

**Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday, 15 January 2019 in Committee Rooms 1 & 2 - Deanes, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council at 6.30 pm**

**Members of the Cabinet in attendance:** Councillor C Sanders (Chair), Councillor T Reid, Councillor S Bound, Councillor H Eachus, Councillor H Golding, Councillor J Izett, Councillor M Ruffell and Councillor R Tate

**55/18 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**56/18 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**57/18 Urgent matters**

There were no urgent items.

**58/18 Minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2018 were confirmed by the Cabinet as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**59/18 Endorsing 'Brighter Futures' - A vision for children, young people and their families in Basingstoke and Deane**

The Cabinet Member for Communities and Community Safety introduced the report which provided details of a vision document, 'Brighter Futures', which aims to provide a framework for collaboration between partners, setting out shared priorities around which key organisations could unite to support local children, young people and their families.

**Resolved:** That Cabinet

- 1) Endorse the Brighter Futures vision and commit to work in partnership with other organisations on actions that will contribute to delivery of the vision.
- 2) Note the engagement that has taken place through Basingstoke Area Strategic Partnership, and the feedback received through that process, to inform development of the final Brighter Futures vision document.
- 3) Note that the Basingstoke Area Strategic Partnership adopted the Brighter Futures vision at its meeting on 6 December 2018.
- 4) Note that actions and key indicators will be collated in a Partnership Plan, with progress being monitored by the Children, Young People and Families Partnership and reported to the Basingstoke Area Strategic Partnership

Board.

**Reasons for the decision:** To continue to build on the work undertaken with partners to improve the opportunities for children, young people and their families and promote the importance of partnership working.

60/18 **Proposed Highway Improvements to Brighton Hill Roundabout, Basingstoke:-  
Land required for scheme implementation**

The Cabinet Member for Property and Development introduced the report, which set out details of a proposed highway scheme to be undertaken by Hampshire County Council (HCC) to make improvements to Brighton Hill roundabout. He added that dedicating a small piece of borough council owned land at the Camrose would facilitate the improvements to the roundabout, which would contribute to significant vehicle capacity improvements, reduced congestion and safety and pedestrian benefits to residents. It would also help to secure substantial funding of £13 million from the Local Enterprise Partnership and £5 million from HCC that would be required. He concluded that he was grateful to ward councillors for their contributions and that public consultation led by HCC showed a good level of local support for the scheme.

Cabinet were supportive of the proposal and the significant benefit it would bring to residents. They commented that they were pleased with the retention of subways and welcomed the new 'at grade' pedestrian crossings that would be fully accessible for disabled people. Furthermore, the improved infrastructure would help support future growth in the borough development particularly that anticipated within the South West of the town. Concern was expressed regarding the closure of the south bound entry onto the roundabout from Western Way particularly in relation to school access and the merging of GP surgery's which highlighted the importance of provision of an alternative route.

The preferred scheme option, to include the Camrose link, would be on the basis of Basingstoke Town Football Club (BTFC) securing alternative sports provision at the Hampshire Football Association (HFA) site in Winklebury. The Cabinet Member for Communities and Community Safety stated that there was positive news regarding funding for a new all-weather pitch facility at the HFA site and the council and HFA had done everything it could to facilitate keeping BTFC in Basingstoke.

**Resolved:** That Cabinet

- 1) Approve the dedication of council owned land at and in the vicinity of the Brighton Hill roundabout (to include its land interests forming part of the Camrose Football Ground to Hampshire County Council at nil value for incorporation into the public highway, to support the implementation of the highway improvements and, subject to the relocation from the Camrose Ground of the Basingstoke Town Football Club to an alternative site in Basingstoke, to enable the implementation of the preferred scheme option detailed in this report. This accords with S123 of the Local Government Act 1972 where any disposal at less than best consideration may proceed where social, economic and environmental benefits can be achieved.

