

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

Wednesday, 13 January 2016

PRESENT: Councillor Markham (Chair); Councillor Hallam (Deputy Chair); Councillors Bottwood, Eldred, Hadland, Hibbert and King.

1. APOLOGIES

There were none.

2. MINUTES

Under Item 3 of the minutes, Councillor Markham requested that the minutes to be changed to "The Leader explained that there was continued commitment to Disabled Facilities Grants and noted that there were ongoing meetings with NPH and stated that any issues arising from the 1% reduction should be shared with them".

It was also noted that the minutes should refer to £1.87 million, not £187 million.

With the corrections referred to above, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 16th December 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

3. INTENTION TO HOLD PART OF THE MEETING IN PRIVATE

There were no items to be heard in private.

4. DEPUTATIONS/PUBLIC ADDRESSES

There were none.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hallam declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 – Replacement of the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee as a substitute member of the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor Bottwood declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 - as a substitute member of the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

Councillor Hadland declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 - as a member of the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

6. ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

None

7. REPLACEMENT OF THE WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor Stone addressed Cabinet and expressed her concerns about partnership working and suggested that the Council should be working more closely with Wellingborough and Kettering Council and stated that a strategic approach across the County to address Planning issues was necessary.

Councillor McCutcheon commented that pressure had been placed on the infrastructure

from developments outside of the Borough and emphasised the need for issues and problems to be resolved more successfully and succinctly than in the past. He noted that a talking shop would be beneficial and asked that the Labour Group be consulted and represented.

Councillor Russell requested that opposition group members be on the board and asked what measures would be taken to ensure that existing bad practices would not happen to the new Board.

Councillor Hadland as the relevant Cabinet Member submitted a report and elaborated thereon. He explained that the members of the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee had reached a stage where they all wanted to go their separate ways, and to request the Secretary of State to revoke the Order which set up the joint arrangements. He noted that a proposed new Board would comprise members from the adjoining authorities to consult about planning matters and there would be a continuous review of the Joint Core Strategy data. He further noted that the National Planning Policy Framework includes a statutory duty to cooperate. The Council would have greater control in its own area, and the Board would provide a means of co-operation in the wider area.

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That the Leader writes to the Secretary of State to request the revocation of the Order pursuant to section 31(2) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004; and
- 2.2 That in the event that the Secretary of State revokes the Order, the Cabinet supports its replacement by a Joint Planning and Infrastructure Board supported by a Memorandum of Cooperation as set out in Section 4 and Appendix 1 of the , subject to all the member authorities making a financial contribution.

The meeting concluded at 6.17pm