

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – CHILDREN'S SERVICES** held on 7 February 2017 at County Hall, Matlock.

PRESENT

Councillor J Coyle (in the Chair)

Also in attendance was Councillor C Bisknell.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors D Greenhalgh & J Street.

09/17 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

10/17 **NEW INSTRUMENTS OF GOVERNMENT** Under the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012; proposals had been received from school Governing Bodies for an amendment to their Instrument of Government.

RESOLVED that approval be given for new Instruments of Government to be made for the three schools detailed in the Director of Legal Services' report.

11/17 **CONFIRMATION OF NOMINATIONS OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS** **RESOLVED** to approve the nomination of the following persons to serve as Local Authority Governors under the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012:-

P Spencer – The Embark Federation
S Israel – Highfields School
K Scheinkonig – Wirksworth Junior School
J Dawson – Chaucer Junior School
P Wensley – Bennerley Fields Specialist Speech & Language College
C Furness– New Mills School & Sixth Form
K Argyle - Edale Church of England School
A Thomas – Lenthall Infant & Nursery School
A Thomas – Northfield Junior School
C Swales – Heath Primary School
J Birkin – Eckington Secondary School

12/17 **GOSFORTH YOUTH CENTRE** Approval was sought to declare Gosforth Youth Centre surplus to Children's Services' operational requirements.

Following a series of stakeholder engagement meetings, the Youth Buildings Cabinet report dated 3rd May 2013 recommended that Gosforth Youth Centre was transferred to the Gosforth Pre-School, a registered charity, via a Community Asset Transfer (CAT).

Youth services ceased using the building in May 2015 and had relocated services and resources, meaning that the Youth Centre was no longer used by the Council to deliver services.

Gosforth Pre-School was the tenant in the building and was hoping to acquire the building by way of a CAT. Work on the CAT had been progressing slowly and was being project-managed by Corporate Landlord. A pre-emption clause on the building gave Stubley Medical Practice first refusal if DCC wished to dispose of the land. Discussions with the Medical Practice had delayed progressing the CAT and the Director of Property had been asked to look into this. Implications on the community group would not be evident until the issue around the pre-emption clause was resolved.

Due to not using the centre to deliver services it was proposed to declare the Youth Centre surplus to Children's Services operational requirements.

The CAT was ongoing and led by Corporate Landlord. However, the delay due to the pre-emption clause was likely to delay the process. It was also necessary for Children's Services to first declare the property as surplus to operational requirements before Corporate Landlord could manage it and progress a CAT.

The current cost to Children's Services for running the building was approximately £14,000 per annum.

Once declared surplus to operational requirements, the property would pass to the Corporate Landlord to manage. Children's Services would be responsible for the funding of the property for 18 months and, due to having tenants in the building, this was likely to be the full cost.

The Council no longer had any cleaning or caretaking staff in the premises. The pre-school operate on a negotiated reduced rent and were responsible for the cleaning of the building.

Should the property be deemed surplus to the requirements of the Council, the annual running costs of approximately £14,000 per annum would be saved and Corporate Landlord would seek approval to declare the building as surplus.

RESOLVED to approve that Gosforth Youth Centre be declared surplus to Children's Services operational requirements.

13/17 TUPTON YOUTH PROVISION Approval was sought to relocate youth provision in Tupton and to declare Tupton Youth Centre as surplus to the operational requirements of Children's Services.

Tupton Youth Centre was leased from Tupton Parish Council for the provision of youth activities. Since the Multi-Agency Team (MAT) moved into the premises during 2011 the building had been increasingly used for administration and office-based work, and the Parish Council raised that this was in breach of the original agreement, which stated youth activities should be the primary use of the building.

The MAT had since relocated to Clay Cross in order to ensure that the Council was not in breach of the lease, as well as centralising all workers. This had reduced travelling time for the MAT workers and ensured that the MAT was co-located with the social care team with the eventual aim of the entire MAT being located into that building.

Following the relocation of the MAT, 3 sessions of targeted youth provision per week had been delivered from the Youth Centre. This work was targeted group work open to young people who were on the MAT workers' case load.

There was a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) adjacent to the Youth Centre, which was funded through a grant from Sports England. The MUGA was accessible when the Youth Centre was closed.

It was proposed to relocate the targeted group work from the Youth Centre to Clay Cross Youth Suite and to declare the building surplus to Children's Services' operational requirements.

Clay Cross Youth Suite was equally accessible for the young people who attended the sessions and would mean that all services were delivered from one site, thus saving additional travelling times for workers.

Clay Cross Youth Suite was based in the same building as Derbyshire Adult Community Education Services (DACES). Relocating provision to this base would increase the young people's access to DACES provision and ensure that they were aware of this provision for the future.

