CABINET

Thursday, 8th July, 2010

Councillor R.F. Spencer (Chairman)

Councillors:

A.S. Bexon R.J. Nicholson V.C. Pepper W.J. Clarke (Observer) G.E. Withers (Observer) W.H. Golland J.M. Parr R.J. Tait (a) A.J. Gillam (Observer)

Officers in attendance: P Murdock, S M Sale, M Kimberley, S Bray.

15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Tait.

16 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 JUNE 2010

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

17 COALITION PROGRAMME, QUEEN'S SPEECH AND GOVERNMENT BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS

A report was submitted to inform members of those elements of the Coalition's "Programme for Government" most likely to impact on local government.

The report also detailed the proposed legislation set out in the Queen's Speech that related to local government and updated members on recent government budget announcements and their anticipated effect on the Council's financial position.

RESOLVED:

To note the report.

18 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Councillor P G Barnes asked for an update on the new Arnold health centre. The Leader replied that doctors were keen to go ahead and that the deputy chief executive was working with them.

19 PETITIONS

The Head of Democratic & Community Services reported that the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 required every local authority to have adopted a "Petition Scheme" which set out how it would handle petitions. By 15 December 2010 every local authority was to have an on-line petition facility, under which anyone may set up a petition on the authority's website and other petitioners might "sign up" to the petition on-line. The Act defined different categories of petitions and allowed the authority to define the number of signatures required for each category. A draft Petition Scheme was attached to the report. The Scheme had previously been reported to Personnel and Resources Committee and submitted to Council on 7 July 2010.

RESOLVED:

To approve the draft Petition Scheme.

20 HOUSING AND COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT AND GTP SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORTS

Members were asked to consider the reports and recommendations of the Housing and Council Tax and GTP scrutiny reviews, which had previously been reported to the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committees and approved by the Overarching Scrutiny Committee for referral to Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

To accept the recommendations made.

21 PROGRESS REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

The following progress reports on items within their remit were received from Portfolio Holders:

Finance

i. Budgets were under constant review and further information was awaited.

ii. Joint Leadership Board - encouraging progress.

Leisure & Wellbeing

- i. Booklet on summer activities for children produced.
- ii. Arnold Carnival success.
- iii. Arnot Hill Park entrance to be improved.

iv. Difficulties with surface at Queensbower and Church Lane play areas due to dry weather.

v. Arnot Hill Park - reawarded green flag.

Safe & Sustainable Neighbourhoods

- i. Netherfield Healthy Month/Community celebrations.
- ii. Killisick projects ongoing.
- iii. Newstead country park project.
- iv. Honeywood Gardens garages work with residents.
- v. Phoenix action plan under way.
- vi. Community safety work in Bestwood, crime down 11% in Borough.

Direct Services

- i. Summer collection going well.
- ii. Graffitti extra crew allocated.

Development & Enterprise

- i. Continue to train Planning members.
- ii.Balmoral House to be disposed of.

Customer & Member Services i. Armed forces parade success.

RESOLVED:

To note the reports.