

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Mid Sussex District Council Cabinet
held on Monday, 16 October 2017
from 4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: Jonathan Ash-Edwards, Andrew MacNaughton, Gary Marsh, Garry Wall (Leader) and Mandy Thomas-Atkin.

Also present: Councillors: Rod Clark

Officers: Kathryn Hall, Tom Clark, Judy Holmes, Peter Stuart, Simon Hughes, Sally Blomfield, Kate Wilson, Terry Stanley, Hamish Evans

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Norman Webster.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. URGENT BUSINESS

None

5. PERFORMANCE MONITORING FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2017/18

Kate Wilson, Business Unit Leader for Community Services, Policy and Performance, introduced the report which provided the Cabinet with information about the Council's performance for the first quarter of 2017/18, from April to June 2017. It used the new bundle of performance indicators previously agreed for monitoring in 2017/18. The report also provided a progress update on the Council's flagship activities, identified in the 2017/18 Corporate Plan. She noted that the performance in the first quarter of 2017/18 had been good overall, with most services performing at or close to target. In the small number of cases where service targets were not being fully met, the reasons were clearly understood and appropriate action was being taken. Issues raised from discussion of the report by the Scrutiny Committee for Leader, Resources and Economic Growth meeting in September were also referred to in the report to Cabinet.

The Leader of the Council welcomed the report and noted the Council's continued success in achieving its performance indicator targets. The Deputy Leader also appreciated the progress made and commented on the positive advancement of the Flagship Activities and the improvements to leisure centres across the District.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning endorsed the work of the Council towards housing and noted that the number of households accepted as homeless has dropped as well as the number of households living in temporary

accommodation. The Cabinet Member noted that he was pleased to see the number of households assisted to access the private rented sector had also increased. The Member commented on the difficulties local authorities face when providing affordable housing as developers have much of the control. The Authority approves many suitable applications but developers delay in starting work.

The Cabinet Member for Service Delivery commented on the improvement of recycling in the district after a difficult wet season.

The Leader took Members to the recommendation contained in the report which was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

Cabinet resolved to note the Council's performance and progress on flagship activities in the first quarter of 2017/18.

6. EXTENSION OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE GREATER BRIGHTON ECONOMIC BOARD.

Judy Holmes, the Assistant Chief Executive, outlined the report to Cabinet Members which sought agreement from Cabinet to recommend that Council, in its capacity as a constituent member of the Greater Brighton Economic Board, approve Crawley Borough Council admittance onto Greater Brighton Economic Board.

The Leader stated MSDC are to assume the chair of the Board next year. MSDC is a high performing rural District Council and it is logical for this Board to expand and work collectively. The Leader fully supports this proposal as it will benefit residents and businesses.

The Deputy Leader echoed the Leaders comments and supports the inclusion of Crawley the Council's neighbour, to enhance the voice in the A23 corridor and benefit the District.

The Leader took Members to the recommendation contained in the report which was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

Cabinet resolved to recommend to Council for approval the membership of Crawley Borough Council to the Greater Brighton Economic Board.

7. REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SHCHEME.

Judy Holmes, the Assistant Chief Executive, referred Members to the tabled update sheet which added the District Plan Proposals Map 2031, the Mid Sussex Small Scale Housing Allocations DPD (April 2008) to the Development Plan. The update sheet also added that the Small Scale Site Housing Allocations DPD will be replaced on the adoption of the Site Allocation DPD in 2020. She then went on to outline the purpose of the report which was for Cabinet to consider approving a revised and updated Local Development Scheme.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning was pleased to see this plan adapt alongside the adoption of the District Plan. He also noted the policies that will comprise the Development Plan which will also support the District Plan.

The Leader commented on the Neighbourhood plans and that he was pleased to see such a broad range. Also he noted it was a positive sign that this Plan was progressing with the District Plan.

The Cabinet Member for Service Delivery observed that it was unfortunate that some Parishes didn't have a neighbourhood plan even though they have had 6-7 years to adopt a Plan. However, he was pleased to see other Parishes adopting their plans.

The Leader took Members to the recommendation contained in the report which was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

Cabinet resolved to approve the revised Local Development Scheme for Mid Sussex to come into effect 26th October 2017.

8. WEST SUSSEX GIGABIT PROGRAMME.

Simon Hughes, Head of Digital and Customer Service, introduced the report detailing a request from West Sussex County Council for the Council to be included in a proposed procurement for Full Fibre networks in West Sussex called the 'Gigabit West Sussex Programme.'

The Leader informed the Cabinet that he, along with the Management Team, had a productive meeting with the Minister of State for Digital Services and Rt. Hon. Sir Nicholas Soames M.P. to discuss how to make the programme more effective for the Mid Sussex area and how the Council can be an active member, to support the significant growth the District is delivering.

The Deputy Leader noted the need and importance of improving the digital infrastructure for SMEs and other businesses in Mid Sussex. He also praised the hard work and commitment of the Digital team which was echoed by the other Members.

The Cabinet Member for Customer Services commented that this programme was greatly needed and will support local business and encourage economic growth in Mid Sussex.

The Leader took Members to the recommendation contained in the report which was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

- (a) To agree to include the current 20-year rolled up lease costs for existing connectivity within the Gigabit West Sussex Programme procurement.

Chairman.