

## **COUNCIL**

**THURSDAY, 11 JULY 2019**

**PRESENT:-** The Worshipful The Mayor in the Chair; Councillors Junab Ali, Steve Allsopp, Abdul Amin, John Ballman, Ray Ballman, Alan Bishop, Nick Burns-Howell, Emma Bushell, Matthew Courtliff, Claire Crilly, Malcolm Davies, Mark Dempsey, Paul Dixon, Oliver Donachie, Steph Exell, Emma Faramarzi, Brian Ford, Jim Grant, Dale Heenan, Steve Heyes, Russell Holland, Fay Howard, Janine Howarth, Oladapo Ibitoye, Robert Jandy, Jenny Jefferies, Mary Martin, Nick Martin, Cathy Martyn, Brian Mattock, Jane Milner-Barry, Des Moffatt, Stan Pajak, Barbara Parry, Maureen Penny, Garry Perkins, David Renard, James Robbins, Adorabelle Shaikh, Imtiyaz Shaikh, Carol Shelley, Kevin Small, Roger Smith, Basil Solomon, Andy Spry, Gary Sumner, Timothy Swinyard, Caryl Sydney-Smith, Rahul Tarar, Vera Tomlinson, Nadine Watts, Peter Watts, Steve Weisinger, Keith Williams and Robert Wright.

### **16. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Abdul Amin and Garry Perkins.

### **17. Communications**

The Chief Executive reported that correspondence had been received from the Central Government Cabinet Office relating to the nomination process for Queen's Honours List. A copy of the correspondence and the Honours Citation Form were tabled at the meeting and were available on the Council's website.

### **18. Minutes**

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019, be confirmed and signed.

### **19. Declarations of Interest**

The Worshipful The Mayor reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

Councillor Caryl Sydney-Smith made a personal and non-prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item No. 8 (Cabinet Member Decision Note – Assignment and Deed of Variation to Lease of the Village Tavern, Toothill Village Centre) as she was being appointed as a Director of the Hub at Toothill Community Interest Company).

Councillor Roger Smith made a personal and non-prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item No. 6(2) in his capacity as an employee of Savills.

### **20. Public Question Time**

No Public Questions were received.

**21.**

**Minutes for Confirmation**

(1) Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Russell Holland seconded:

“That Minute 11 of the Cabinet (Councillors’ Allowances 2020/21 – Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel) be confirmed and adopted.”

The resolution was put to the vote and declared carried.

(2) Councillor Garry Sumner moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 19 of the Cabinet (Swindon Borough Local Plan Review – 2<sup>nd</sup> Regulation 18 Consultation (Preferred and Emerging Options) be confirmed and adopted.”

Councillor Jane Milner-Barry moved and Councillor Stan Pajak seconded that the resolution be amended to include:

“This Council:

- Notes Cabinet’s proposal at its 10<sup>th</sup> July meeting to authorise for public consultation the preferred and ‘emerging’ options of the Swindon Borough Local Plan Review.
- Believes that in order to conform to the Government’s mission of halving the energy use of new buildings by 2030 and avoid costly retrofitting, an additional policy needs to be included on sustainable building.
- Agrees to add to the draft Local Plan for consultation the following policy:

**Policy DM2 Design of Buildings**

- a. New build residential development shall achieve reductions in CO2 emissions of 19% below the Target Emission Rate of the 2013 Edition of the 2010 Building Regulations (Part L) through insulation and high levels of fabric efficiency.
- b. All new non-residential buildings shall achieve the BREEAM “Excellent” rating.
- c. All development proposals will be expected to demonstrate how internal overheating will be avoided by the use of passive cooling and ventilation.
- d. New residential developments will be monitored by random post-construction testing to ensure that measured energy consumption is in line with modelled performance.
- e. All new developments (including single buildings) shall source a minimum of 25% of their total energy requirement from generation on site.”

The amendment was put to the vote and declared lost.

The substantive resolution was put to the vote and declared carried.

(Councillor Roger Smith made a personal declaration of interest in respect of (2) above in his capacity as an employee of Savills.)

## **22. Motion - Free Television Licences**

Councillor Jim Grant moved and Councillor Kevin Small seconded:

“This Council notes:

- The recent announcement that free TV Licences for the over 75s will no longer be a universal benefit, with most people of that age no longer qualifying for this concession.
- The benefits TV Licenses have for many older people in staving off isolation and loneliness, key areas the Council are looking to reduce within the Borough.
- The Conservative party promised to maintain free TV licences for the duration of this Parliament in their 2017 General Election Manifesto.

This Council calls on the Government to honour the Conservative Party’s 2017 manifesto promise to maintain free TV licences for the over-75s for the duration of this Parliament by ensuring sufficient funding to do so and, should the BBC propose changes to the concession, to ensure that the proposed changes are subject to parliamentary consent.

The Council requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Media, Culture and Sport and Swindon’s two Members of Parliament setting out the Council’s position.”

