

**DECISIONS SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED BEFORE MONDAY, 14 JUNE 2021**

**CABINET**

Tuesday, 1 June 2021

**PRESENT** – Councillors Mrs H Scott (Chair), Clarke, Dulston, Johnson, Keir, Marshall, Mills and K Nicholson

**INVITEES** – Councillors Curry, Harker, Snedker and Tait

**APOLOGIES** –

**ABSENT** –

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** – Councillors Bartch, Mrs Culley and Durham

**C1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

**C2 TO HEAR RELEVANT REPRESENTATION (FROM MEMBERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC) ON ITEMS ON THIS CABINET AGENDA.**

No representations were made by Members or members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

**C3 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THIS CABINET HELD ON TUESDAY, 4 MAY 2021.**

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Cabinet held on 4 May 2021.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record.

**REASON** – They represent an accurate record of the meeting.

**C4 TO CONSIDER THE TIMING OF MEETINGS OF THIS CABINET FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2021/22 MUNICIPAL YEAR.**

**RESOLVED** - That meetings of this Cabinet be held at 5.00 p.m. for the remainder of the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

**REASON** – To comply with the views of Cabinet.

**C5 MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET**

There were no matters referred back for re-consideration to this meeting.

**C6 ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There were no issues arising from Scrutiny considered at this meeting.

## **C7 KEY DECISIONS**

There were no Key Decisions considered at this meeting.

## **C8 PARTNERSHIP WORKING IN DARLINGTON**

The Leader introduced the report of the Chief Executive (previously circulated) advising Members of changes which had been made in relation to partnership working in Darlington, which involved replacing the current Partnership Board by a Public Sector Executive Group (PSEG). It was also reported that, subject to approval by Council, the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) would cease to be used as a strategic lead for the Borough, with the lead in future being provided to partners by the Council Plan.

It was reported that the membership of the PSEG would include senior officers from key public sector bodies and its key aims would be to gain a common understanding of the issues facing Darlington; collective horizon scanning, maximising the benefits of public sector resources; reviewing and planning initiatives to deliver success; advise on its on governance issues and seek approval where appropriate; work and support the private and voluntary sector to deliver programmes and projects and to act as the key Programme Board for key initiatives.

Reference was made to the background to the establishment of the Darlington Partnership, which had become the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), when Government legislation required local authorities to establish a LSP; its various statutory roles, funding and support, mainly by the public sector; its duty to agree and deliver a SCS; and its success in delivering a number of successful projects over many years.

It was reported that a further report on how the new partnerships arrangements were working would be submitted to Cabinet in October 2021.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That the new approach to partnership working in Darlington, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

(b) That the great contribution to Darlington made by current and past Members of the Darlington Partnership, be recognised.

(c) That the change of emphasis with the Council Plan standing as the Council's lead strategy, be approved, and the Council cease to have a separate Sustainable Community strategy.

(d) That, subject to approval by Council, authority be delegated to the Assistant Director, Law and Governance to make consequential amendments to the constitution.

(e) That a report be submitted to Council for consideration and approval.

**REASONS** – (a) To refresh partnering in Darlington continues to thrive and acknowledge the general work done.

(b) For the matter to be considered by Council in accordance with the procedure for making changes to documents that are part of the policy framework.

(c) To enable appropriate amendments to the constitution to be made.

## **C9 REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES 2021/22**

The Leader introduced the report of the Chief Executive (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Council's representation on other bodies for 2021/22 Municipal Year, to which Cabinet appoints.

**RESOLVED** - That the appointments to the other bodies, as detailed below, for the 2020/21 Municipal Year, be approved; namely:-

### **Name of Body or Nomination(s) Organisation**

Association of Rail North  
Partnership Authorities

Rail North Ltd. Councillor Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council)

Transport for the  
North Councillor Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council)

North East Rail  
Management Unit Councillor Mrs H Scott Leader of the Council)

Community Library  
(Cockerton) Limited Councillor Cossins (Cockerton Ward Member)

County Durham and  
Darlington Foundation  
Trust – Board of  
Governors Councillor Tostevin

Creative Darlington Councillor Keir (Cabinet Member with Local Services  
Portfolio) and (Chair of Communities and Local  
Services Scrutiny Committee as named substitute)

Crown Street Library  
Trustee Board Councillor Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council)

Darlington Cares Councillor K Nicholson

Darlington Railway  
Museum Trust Councillor Keir (Cabinet Member with Local Services  
Portfolio)

