

CABINET

THURSDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY, 2020

At 7.00 pm

in the

GREY ROOMS - YORK HOUSE, WINDSOR

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

PART I

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>PAGE NO</u>
3.	<u>MINUTES</u> To consider the Part I minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2020.	3 - 6

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Agenda Item 3

CABINET

THURSDAY, 30 JANUARY 2020

PRESENT: Councillors Andrew Johnson (Chairman), David Coppinger, Samantha Rayner, Stuart Carroll (Vice-Chairman), David Hilton, Gerry Clark, Donna Stimson and Ross McWilliams

Also in attendance: Cllr Bateson, Cllr Sharpe, Cllr Price, Cllr Hill, Cllr Bhangra, Cllr Larcombe, Cllr Taylor and Cllr Jones.

Officers: Duncan Sharkey, Russell O'Keefe, Kevin McDaniel, Louisa Dean, Ruth Watkins, Louise Freeth, Hilary Hall and David Cook.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cannon.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Rayner declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in item 6 i JCEB Minerals and Waste Plan - Additional Reg 18 Consultation, because of her husband's family trust. She left the room for the duration of the discussion and voting on the item.

MINUTES

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That the Part I minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2019 were approved.

APPOINTMENTS

None

FORWARD PLAN

Cabinet considered the contents of the Forward Plan for the next four months and noted the changes made since last published including the following amendments:

- Award of Arboricultural Services Contract moves to March 202 Cabinet.
- HSPG – Joint Spatial Planning Framework (JSPF) and Economic Development Vision and Action Plan (EDVAC) Documents. Item added to Forward Plan since last published.

CABINET MEMBERS' REPORTS

A) JCEB MINERALS & WASTE PLAN - ADDITIONAL REGULATION 18 CONSULTATION

The Lead Member for Planning and Maidenhead introduced the report that sought approval to hold a further Regulation 18 consultation.

Cabinet were informed that the Council was working with other authorities to produce a Joint Minerals and Waste Plan. Since the original consultation, there had been two 'call for sites' exercises and a further Regulation 18 consultation on whether Bray Quarry Extension should

be allocated in the Plan for sand and gravel extraction. There was currently uncertainty over whether the site was suitable for allocation. The search for new sites would be broadened across four authorities.

The Lead Member also informed that a new development management policy (DM15) was proposed allowing the planning authority to take past operator performance into account in decision-making on minerals or waste applications submitted by the same applicant or operator.

The Chairman informed that Bray Parish Council had sent comments to Cabinet that had been noted.

Resolved unanimously: that Cabinet notes the report and:

- i) Approves a consultation, under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, on several issues related to the emerging Joint Central and Eastern Berkshire (JCEB) Minerals & Waste Plan, including the proposed area of search approach and two new allocations;**
- ii) Approves the publication of consultation documents related to the above Regulation 18 consultation for the JCEB Minerals and Waste Plan; and**
- iii) Authorises the Head of Planning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to make any minor amendments necessary to the consultation documents prior to community involvement.**

B) COUNCIL TAX BASE 2020-21

The Lead Member for Finance and Ascot introduced the report that sought amended approval of the Council Tax Base.

Cabinet were informed that they had originally approved the tax base of 68,817 in December 2019 but at the time as Lead Member he was concerned that some of the figures did not add up. It had subsequently come to light that the MOD properties in the calculation in Bray and White Waltham were being treated incorrectly. Also following contact with Bray Parish Council some houses in 'The Fisheries', which moved from Maidenhead to Bray Parish as part of the boundary change in May 2019 had not been included in their tax base. This had now been corrected and the new tax base was 68,691.

The Lead Member also highlighted agenda pack page 38 that showed applied discounts and informed that there were 270 empty properties listed and that empty properties would only receive two years exemption before having to pay 100% council tax.

Cllr Davey said that there were currently 30% of properties receiving single person discount of 25% and that if this discount was removed this could bring in about £6 million additional revenue. He suggested that the discount be means tested as there were wealthy single residents in the Royal Borough who could afford to pay 100% council tax and thus the council would get additional revenue.

In response Cabinet were informed that the discount was set by national government and could not be changed, even though councils had lobbied to have the ability to set a local level. There were tracking systems in place to check for fraud and a risk based assessment was used that removed about 6% of discounts.

Resolved unanimously: that Cabinet notes the report and:

- i) Approves the Council Tax base for the whole of the Borough area, for 2020/21 at 68,691 as detailed in this report and appendices. This is an increase of 338 over the 2019/20 base, a 0.49% increase.**

ii) Note a Council Tax collection rate of 99.5% for 2020/21.

iii) Note an estimated deficit on the Council Tax Collection Fund in 2019/20 of £142k of which the council's share is £113k.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting whilst discussion takes place on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1-7 of part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

The meeting, which began at 7.02 pm, finished at 7.33 pm

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....

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