



### **Cabinet Member for Education**

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#### **Time and Date**

2.30 pm on Wednesday, 8th July, 2015

#### **Place**

Diamond Room 2 - Council House

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#### **Public Business**

1. **Apologies**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

3. **Minutes**

(a) To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2015 (Pages 3 - 6)

(b) Matters arising

4. **Petitions- Save Allesley Park Library and Save Stoke Aldermoor Community Library** (Pages 7 - 12)

Report of the Executive Director of People

To consider the following petitions:

(i) Save Allesley Park Library - 168 signatures, submitted by Councillor B Singh, a Whoberley Ward Councillor who has been invited to the meeting for the consideration of this item.

(ii) Save Stoke Aldermoor Community Library – 7 signatures. The petition organiser has been invited to the meeting for the consideration of this item.

5. **Appointment of Local Authority Governors** (Pages 13 - 14)

Report of the Executive Director of People

6. **Outstanding Issues**

There are no Outstanding Issues

7. **Any Other Items of Public Business**

Any other items of public business which the Cabinet Member decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

**Private Business**

**Nil**

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Chris West, Executive Director, Resources, Council House, Coventry

Tuesday, 30 June 2015

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Michelle Salmon, Governance Services Tel: 024 7683 3065 E-mail: michelle.salmon@coventry.gov.uk

Membership: Councillors D Kershaw (Cabinet Member) and S Thomas (Deputy Cabinet Member)

By Invitation: Councillor J Blundell

Please note: a hearing loop is available in the committee rooms

If you require a British Sign Language interpreter for this meeting OR if you would like this information in another format or language please contact us.

**Michelle Salmon**

**Governance Services Tel: 024 7683 3065 E-mail:  
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# Public Document Pack Agenda Item 3a

## Coventry City Council Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member for Education held at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 8 April 2015

Present:

Cabinet Member: Councillor D Kershaw

Other Members: Councillor J Blundell (Shadow Cabinet Member)

Employees (by Directorate):

People M Halpin, I Merrifield

Resources G Holmes, M Salmon

Apologies: There were no apologies

### **Public Business**

#### **46. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **47. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Further to minute 38/14 relating to Library Petitions, the Cabinet Member indicated that a number of meetings had been held with local residents that had enabled discussions on possible alternative models of delivery which would retain library services but deliver significantly reduced costs to the Council. Options would include the co-location of different services and opportunities to co-operate with statutory and non-statutory partners in the City.

#### **48. Feedback from the Consultation on Potential Changes to the Eligibility Policy for School Transport for Pupils with Special Education Needs and Disabilities**

The Cabinet Member for Education considered a report of the Executive Director of People on the Feedback from the consultation on potential changes to the eligibility policy for transport for children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities.

A public consultation began on 24 November 2014 on possible changes to the eligibility criteria for pupils/students in receipt of Special Educational Needs transport to school/college. The consultation ran until 23 January 2015 with the proposal at that time to implement any changes from September 2015.

In December 2014, the Cabinet Member released a statement delaying any possible decisions on revised eligibility criteria. He stated that there would be no changes to the September 2015 criteria but that the consultation would continue in order to gather full public, parental and young people's feedback into proposals. It was made clear at that stage that any changes which may be proposed for September 2016 would be subject to a further period of statutory consultation.

The report detailed the consultation responses received from 7 consultation events held at various venues across the City and to an online questionnaire.

The Cabinet Member acknowledged the difficult decisions that the Local Authority had to make in these austere times. This was an extremely emotive subject and for any proposals for change in the future, every endeavour would be made to work with parents to secure the best outcomes for the children concerned.

**RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Education notes the responses received from the consultation and agrees to include consideration of these in any further decisions on whether to consult on changes to the eligibility criteria for transport for children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities.**

#### 49. **Determination of School Terms and Holidays 2016 - 2017**

The Cabinet Member for Education considered a report of the Executive Director of People on the outcome of public consultation on the School Terms and Holidays dates for 2016/2017 and sought agreement to the School Terms and Holidays Calendar for 2016/2017.