Darlington Town Centre Deal Board	Councillor Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council)
Durham County Pension Fund Committee	Councillor Johnson (Cabinet Member with Resources Portfolio) and Chair of Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee
Family Help Organisation	Councillors Curry, Crumbie and Newall
Fostering Panel	Councillor Layton
Maidendale Nature and Fishing Reserve (Associate Member)	Councillor Tait (Ward Member)
North East Ambulance Service	Councillor K Nicholson (Chair of Health and Well Being Board)
North East Child Poverty Commission	Councillor Clarke (Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio)
North East Regional Employers Organisation	Councillor Johnson (Cabinet Member with Resources Portfolio), Chair of Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee and Vice Chair of Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee
Executive Committee	Councillor Johnson (Cabinet Member with Resources Portfolio)
North East Strategic Migration Partnership	Councillor Clarke (Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio) (Councillor Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council as named substitute))
Northern Housing Consortium	Councillor K Nicholson (Cabinet Member with Health and Housing Portfolio)
Northumbrian Flood and Coastal Regional Committee	Councillor Snedker
Poor Moor Fund/Charity	Councillor Marshall (Cabinet Member with Economy Portfolio)
RELATE North East	Councillors Curry and Layton
Teesside International Airport Limited - Board	Councillor Mrs D Jones (to be appointed as Director) (Councillor Culley as named substitute Director)
Teesside International Airport Limited - Consultative Committee	Councillor Keir (Cabinet Member with Local Services Portfolio)

Tees Valley Local Chair of Communities and Local Services Scrutiny  
Access Forum Committee

Tidy North Regional Councillor Keir (Cabinet Member with Local Services  
Consultative Committee Portfolio)

**REASON** - To comply with the nominations received from the Political Groups.

## **C10 CORPORATE REBRAND**

The Cabinet Member with the Stronger Communities Portfolio introduced the report of the Chief Officers Executive (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to replacing the Council's current logo with a refreshed version of the existing Darlington Borough Council crest and requesting approval for that refreshed crest to be used on the external Council Chamber wall of the Town Hall in order to complement the considerable transformation and attractive lighting investments seen elsewhere across the Town Centre.

The submitted report stated that the Council Plan sets out the priorities and objectives for the Council and as part of that progressive agenda, Cabinet wished to modernise and demonstrate transformational changes and it was considered that a change to the council's logo and broader identity would help to project this message.

It was reported that, if approved, the use of the existing logo would cease and would gradually be removed from all digital and printed materials and Council assets, with the existing Crest being enhanced by the use of a single colour for Council related business, allowing the original full colour version of the crest to be used by the Mayor's office, which would give a clear distinction between the two functions of Council business.

Reference was made to the financial implications and to the need for a campaign to be undertaken to raise public awareness of the change to ensure the Council and its services continued to be recognised and trusted by residents, business owners and other service users.

Discussion ensued on the colour to be used on the single colour version of the logo and it was reported that the colour was in keeping with other campaign logos being used in Darlington such as Enjoy Darlington.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That the decommissioning of the current logo and the incremental implementation of the existing Darlington Borough Council crest as the new logo in its place, be approved.

(b) That the works to Town Hall signage and the external council chamber wall, as detailed in the submitted report, be approved.

**REASONS** – (a) The new logo will provide a visible and symbolic signal to residents and other stakeholders that the council is undergoing change and is part of its progressive transformative agenda, delivering against the recently approved Council Plan.

(b) Enhancements to the Town Hall signage and external council chamber wall will complement the significant capital investment being undertaken to transform other nearby buildings in the town centre.

## **C11 ACQUISITION OF LAND AT SNIPE LANE, DARLINGTON**

The Cabinet Member with the Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Chief Executive (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to acquiring 2.27 acres of grazing land at Snipe Lane, as shown hatched on the plan (also previously circulated), for future residential development and the granting of delegated authority to the Chief Executive to negotiate and acquire any other adjacent plots of land considered suitable for future development.

It was reported that in March 2018, Cabinet had approved the acquisition of land adjacent to Neasham Road and either side of Snipe Lane from Darlington Farmers Auction Mart (DFAM) for the development and provision of 450 new homes, including 300 affordable homes and that, in September 2020 it had approved the establishment of a Joint Venture Company with Esh Homes Limited to deliver the infrastructure and to deliver and sell houses.

Members were advised that, in April 2020, approval had been given to the use of a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to acquire part of Snipe Lane itself which was in unknown ownership and was required to guarantee access to the proposed development and that a number of further plots of land, accessed from Snipe Lane, had since been acquired, with the Council now owning most of the land accessed from Snipe Lane and bounded by the A66, Neasham Road, Railway Cottages and the East Coast Mainline.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That the acquisition of land, on the terms set out in Appendix 2 of the submitted report, be approved.

(b) That the Assistant Director for Law and Governance be authorised to complete the transfers of land accordingly.

(c) That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to negotiate terms and acquire any remaining plots of grazing land accessed from Snipe Lane north of the A66 and considered suitable for future development, with the terms to be reported on the schedule of transactions.

**REASONS** – (a) To secure land for future residential development.

(b) To give the Council control of a large area of land for future residential development.

## **C12 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES - TO CONSIDER ANY MEMBERSHIP CHANGES TO OTHER BODIES TO WHICH CABINET APPOINTS.**

There were no membership changes reported at the meeting.

## **C13 TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS :-**

**DECISIONS DATED –  
4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021**