Provisional discussions with Tupton Parish Council had indicated that they would be happy to accept a surrender of the lease on the building so that they would be able to lease to other voluntary organisations that would be able to support youth provision in the community. This would mean a potential increase in access to youth activities for young people in the community. It would also create opportunity for increased partnership working between the voluntary and statutory sectors.

Relocation of youth activities would mean that the MAT were no longer responsible for building management issues relating to the Youth Centre, thus enabling capacity for more focused work with vulnerable young people.

The MUGA would remain as an open provision for young people in the community.

Young people had been involved in discussions around the relocation of provision to Clay Cross Youth Suite and consulted on how this could be best used to meet their needs. Relocating provision had been identified as a strategic need in order to centralise provision and young people had not cited any objections to this.

It was estimated that, due to the relocation of youth provision to Clay Cross Youth, and declaring the property surplus to requirements, a saving of £13,400 could be achieved.

RESOLVED (1) that the relocation of youth provision in Tupton; and

(2) that Tupton Youth Centre be declared surplus to the operational requirements of the Children's Services department.

14/17 SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2018/19 (The Cabinet Member agreed to the consideration of this report as an urgent agenda item as a decision to determine the admission arrangements of the Authority was required by 28th February 2017) The regulations concerning school admissions required that the admission arrangements for 2018/19 were consulted upon before 31st January 2017 and determined by 28th February 2017. Consultation information was posted on the Derbyshire County Council website from October 2016 setting out the proposed changes to arrangements for 2018/19.

The consultation period has now ended and a summary of responses were appended to the Strategic Director's report. The following schools had requested a change to their Published Admission Number (PAN) as follows:-

- (a) Brampton Primary School PAN reduction from 60 to 45.
- (b) Milford Primary School reduction of PAN from 20 to 15.

All of the above requests had been referred to the Schools' Development Section who confirmed they were in line with revised net capacity assessments and could be supported. The Development Section had notified local schools of the requests and no comments have been received.

There were no changes proposed to the over-subscription criteria for community and controlled schools, however there was a proposal to change the method of measuring home to school distance for admissions purposes. A straight line distance from home to school would replace the current shortest

available route (as plotted on the Children's Services Department Geographic Information System).

The normal area of the Drakelow Park development was currently Rosliston Primary School. From September 2018, the normal area for the Drakelow Park development would be Stanton Primary School. This was on a temporary basis until such time as the new school linked to the Drakelow Park development was opened.

A copy of the arrangements was available on the Derbyshire County Council website.

RESOLVED to approve the proposed changes to the admission arrangements as set out in the report and its Appendix

15/17 PROJECT AT THE WILLIAM ALLITT SCHOOL FOR A NEW HEATING SYSTEM (The Cabinet Member agreed to the consideration of this report as an urgent agenda item to enable some initial works to take place over the half term period). Approval was sought to allocate funds to a project at The William Allitt School.

The William Allitt School was the subject of a bid from the Authority to the Priority School Building Programme PSBP in 2014. The PSBP was a Department for Education programme to replace the schools in the worst condition. This bid was not successful. Officers had been in discussion with colleagues in the DfE to seek a long- term solution for the problems faced by this school because of its poor facilities.

The Authority retained the responsibility to keep this school in operation. The main buildings at the school were of the Vic Hallam type. In recent weeks a heating leak had occurred. This could not be traced as the heating pipes run through the floor slab. Investigations to identify the leak or improve the situation had established that the heating distribution pipework along with the heat emitters needed to be replaced.

The school was currently without its principal heating source. Supplementary electrical heaters could not be used throughout all of the school because there is insufficient capacity within the electrical system to do this. As a consequence, some classrooms are operating with local gas-fired heaters, but these are problematic because of the ventilation requirements. The overall situation was disruptive to the school.

A scheme to replace the heating distribution system had been estimated to cost up to £164,000. This could be routed externally around the building to minimise disruption to the school. If an approval could be given in February, the full scheme could be implemented by June. However, a decision now would enable some initial works to take place over the half term period (which

was the week commencing the 13th February 2017) which would enable some of the school to be brought back onto the main heating system after half term. This would reduce the impact on the school of the temporary heating and reduce / eliminate the reliance on temporary gas heating.

RESOLVED that an allocation of £164,000 be approved from the School Capital Improvement Programme for a scheme to provide new heating distribution at The William Allitt School.

16/17 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of the kind of exempt information detailed in the following summary of proceedings:-

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

- (1) To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member – Children’s Services held on 10 January 2017 (contains exempt information).
- (2) To consider the report of the Strategic Director for Children’s Services on Membership to NCER CIC Performance and Data Services (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information))
- (3) To consider the report of the Strategic Director for Children’s Services on Ockbrook & Borrowash Youth Centre (contains information which is likely to reveal the identity of any individual).