Currently the local authority was required to set term and holiday dates for community schools, community special schools, voluntary controlled schools, pupil referral units, and maintained nursery schools. All schools in England were free to decide when their school day should start and end.

Governing bodies were required to set term and holiday dates in foundation and voluntary aided schools. The academy trust was responsible for the duration of the school year and term and holiday dates for academies and free schools.

The public consultation on the Coventry school terms and holidays dates 2016/2017 took place from 23 February 2015 to 10 March 2015 to which there were 493 valid replies to the consultation. The most popular of the three options available was Option 1, with pupils beginning their Christmas holidays on Monday 19 December. This was the preferred option of other West Midlands Authorities and also Warwickshire. Details of the options and a copy of the consultation document were attached as appendices to the report.

**RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Education:**

- (1) Notes the outcome of the public consultation on School Terms and Holidays and agrees a calendar of School Terms and Holidays for 2016/2017.**

**(2) Adopts Option 1 as the School Terms and Holidays programme 2016/2017 for Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools and maintained Nursery Schools.**

**(3) Invites the Catholic and Church of England Diocesan Authorities and the Governors of Trust Schools and Academies to recommend the same calendar of School Terms and Holidays for their schools.**

**50. Outstanding Issues**

There were no outstanding minutes.

**51. Any Other Items of Public Business**

There were no other items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 2:55pm)

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Cabinet Member for Education

8<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for Education – Councillor D Kershaw

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Executive Director for People

**Ward(s) affected:**

All

**Title: Library Petitions**

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**Is this a key decision?**

No, as the report doesn't contain any proposals that would significantly affect residents of the City.

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**Executive Summary:**

A number of e-petitions and written petitions have been presented to the Council asking for the Council to reconsider making cuts to local library services. These include recent petitions specifically related to the community libraries in Aldermoor and Allesley Park. In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to library issues are heard by the Cabinet Member for Education.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Education:-

- 1) Notes the petitions and requests that Officers write to the petition organisers to advise them of the Council's current position and assure them that the petitioners will be encouraged to participate in any discussions in relation to the future of library services in Coventry.

**List of Appendices included:**

None

**Other useful background papers:**

None

**Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

No

**Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?**

No

**Will this report go to Council?**

No



## Report title: Library Petitions

### 1. Background

- 1.1 An e-petition "Save Allesley Park Library from Government forced cuts" sponsored by Councillor Bally Singh and signed by 168 people closed on 1<sup>st</sup> June asking:-

*"We, the undersigned, urge Coventry City Council to keep the Allesley Park library open in the face of government led cuts. We recognise the difficult decisions that the city council has to make, especially as funding from the Coalition government cuts spending power by nearly 50% in real terms since 2010. However, we believe the shared service model that the Allesley Park library can support, can also help the council keep sufficient library services open in the west of the city during these tough times."*

- 1.2 An e-petition "Save Stoke Aldermoor Community Library" sponsored by a local resident and signed by 7 people closed on 8<sup>th</sup> June asking:-

*"Save Aldermoor Community Library as we have very little resources in our Community and we would like our Library to stay open"*

- 1.3 The City Council currently operate a Library Service comprising Central Library plus 16 community libraries, a mobile service and an at home service. The petitions refer to individual libraries:

- Aldermoor Library located in Acorn Street, Stoke Aldermoor is one of the City's smaller libraries. The library was re-located to a building previously used as a shop (part of a small retail development) in October 2007.
- Allesley Park Library is a modern purpose built library, part of Allesley Park Neighbourhood Centre in Whitaker Road, Allesley Park. The library opened in July 2011 and the building is shared by a local GP practice and Pharmacy. The Centre is adjacent to the Wilfred Spender Centre.

- 1.4 The petitions relates to genuine concern from local residents regarding the level of service reductions that may need to be considered by Coventry City Council. It is a reality that the City Council has to make significant reductions in the amount of money it spends as a result of Government funding reductions. These reductions have required the Council to carefully consider all the various services it spends money on and this must include libraries.

