

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 21 MAY 2020

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 21 May 2020. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Democratic Services.

COVID-19 - CHANGES TO DECISION MAKING PROCESSES

Council **AGREED** to

- A)** Endorse the postponement of the annual Council meeting in view of the Government's COVID 19 restrictions and that prior to 7 May 2021 an annual meeting of the Council shall only take place following lifting of the Covid 19 restrictions by the Government and confirmation that it is safe to return to physical meetings:
- (a) where called by the Chair; or
 - (b) where called by the Chief Executive or Monitoring Officer; or
 - (c) following a resolution calling for an Annual Meeting being passed at an ordinary or extraordinary meeting of the Council.
- B)** Note that, as a consequence of A) above, all current appointments of chairmen, vice-chairmen and of members of committees, joint committees, other bodies, and substitutes shall continue until the next annual meeting or until such time as the Council may determine.
- C)** Endorse the decision of the Chief Executive to convene this meeting as an ordinary meeting of the Council, and to authorise the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Leader and/or relevant Chair(s), to alter the frequency, move or cancel meetings or to vary the dates and times of meetings, as required.
- D)** Approve the Standing Order for remote meetings, as set out at Appendix A, with amendment to provide for removal of the need for Members to stand when speaking at meetings of Full Council and the removal of paragraph 5.1(j) in the Public Questions Scheme, as it is a duplication.
- E)** Amend the delegated powers of the Chief Executive to act in an emergency contained in paragraph 3.5.2 of the Scheme of Delegation in Part 4 of the Constitution, until specified otherwise by the Council, to read as follows:
- “The Chief Executive (or any other Chief Officer or Head of Service in their absence) may exercise any power or function, which is in law capable of delegation, in any emergency threatening life, limb or substantial damage to property within the District, or where necessary in order for the Council to continue to carry out its functions or to maintain service delivery. This power shall include authority to incur expenditure not provided for within the budget or borrowing where the Chief Executive considers this essential for the purposes of managing or responding to the emergency or maintaining

essential service delivery. The Chief Executive shall consult with the Leader of the Council (unless the Leader cannot be contacted after all reasonable efforts have been made). The Chief Executive shall update the Executive or Council, as appropriate, on the use of such powers.”

- F)** Approve, until specified otherwise by the Council, the increase in the current maximum limit for a supplementary estimate to £100,000 on the understanding that if it later becomes evident that this additional expenditure can be met from savings elsewhere in the budget, it will be, and to delegate authority to the Leader, the Chief Executive and the Chief Finance Officer to approve such supplementary revenue and capital estimates.
- G)** Authorise the Monitoring Officer to make any necessary and consequential amendments to the Constitution to enable the implementation of the changes at A) to F) above.
- H)** Grant a dispensation to any Member unable to attend a council meeting for a period greater than six months for Covid-19 related reasons, in accordance with Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 until 31 December 2020.

PLANNING SCHEME OF DELEGATION (PLANNING COMMITTEE - 12 FEBRUARY 2020)

Council

AGREED to approve and adopt the changes to the Planning Scheme of Delegation, as set out in Appendix A, which was determined by Planning Committee at its meeting on the 12th February and authorise officers to confirm the necessary changes to the constitution that have been made and to allow officers to proceed to take delegated decisions.

ADOPTION OF REVISED CONSTITUTION (CIVIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - 3 MARCH 2020)

Council **AGREED** to

- A)** Adopt, subject to (B) below, the revised Constitution (Appendix B), Ethical Handbook (Appendix C), Public Speaking Scheme (Appendix D1) and Petitions Scheme (Appendix D2) with effect from 22 May 2020.
- B)** Note that, for the conduct of virtual meetings, the Constitution may be superseded by the provisions of The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and any revised Standing Orders agreed by the Council relating to virtual meetings.
- C)** Authorise the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Chairman of the Council, to make any further typographical or minor amendments to the Constitution prior to its publication.

MILTON COUNTRY PARK AND FINANCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19 (CABINET - 6 MAY 2020)

Council **AGREED** that

- A)** SCDC issues a conditional grant of £50,000 to Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust, ratifies the first instalment of £25,000 in May 2020 and agrees to the second £25,000 no earlier than September 2020.
- B)** The first instalment is subject to Head of Finance reviewing the Trust's current financial position via bank statements.
- C)** The second instalment is subject to Head of Finance reviewing the Trust's Management Accounts in addition to business efficiency measures, fundraising efforts and revised cashflow forecast.

ZERO CARBON STRATEGY

Council **AGREED** to adopt the Zero Carbon Strategy.

TERMS OF REFERENCE - CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Council

AGREED to approve the revised terms of reference of the Climate and Environment Advisory Committee, as set out in Appendix A, and agreed that the necessary amendments be made to Part 3 of the Constitution.

APPOINTMENT OF THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Council **AGREED** to

- A)** Approve the appointment of Anne Ainsworth as Chief Operating Officer for South Cambridgeshire District Council.
- B)** Note that a provisional offer of employment has been made, subject to two exemplary references, health clearance and eligibility checks in accordance with the Council's policies. The necessary references have been received.
- C)** Agree that the appointment commence on a date to be mutually agreed.
- D)** Agree that the salary to be offered is £103,000 which is within the Council's salary range for this post as set out in the Pay Policy Statement (£92,035 to £108,275 per annum).
- E)** Confirm that the appointment will be subject to a 6-month probation period.

NORTHSTOWE TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PHASE 1 (CABINET - 4 MARCH 2020)

Council

AGREED to approve the establishment of a provision of the amount detailed in the confidential report, for the potential shortfall in the Northstowe Phase 1 Section 106 funding and that the General Fund be reduced by a corresponding amount.