

Public Document Pack



Minutes of the meeting of the **Cabinet** held in the Committee Rooms, East Pallant House on Tuesday 4 October 2022 at 9.30 am

Members Present Mrs E Lintill (Chairman), Mrs S Taylor (Vice-Chairman), Mr R Briscoe, Mrs P Plant, Mr A Sutton and Mr P Wilding

Members Absent Mr A Dignum

In attendance by invitation

Officers Present Mrs L Baines (Democratic Services Manager), Mr S Ballard (Senior Environmental Protection Officer), Mr A Frost (Director of Planning and Environment), Mr P Jobson (Taxation Manager), Mrs M Rogers (Benefits Manager), Mrs L Rudziak (Director of Housing and Communities), Mrs D Shepherd (Chief Executive), Ms A Stevens (Divisional Manager for Environmental Protection) and Mr J Ward (Director of Corporate Services)

17 **Chair's Announcements**

Cllr Lintill welcomed all those present and listening online.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Dignum.

Cllr Lintill explained that she had accepted one late item relating to one membership change for Development Plan and Infrastructure Panel (DPIP).

18 **Approval of Minutes**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 6 September 2022 be approved as a correct record.

19 **Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

20 **Public Question Time**

There were no public questions.

21 **Council Tax Review of Locally Defined Discounts and Premiums**

Cllr Wilding introduced the item.

Cllr Plant asked whether the empty home premium had reduced the number of empty homes. Cllr Wilding explained that the figure had increased. Mr Jobson added that the policy encourages the use of second homes.

Cllr Taylor explained that the number of second homes which are not required to pay Council Tax or Business Rate Tax but have use of council facilities such as refuse collection has caused concern. She added that she supported the recommendation. Mr Jobson explained that it has been acknowledged by Government but at present a property only has to be available for let and not occupied by lets to qualify for the exemption.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That the Council Tax Discounts and Premiums proposed in the Appendix to the agenda report be applied for the 2023-2024 financial year.

22 **Determination of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023 – 2024**

Cllr Wilding introduced the item.

In a vote the following recommendation and resolution were agreed:

RESOLVED

That the Council Tax Discounts and Premiums proposed in the Appendix to the agenda report be applied for the 2023-2024 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

That Cabinet recommend the proposed Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2023-2024 be approved by Full Council.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet delegate approval for mid-year changes in the Scheme, where it is deemed appropriate for the Director for Housing and Communities following consultation with the Director of Corporate Services and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Revenues and Benefits.

23 **WSCC's Concession Contract for the Provision of Electric Vehicle Charge Points and Related Services**

Cllr Plant introduced the item.

Cllr Moss had requested to speak and was invited to do so by Cllr Lintill. He spoke in favour of joining the group. He requested clarification of whether the council would join as a collaborative organisation or as a key delivery authority (KDA) and what level of influence that would provide. He also asked why Northgate Car Park had been excluded. Mr Ballard explained that there are two levels of membership; the collaborative organisation or the KDA. The council would join in a collaborator capacity. He explained the difference would be that as a collaborator there would not necessarily be a position on the two working Boards. Any attendance to those Boards would be in a non-voting capacity. He added that Chichester District had 15 sites proposed in the plans following community feedback via social media. With regard to Northgate Car Park he explained that there is currently a project looking at the design of the car park. Cllr Lintill asked whether that meant that once the work had been undertaken it could be considered. Mr Ballard confirmed that was the case whilst drawing members attention to the Sloe Fair Byelaw.

Cllr Wilding asked whether the council would have a say in the position of the charging points in the car parks. Mr Ballard explained that if the council joined the contract then each proposed installation site would be subject to negotiation with the contractor. If it was not possible to reach agreement on particular Council sites, the council would be able to install its own charging points using the funding agreed in the report.

Cllr Taylor requested clarification of when the 15 year lease begins. Mr Ballard explained that each lease would begin at the point of the charge point being installed in any given car park in the scheme. It was therefore possible to have different leases for different car parks across the district.

Cllr Lintill asked for more information on the profit share model outlined in the reports Executive Summary. Mr Ballard explained for every kilowatt sold across the network 1pence is put in a central pot. The pooled revenue is then divided up amongst the parties in the contract in ratio to the number of charge points that each hosts. Cllr Lintill asked whether the contractor would keep the charge points up-to-date as required. Mr Ballard explained that it would be in Connected Kerb's interest to do so in order to maximise their use, revenues and return on investment.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That Cabinet resolves that the Council joins the West Sussex County Council concession contract for the planning, installation, operation and maintenance of an electric vehicle charging network.

That Cabinet resolves that Parking Services retains the remaining £35,700 electric vehicle charging points budget to enable the installation of EVCP's in new locations and/or the expansion of provision in existing locations whether the Council joins the WSCC contract or not and potentially in locations rejected by CK but where the Council wishes to see EVCP provision.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That Cllr Adrian Moss be appointed to replace Cllr John-Henry Bowden on the Development Plan and Infrastructure Panel.

25 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Cllr Lintill proposed and read the part II resolution in relation to agenda items 10 and 11. This was seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed by the Cabinet with a vote to go into part II.

RESOLVED

That with regard to agenda items 10 and 11 the public excluding the press should be excluded from the meeting on the grounds of exemption in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 namely paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) and because in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption of that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Members took a short break.

26 Phase 2 of Coastal Partners; Transfer of Staff

Cllr Plant introduced the item.

Questions were received from Cllr Lintill, Cllr Briscoe and Cllr Sutton. Mrs Stevens provided responses.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That the recommendation as set out in section 2.1 of the report be approved.

27 Recording Equipment in Committee Rooms

Cllr Wilding introduced the item.

Cllr Moss had requested to speak and was invited to do so by Cllr Lintill. He spoke in favour of recommendation but asked for clarification on a number of points raised by the report. Mrs Baines provided responses.

Cllr Taylor and Cllr Sutton also provided comment. They supported the recommendation. Cllr Wilding provided a point of clarification.

In a vote the following resolution was agreed:

RESOLVED

That the recommendation as set out in section 2.1 of the report be approved.

The meeting ended at 10.28 am

CHAIRMAN

Date:

This page is intentionally left blank