- 1.5 The way in which library provision is provided across the city may be considered within service reviews. The challenges faced by the City Council present the opportunity to reflect on changing patterns of library use, and the changing needs of library users. The Council is currently exploring whether there are any alternative models of delivery which may retain services but deliver significantly reduced costs to the Council. Options will include the co-location of different services and opportunities to co-operate with statutory and non-statutory partners in the City.

- 1.6 No decisions have been taken regarding the closure of any of the city's libraries. Any future proposals to make changes to the library service will be subject to public consultation. Officers will work over the coming months with the various groups and individuals who have expressed an interest in library services to see if they can work with the Council to deliver a better service at reduced cost.

## **2. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 2.1 There is no current proposal to close any community libraries therefore, there is no further action that Officers are recommending to take in terms of this request.
- 2.2 The Cabinet Member is recommended to request that Officers write to the petition spokespersons to advise them of the Council's current position and assure them that residents and petitioners will be encouraged to participate in any future discussions in relation to library services in Coventry.

## **3. Results of consultation undertaken**

- 3.1 No consultation has been undertaken. Any future proposals about the provision of library services in the future will at a formative stage and prior to any decisions being made be the subject of a full consultation exercise.

## **4. Comments from Executive Director for Resources**

- 4.1 Financial implications  
There are no financial implications as a result of this report.
- 4.2 Legal implications  
There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

## **5. Other implications**

### **5.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?**

Not applicable.

### **5.2 How is risk being managed?**

None

### **5.3 What is the impact on the organisation?**

None

### **5.4 Equalities / EIA**

None

### **5.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment**

None.

### **5.6 Implications for partner organisations?**

None

**Report author:**

Peter Barnett, Head of Libraries Advice Health and Information

**Directorate:**

People

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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

<b>Contributor/ approver name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Directorate or organisation</b>	<b>Date doc sent out</b>	<b>Date response received or approved</b>
<b>Contributors:</b> Isabel Merrifield	Assistant Director for Safeguarding, Performance and Quality	People	19 February 2015	20 February 2015
Michelle Salmon	Governance Services Officer	Resources	26 February 2015	26 February 2015
<b>Names of approvers for submission:</b> (Officers and Members)				
Diane Jones	Lead Accountant – Business Partner	Resources	20 February 2015	23 February 2015
Julie Newman	Senior Solicitor, Legal Services	Resources	20 February 2015	23 February 2015
Councillor D Kershaw	Cabinet Member for Education	-	12 June 2015	19 February 2015

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Coventry City Council

## Cabinet Member (Education)

8 July 2015

### Local Authority Governor: Recommendations for Appointment

Name	School	Term of Office
Mr George Jones	St Augustine's Catholic Primary School	7 July 2019

### Local Authority Governor: Re-Appointments

Name	School	Term of Office
Mrs F Cipolat	Corley Centre	29 June 2019
Mr D Howells	Hearsall Community Primary School	29 June 2019
Cllr D Kershaw	Hollyfast Primary School	29 June 2019
Cllr J Clifford	Limbrick Wood Primary	31 August 2019
Mr M Newton	Longford Park Primary	21 September 2019
Mrs P Hetherton	Pearl Hyde Primary	21 September 2019
Mrs J Bicknell	Tiverton School	21 September 2019

All the above meet the criteria for appointment as LA Governors set out below.

- Have a commitment to the provision of high quality education and the pursuit of excellence for all children
- Are supportive of the LA's policies, its aspirations for Coventry's children and the partnership between a publicly accountable LA and its schools
- Are able to work as a member of a team.
- Are conscientious and committed to attending meetings regularly.
- Have good communication skills both written and oral.
- Have an interest in and a desire to contribute to improving education outcomes in Coventry.
- Have a willingness to be challenging, supportive and a critical friend to the school.
- Are supportive of public services and of the role of the City Council in the provision of Education.

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