

# NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

## CABINET

Wednesday, 13 April 2016

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

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the Leader.

### 2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016 were agreed and signed by the Deputy Leader.

### 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

There were none.

### 6. ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were none.

### 7. DELAPRE ABBEY - RESTORATION PROGRAMME

Councillor Davenport commented that Delapre Abbey was a much valued asset to the people of Northampton but questioned the amount of money the Council had spent on it and asked where the supporting business plan was. She stated that the administration needed to inform residents where the money was going as she perceived there to be a lack of transparency.

Councillor Hadland, as the relevant Cabinet Member submitted a report and elaborated thereon. In response to the comments made by Councillor Davenport, he stated that there was transparency; hence the presentation of the Cabinet report and previous Cabinet reports had been available which outlined the financial implications. He stated that in the original scheme the standard of construction was not as good as initially thought and a series of 'Value Engineering' options had been adopted.

### RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That the increase of £934k to the capital programme towards the restoration of Delapre Abbey to enable successful completion of the original project be approved.
- 2.2 That authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration Enterprise & Planning and the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning and Cabinet Member for Finance, to identify and agree

an appropriate funding source for the unsecured funding gap of £671k, firstly through the HLF, then service reserves, corporate reserves or borrowing.

- 2.3 That authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration Enterprise & Planning, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Planning to agree the terms of the legal agreements identified in paragraph 3 of this report with DAPT.

## **8. CONSULTATION ON NORTHAMPTON LOCAL PLAN (PART 2) SCOPE AND ISSUES AND PARTIAL REVIEW OF THE CENTRAL AREA ACTION PLAN**

Councillor Stone thanked officers for their hard work and noted that she was one of the Councillors who had sat on the cross party Cabinet Advisory Group and stated that there was a real need to look after the Town and that an updated Northampton Local Plan would allow for this.

Councillor Smith commented that she wanted the planning process to not only to promote the building of new and sustainable housing but also to protect residents, specifically with regards to parking issues where the planning process does not currently support those needs.

Councillor Hadland, as the relevant Cabinet Member, submitted a report and noted that the current Northampton Local Plan was outdated and needed updating in order to guide and respond to future development proposals. He explained that the consultation period would commence on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and encouraged members of the public to comment and engage at the early stage of the consultation process.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the documents and timetable as set out in the report for an Issues stage public consultation on the Northampton Local Plan (Part 2) be agreed.
2. That the outcome of the consultation be noted and inform further consideration and the preparation of Options to be presented to Cabinet in due course.

## **9. CONSULTATION ON DRAFT NORTHAMPTON LOCAL PLAN (PART 2) STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Councillor McCutcheon commented that he was pleased with the cross party contribution and emphasised the importance of retaining the institutional memory of the Town.

Councillor Birch stated that she welcomed the report and noted that people cared about where they lived and that this consultation would give people the opportunity, ability and tools to be able to be involved in the decision making. She thanked officers and Members involved.

Councillor Hadland as the relevant Cabinet Member submitted a report and stated that having been adopted in 2006, the Northampton Statement of Community Involvement needed to be updated. It was noted that the consultation would be carried out alongside the public consultation period for the Northampton Local Plan (part 2) Issues Consultation.

### **RESOLVED:**

That the draft Statement of Community Involvement for public consultation at Appendix A of the report be agreed.

## **10. SPRING BOROUGHS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Councillor Stone commented that the Neighbourhood Plan for Spring Boroughs had been in the making for 3 years and commented that residents were aware that the Plan was the beginning of the journey but noted that it would give people of Spring Boroughs the opportunity to be involved in their own governance in the heart of their community.

Councillor Hadland, as the relevant Cabinet Member submitted a report and commented that the making of the Neighbourhood Plan had been a great example of community involvement and cohesion. He also explained that once the Plan was in place, the Council would engage with the community to agree how 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy from development within Spring Boroughs would be spent.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That it be recommended to Council to 'make' the Spring Boroughs Neighbourhood Plan, in accordance with section 38(A)(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004;
2. That it be recommended to Council that the Spring Boroughs Neighbourhood Plan and the Decision Statement (Appendix 1 of the report) be published on the Council's website, and paper copies be provided in locations where people who live, work and carry on business in the area can view them.
3. That it be recommended to Council that the Decision Statement and details on how to view the Spring Boroughs Neighbourhood Plan be sent to the qualifying body (Spring Boroughs Voice – the Neighbourhood Forum) and any person who asked to be notified of the Council's decision.
4. That it be recommended to Council that Spring Boroughs Voice be congratulated on the successful outcome of the referendum

The meeting concluded at 6.27pm