

Cabinet

Tuesday 8 December 2015

PRESENT:

Councillor Evans, in the Chair.

Councillors Coker, Lowry, McDonald, Penberthy, Jon Taylor, Tuffin and Vincent.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Philippa Davey and Smith.

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 2.50 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the Cabinet will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

54. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made by members in accordance with the code of conduct.

55. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2015 were agreed subject to two corrections –

- (1) to add Councillor Coker to the list of those present;
- (2) the removal of the note referring to the departure of Councillors Davey and McDonald from the meeting.

The Leader informed the Cabinet that, in line with other Committees, it would no longer be noted when a member joined or left the meeting.

56. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

One question was submitted by a member of the public for this meeting, in accordance with Part B, paragraph 11 of the Constitution.

In the absence of the questioner, a written response would be sent to him as set out below -

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
14 2015/16	Mr Arthur Watson	Councillor Lowry, Cabinet Member for Finance	sale of green public open spaces
<p>Regarding the sale of green public open spaces by PCC since 2012:-</p> <p>1 How many acres were sold?</p> <p>2 Which councillors were consulted? When?</p> <p>3 Were local residents consulted? When?</p> <p>4 How much money was raised by each land sale? (and specifically for the Yardley Gardens/Dover Road plots?)</p>			
<p>Response:</p> <p>1) 1.251 acres.</p> <p>2) If there is an intention to declare land surplus to the Council's requirements and dispose of it the relevant Ward Councillors are consulted. Relevant Cabinet Members are also consulted.</p> <p>3) Public / local residents' consultation in relation to the disposal of Public Open Space takes the form of the Council's statutory notice of its intention to dispose of Public Open Space (which is placed for two consecutive weeks in the Plymouth Herald newspaper & website and on the Council's website).</p> <p>4) The total combined proceeds from Public Open Space sales that have completed to date is £271,502 (two hundred and seventy one thousand five hundred and two pounds) for 5 sites, including £99,000 (ninety nine thousand pounds) for the plot at Yardley Gardens.</p> <p>The Dover Road plot which was not green public open space but part of the Estover Community College site sold for £231,000 (two hundred and thirty one thousand pounds)</p> <p>5) The Council has a digital mapping overlay on which the location of known Plymouth Pear Trees is recorded, and no known examples of Pyrus Cordata have been destroyed.</p>			

The Leader indicated that he would be referring the matter to Natural England as it would appear that an act of a serious nature had taken place and needed investigation.

57. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business.

58. **APPOINTMENT TO THE PLYMOUTH WATERFRONT PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY BOARD**

Agreed that Councillor Tuffin would replace Councillor Penberthy on the Plymouth Waterfront Partnership Advisory Board.

59. **LIVING STREETS SCRUTINY REVIEW**

Cllr Ricketts, Chair of the Working Plymouth Scrutiny Panel presented the report of the co-operative review on 'Living Streets'.

Questions were taken by Gill Peele (Business Manager), Adrian Trim (Head of Highways, Parking and Marine Services) and Paul Anderson (Amey).

Agreed to accept the recommendations of the scrutiny report subject to recommendation (4) paragraph (p) being amended to –

(p) failure to meet the date agreed with ward members due to circumstances within Amey's control (i.e. not weather or safety related etc.) then the issue would be reviewed by the Head of Highways, the Cabinet Member and a briefing will be sent to the ward members affected before a penalty notice is issued.

60. **INDICATIVE 2016/17 REVENUE BUDGET AND FINANCIAL FORECAST 2016/17 - 2019/2020 CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

Councillor Lowry presented the Indicative 2016/17 Revenue Budget and Financial Forecast 2016/17 – 2019/20 Capital Programme.

He informed Cabinet that there would be further announcements once the full settlement had been received.

Agreed that –

- (1) the proposed revenue target budget requirement for 2016/17 of £184.752m is presented for full public scrutiny in January 2016;
- (2) the proposed indicative revenue forecasts for 2017/18 and 2018/19 are also presented for full public scrutiny in January 2016;

- (3) members and officers continue to bring forward further solutions in order to close the existing £3.442m budget gap in 2016/17 to present a balanced budget at Full Council in February 2016;
- (4) the proposed capital forecast of £282m is presented for full public scrutiny in January 2016;
- (5) Cabinet consider findings from consultation, feedback from budget scrutiny and any material changes announced in the final settlement for Plymouth City Council in early February 2016.

61. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business.

Leader thanked staff and Cabinet Members for their hard work during the year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.