

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet that took place in the Council Chamber at County Hall on Tuesday 21 September 2021

Present:

Councillor	Cabinet Member Responsibility
Councillor L McKinlay	Deputy Leader and Community, Equality, Partnerships and Performance (Chairman)
Councillor T Ball	Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability
Councillor M Buckley	Waste Reduction and Recycling
Councillor G Butland	Devolution, the Arts, Heritage and Culture
Councillor B Egan	Children's Services and Early Years
Councillor L Scott	Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport
Councillor J Spence	Health and Adult Social Care
Councillor L Wagland	Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning

Councillors Henderson, Mackrory, Pond, King, Schwier, Platt, Durham and Steptoe were also present.

1. Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest.

The report of Membership, Apologies and Declarations was received and the following were noted:

1. There had been no changes of membership since the last report.
2. Apologies were received from Councillors Bentley and Whitbread.
3. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2021 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Questions from the public

There were none.

4. The Future of On-street Parking in Essex – Delegation of Civil Parking Enforcement (FP/106/07/21)

The Cabinet's approval was sought to renew the arrangements currently in place for the enforcement of on-street parking contraventions, due to expire at the end of March 2022.

The Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport would provide a written answer to Councillor King in respect of the strategic

highways projects to be funded by any remaining surplus funds at the end of each financial year.

Resolved:

1. To agree to enter into joint committee agreements under which the Council delegates civil parking enforcement to two area Joint Committee with the same areas as the current joint committees with effect from 1 April 2022 for a period of five years with an option to extend for a further twelve months on three consecutive occasions.
2. To agree that the Director, Highways and Transportation is authorised to agree the terms of the two new Joint Committee Agreements in consultation with the Monitoring Officer.

5. Award of Residual Waste Service Orders (FP/126/08/21)

The Cabinet's approval was sought to the award of call-off contracts from the framework agreement for the treatment and disposal of residual waste established by the Council in October 2017 to secure the Council's short term residual waste disposal requirements.

The Cabinet Member for Waste Reduction and Recycling responded to questions from Councillors Henderson, Mackrory and Pond in respect of the anticipated timescales for cessation of the use of landfill as a primary waste disposal route, the disposal of refuse derived fuel, the potential for haulage issues, possible costs should the Bellhouse landfill site not be available, the costs incurred in respect of the service orders and the position in respect of the mechanical biological treatment facility (MBT).

A further written answer would be provided to Councillor Henderson in respect of the environmental impact of extending the life of the Bellhouse landfill site. The Cabinet Member for Waste Reduction and Recycling also agreed that once the legal action in respect of the MBT facility had been concluded a briefing would be provided to all Members.

Resolved:

To agree to award service orders to the waste disposal providers detailed in paragraph 3.8 of the report for a period of up to 18 months commencing on 1 October 2022.

6. Walnut Tree Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) – new 80 place PRU on surplus land at new Paxman Academy, Colchester (FP/111/07/21)

The Cabinet considered a report seeking its agreement to provide 80 places of a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) on vacant land at the new Paxman Academy, Colchester which had been earmarked for new provision. Approval was also sought to lease the site to Keys Co-operative Academy Trust, the operator of the existing facility at Turner Road, Colchester. Both sites would be run as a

single pupil referral unit. The report explained how the proposed building would contribute to reducing carbon emissions.

The Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability responded to a question from Councillor King with regards to the development of the highway plan for the Pupil Referral. Written answers would also be provided to all opposition group leaders in respect of the measures taken to reduce the need for this type of facility in future including early intervention measures, and the success rate of pupils returning to mainstream schooling.

Resolved:

1. To agree that the Council will support the construction of an establishment of a new pupil referral site with a capacity of 80 places on surplus land adjacent to Paxman Academy, Colchester to be known as the Walnut Tree site which will be managed by Keys Co-operative Academy Trust as part of its current PRU provision.
2. To agree the procurement of the associated building works for Walnut Tree through a two-stage design and build mini competition using the Essex Construction Framework 2.
3. To authorise the Head of Infrastructure Delivery to award the contract to the successful bidder, when he is content that the following conditions have been met:
 - a. A satisfactory planning permission has been granted; and
 - b. The construction costs are within the agreed budget and represent value for money.
 - c. Collateral warranties are in place between the bidder and the end user of the building
 - d. a funding agreement between the Secretary of State for Education and the Keys Co-operative Academy Trust allows the trust to expand on this site.
4. To approve the capital budget for construction and associated project fees as per the profile stated in the confidential financial appendix.
5. To agree to lease the new PRU building to Keys Co-operative Academy Trust on a 125 year term at nominal rent.
7. **Decisions taken by or in consultation with Cabinet Members (FP/086/06/21)**

The report was noted. The Cabinet Member for Economic Renewal, Infrastructure and Planning responded to a question from Councillor Mackrory in respect of FP/131/08/21 – Shire Hall, Chelmsford – extension of time for Agreement for Lease.

8. **Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Cabinet would take place at 10.15am on Friday 15 October 2021 in the Council Chamber at County Hall, Chelmsford.

9. **Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

10. **Confidential Appendix: Award of Residual Waste Service Orders (FP/126/08/21) (Public and press excluded)**

The confidential appendix to report FP/126/08/21, to which minute 5, above, refers was agreed.

11. **Confidential Appendix: Walnut Tree Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) – new 80 place PRU on surplus land at new Paxman Academy, Colchester (FP/111/07/21) (Public and press excluded)**

The confidential appendix to report FP/111/07/21, to which minute 6, above, refers was agreed.

12. **Urgent exempt business (Public and press excluded)**

There was no urgent exempt business.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.50am.