- 2) Delegate the detailed terms and conditions associated with the dedication of the land, the deed of dedication and related documentation, and any other supplementary legal or other agreements that may be required to facilitate the highway improvements to the Executive Director of Finance and Resources, in consultation with the Executive Director of Borough Services and the Head of Law and Governance.
- 3) Delegate to the Executive Director of Finance and Resources the consideration of any objection received in relation to the notice of dedication of any open space under S123 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the Director to decide whether or not Cabinet should re-consider its decision in light of any objections received.

**Reasons for the decision:**

The proposed improvements to the Brighton Hill roundabout will help support future growth for the town and facilitate additional transport capacity at this important highway node, to be facilitated by the securing of further LEP funding and developer contributions. The proposed dedication of council owned land to Hampshire County Council for highway purposes, will also help support the delivery of the most advantageous highway solution. This road improvement will have wider reaching economic and infrastructure benefits for the town, and these improvements accord with the aims and objectives detailed within the Council Plan, Local Plan, and relevant transport access plans and strategies.

61/18 **Provision of a new Cemetery at North Waltham**

The Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services and the Environment introduced the report, which set out options for the delivery of a new cemetery site in North Waltham as the Worting Road cemetery is reaching capacity. She stated that following a decision to continue to provide a cemetery service in the borough, the North Waltham site was purchased. Three options had been considered; to stop providing the service; develop and manage a cemetery at cost to the council; or enter into a lease and management agreement with Dignity, which was the preferred option. She stated that the preferred option would offer the council the greatest control and influence for future service provision and reduce the council's future likely expenditure. She added that the proposal from Dignity addressed all of the council's requirements and would cater for all faiths and groups. Furthermore a charge for standard burial provision would be made available to borough residents based on the councils current fees, there would be joint branding to link the service to the council, local monumental masons and funeral directors would not be disadvantaged by any agreement with Dignity and service provision would meet or exceed that currently achieved by the council. She further addressed resident's concerns regarding travel to the North Waltham site stating that officers were looking at options for a travel scheme and that it would need to be addressed as part of Dignity's planning application.

The Cabinet Member for Property and Development supported the proposal to an agreement with a national provider to provide a one-site solution with the cost of the

new development borne by Dignity. He added that the agreement would give the council a share of Dignity's revenue from cremations and burials from April 2019. The council would continue to provide services at Worting Road cemetery and it was anticipated that any arrangement with Dignity would include an agreed code of practice and management agreement. Furthermore, the requirement for environmental liabilities would be met by Dignity. He congratulated the Portfolio Holder and officers for the thorough work that had been undertaken over many years to reach the proposal.

**Resolved:** That Cabinet

- 1) Approve the option for Dignity to provide a cemetery linked under the one site solution which includes the operation of the current crematorium. In accordance with this option, for the Council to enter into an agreement for a lease with Dignity and then complete a new lease (concurrently with the surrender of the current lease) on the obtaining of planning permission for the provision of a cemetery at the North Waltham site.
- 2) Delegate the detailed terms and conditions associated with the agreement for lease, surrender of the current lease and grant of a new lease, and any other supplementary legal, management of other agreements that may be required to facilitate delivery of the proposed new cemetery service under the one site solution, to the Executive Director of Borough Services in consultation with the Executive Director of Finance and Resources and the Head of Law and Governance.
- 3) Approve the recommendation for officers to develop and implement a pilot travel scheme to test community bus provision against other options as set out in this report. This approach will allow ongoing evaluation of demand whilst identifying the most suitable and viable solution.

**Reasons for the decision:**

To continue the provision of a cemetery service for borough residents. The delivery of a new cemetery site by Dignity will cater appropriately for all recognised faiths and groups, follows the standard burial fees set by the council, ensures branding to link the service to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and would not disadvantage local monumental masons and funeral directors. Dignity would meet current and future environmental liabilities as determined by the Environment Agency and take on responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of the new cemetery site also at their cost. This will also release capital back into the capital programme which can be used to support other key priorities and avoids the requirement to directly develop the new site.

The proposed arrangements with Dignity also represent for the council, an opportunity for the council to generate income whilst minimising future costs and liabilities.

The meeting ended at 6.55 pm.

**Chairman**