 2017

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

The 2018-19 Local Government Finance Settlement - Technical Consultation Paper

(Report of Director of Finance and Transformation)

The report provided an overview of the Government's intended approach for the third year of the multi-year local government finance settlement together with a proposed response to the technical consultation paper published on 14 September 2017. Concern was expressed at the suggested changes to the New Homes Bonus allocation mechanism and the effect of redistribution of funding from district councils to upper tier authorities. It was therefore considered that districts should be removed from the council tax referendum principles or allowed to make increases equal to those of authorities responsible for social care.

The Cabinet resolved that:

The proposed response to the 2018-19 Local Government Finance Settlement Technical Consultation Paper, as set out at Annex 1 to the report, be approved.

Reasons: As set out in the report of the Director of Finance and Transformation.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 13 October 2017

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Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D170069CAB
Date: 11 October 2017

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

100% Business Rates Retention Pilots

(Report of Director of Finance and Transformation)

The report referred to the commitment made by the Government before the 2015 General Election to introduce a 100% Business Rates Retention Scheme. Details were given of an invitation by the Department for Communities and Local Government for authorities to submit bids by 27 October to participate in 100% business rates retention pilots in 2018/19. It was noted that any bid would need to be made in conjunction with other Kent authorities and delegated authority was sought to progress the matter as appropriate.

The Cabinet resolved that:

Delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Transformation, in liaison with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Innovation and Property, to determine:

- (1) whether the Council should join other Kent authorities in a bid for pilot status under the 100% Business Rates Retention Prospectus; and
- (2) if a bid is submitted from Kent as a whole, the detailed objectives and parameters of the bid.

Reasons: As set out in the report of the Director of Finance and Transformation.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 13 October 2017

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Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D170070CAB
Date: 11 October 2017

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Parish Charter

(Item PPP 17/12 referred from Parish Partnership Panel minutes of 7 September 2017)

Consideration of recommendations to the Cabinet from the Parish Partnership Panel of 7 September 2017.

The Cabinet resolved that:

The recommendations of the Parish Partnership Panel be approved as follows:

The process of updating the Parish Charter, as outlined in the report, be agreed.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Parish Partnership Panel of 7 September 2017.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 13 October 2017

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