With the agreement of the Council, Councillor Jim Grant moved and Councillor Brian Ford seconded that the Motion be amended to read:

“This Council notes:

- The 2015 announcement that free TV Licences for the over 75s will be funded by the BBC.
- The recent decision by the BBC that only over 75s who are on pension credit will continue to receive free TV licenses.
- The benefits TV Licenses have for many older people in staving off isolation and loneliness - key areas that the Council are looking to reduce within the borough. Less elderly people have access to the internet, online social media or even daily newspapers, and rely on TV to maintain contact with the wider world.
- The Conservative party promised to maintain free TV licences for the duration of this Parliament in their 2017 General Election Manifesto.

This Council:

- Calls on the Government to find ways to continue allowing free TV licences for all over-75s.
- Requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Media, Culture and Sport and Swindon's two Members of Parliament setting out the Council's position."

The Amendment was put to the vote and was carried being the Substantive Motion.

Councillor Stan Pajak moved and Councillor Jim Grant seconded that the Substantive Motion be amended to read:

"This Council notes:

- The 2015 announcement that free TV Licences for the over 75s will be funded by the BBC.
- The recent decision by the BBC that only over 75s who are on pension credit will continue to receive free TV licenses.
- The benefits TV Licenses have for many older people in staving off isolation and loneliness - key areas that the Council are looking to reduce within the borough. Less elderly people have access to the internet, online social media or even daily newspapers, and rely on TV to maintain contact with the wider world.
- The Conservative party promised to maintain free TV licences for the duration of this Parliament in their 2017 General Election Manifesto.

This Council:

- Calls on the Government to find ways to continue allowing free TV licences for all over-75s.
- Requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Media, Culture and Sport and Swindon's two Members of Parliament and the Director General of the BBC setting out the Council's position."

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

## **23. Motion - Health and Social Care Strategy**

Councillor Ray Ballman moved and Councillor Bob Wright seconded:

"This Council notes:

- The Great Western Hospital Emergency Department continues to fail to meet its 4 hour waiting time target and at the last GWH Trust report to the

Health Overview & Scrutiny the GWH were 6% below their 95% NHS target.

- Overcrowding in the Emergency Department remains the GWH Trust's most pressing challenge.
- Demand for the Emergency Department continues to be high year on year as, with a 13.4% increase in Emergency Department attendances compared with March 2018 and this trend continues.
- That at the end of last year, NHS statistics showed that Swindon patients faced some of the longest GP appointment waits in the whole country.
- The Government continues to delay a social care bill with over a million older people in England struggling with unmet care needs.

This Council requests the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Health and Swindon two MPs requesting the government set out a clear health and social care strategy addressing these issues, including providing additional money for beds in hospital emergency departments."

Councillor Ray Ballman moved and Councillor Brian Ford seconded that the Motion be amended to read:

"This Council notes that:

- The Great Western Hospital Emergency Department continues to fail to meet its 4 hour waiting time target and at the last GWH Trust report to the Health Overview & Scrutiny the GWH were 6% below their 95% NHS target.
- Over 70%, of all money raised from Council Tax payers is spent on supporting the most vulnerable who need Social Care.
- This Council eagerly awaits publication of the Government's Green Paper on Social Care for Adults.
- Overcrowding in the Emergency Department remains the GWH Trust's most pressing challenge.
- Demand for the Emergency Department continues to be high year on year as, with a 13.4% increase in Emergency Department attendances compared with March 2018 and this trend continues.
- At the end of last year, NHS statistics showed that Swindon patients faced some of the longest GP appointment waits in the whole country.
- More money is being invested in the NHS than ever before, and reform is urgently needed to address funding the ever increasing demand for Social care.

This Council requests that:

- The Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, reiterating the views of the BMA (at the Annual Representative Meeting 2019) in that long waiting times at A&E are not conducive to safe patient care.
- The Leader of the Council must also request that the Government seeks cross party support for the publication of the Green Paper on Social Care for Adults.
- The Leader of the council forwards a copy this motion, and any correspondence generated as above, to the Chair of the NHS Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) who is responsible for the allocation of resources and funding to NHS Services in the Borough.”

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

#### **24. Minutes of Cabinet and Decisions Delegated to Cabinet Members**

The Council considered (a) the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019, (b) questions to the Cabinet Members regarding their portfolio responsibilities and answers received, and (c) Cabinet Member Decision Notices.

(Councillor Caryl Sydney-Smith made a personal declaration of interest in respect of this item as she was being appointed as a Director of the Hub at Toothill Community Interest Company).

#### **25. Minutes of other Council Bodies**

The Council (a) received the minutes set out in the “Minutes of Other Council Bodies” circulated with the Agenda, (b) considered questions to Chairs relating to the work of their Committees and other bodies and answers received, and (c) noted that the Minute 4 of the Planning Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019 had been amended prior to their confirmation and signing to reflect a declaration of interest by Councillor Stephanie Exell.

#### **26. Councillors Question Time**

The Chief Legal Officer reported that a Standing Order 15 Questions had been received from Councillors Steve Allsopp and Ray Ballman.

Councillor Steve Allsopp asked a supplemental question regarding the public consultation for changes to the parking provision in the vicinity of George Hall Court.