

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) held at 2.00
pm on Thursday, 26 March 2015

Present:

Members: Councillor Townshend (Chair)

Employees (by Directorate):

Place D Blackburn, M Fothergill, C Hickin

Resources U Patel, D Williams

Apologies: Councillor A Andrews (Shadow Cabinet Member)

In attendance: D Ali
J Ali
Alderman Gazey

Public Business

89. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

90. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 in relation to the private report referred to in Minute 98 below headed “Magistrates’ Court Building” on the grounds that the item refers to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information), and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

91. Minutes

- (a) The minutes of the Cabinet Member meeting held on 26 February 2015 were signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.
- (b) The minutes of the Joint Cabinet Members for Business, Enterprise and Employment and Policing and Equalities meeting held on 18 February 2015 were noted as a true record.
- (c) The minutes of the Joint Cabinet Members for Community Development, Co-ops and Social Enterprise and for Policing and Equalities meeting held on 10 March 2015 were noted as true record.

92. **Report in response to a petition concerning a property in Earlsdon Ward**

The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Executive Director of People which provided an update on actions taken since the Cabinet Member meeting held on 18 December 2014 (Minute 60/14 refers). The report was in response to a petition received on 3 July 2014. The petition, submitted by Councillor Andrews, an Earlsdon Ward Councillor, was signed by 71 individuals in the Earlsdon Ward and asked the City Council to take action regarding the poor condition of a property in the Earlsdon Ward and the impact it was having on the surrounding neighbourhood.

The petition organisers attended the meeting and spoke in respect of the condition of the property and reiterated that no effort had been made to clear the property.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities:

1. **Endorses the action already take and planned to address the conditions at this property and emphasises that time is of the essence.**
2. **(a) Notes that Planning Committee have authorised the issue o appropriate proceedings in the Magistrates' Court.**
(b) Directs that the Legal Services Department of Coventry City Council issue legal proceedings as a matter of urgency.
3. **Requests that a further report be submitted to the Cabinet Member before 30 detailing progress in respect of legal proceedings and progress made on resolving the issues.**
4. **Councillor Andrews and the petition organisers be invited to the meeting for the consideration of this item.**

93. **Proposed Amendments to Code of Conduct for Elected and Co-opted Members**

The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Executive Director of Resources which sought approval to the proposed amendment to the Code of Conduct for Elected and Co-opted Members.

At its meeting on 29 August 2014, the Ethics Committee considered a report on the Code of Conduct during the course of which it decided that it should recommend to Council that the Code of Conduct should be amended to draw members' attention to the requirement not to disclose confidential information. The report provided suggested wording for that amendment which was approved by the Ethics Committee at their meeting on 10 March 2015 (their Minute 22/14 refers) and requested the Cabinet Member to consider the wording and recommend Council to approve the additional wording.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities recommends to Council that it approves the additional wording to the Code

of Conduct and that Part 4A of the Council's constitution is amended accordingly.

94. **Revised Statement of Licensing Policy**

The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Executive Director of Place which sought Members' views and approval to consult on the draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities having considered all comments made by the Licensing and Regulatory Committee in conjunction with the draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy, authorises the Executive Director of Place to carry out the consultation as detailed in the report.

95. **Outstanding Issues Report**

The Cabinet Member noted a report of the Executive Director of Resources that identified those issues on which further reports had been requested and were outstanding, so that progress could be monitored.

96. **Magistrates' Court Building**

Further to Minute 78/14, the Cabinet Member considered a further report of the Executive Director of Resources which provided an update as to the progress of the proceedings to date.

The report stated that the case had been settled subject to a consent order and payment of the agreed sum. It was hoped that by late March/early April 2015 a formal consent order would have been made to reflect the settlement and dispose of the court proceedings and that the agreed payment would have been made to the Council.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities notes the successful conclusion of this matter and congratulates David Williams for the work undertaken for the benefit of Coventry City Council.

97. **Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

There were no other items of public business.

98. **Magistrates' Court Building**

Further to Minute 96 above, the Cabinet Member considered a corresponding private report of the Executive Director of Resources which provided confidential information in relation the Magistrates' Court.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities notes the successful conclusion of this matter and congratulates David Williams for the work undertaken for the benefit of Coventry City Council.

99. Any other items of private business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved

There were no other items of private business.

(Meeting closed at 2.40 pm)