



# Council Meeting

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**26 October 2016**

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## HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Hastings Borough Council to be held at the Aquila House, Breeds Place, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 3UY, on Wednesday, 26th October, 2016 at 6.00 pm at which meeting the business specified below is proposed to be transacted.

Yours sincerely,

Chief Legal Officer

Aquila House  
Breeds Place  
Hastings

18 October 2016

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### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 July 2016
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Announcements from the Mayor and Leader
5. Questions (if any) from:-
  - a) Members of the public under Rule 11
  - b) Councillors under Rule 12
6. Motion (Rule 14)  
Councillor Bacon to move, seconded by Councillor Batsford, that:  
“Hastings Borough Council notes that:
  - corporate tax evasion and avoidance are having a damaging impact

on the world's poorest countries to such a level that it is costing them far more than they receive in aid

- this is costing the UK as much as £30bn a year
- this practice also has a negative effect on small and medium-sized companies who pay more tax proportionately.

Hastings Borough Council further notes that the UK Government has taken steps to tackle the issue of tax avoidance and evasion by issuing Procurement Policy Note 03/14 (PPN 03/14). This applies to all central government contracts worth more than £5m.

Hastings Borough Council also notes the existence of voluntary schemes promoting tax compliance such as the Fair Tax Mark, which can serve as an independent means of verification.

Hastings Borough Council notes the 2015 Public Contract Regulations which state (in section 4) that local government can choose to adopt Procurement Policy Note 03/14. This council believes that bidders for council contracts should be asked to account for their past tax record, using the higher standards in PPN 03/14.

Hastings Borough Council therefore calls for procurement procedures to be amended to require all companies bidding for service contracts worth more than £25,000 and for works contracts worth more than £25,000 to self-certify that they are fully tax-compliant in line with central government practice using the standards in PPN 03/14, applying to contracts of the size specified above.

This Full Council asks the Cabinet to publicise this policy and to report on its implementation annually.”

#### 7. Motion (Rule 14)

Councillor Dowling to move, seconded by Councillor Fitzgerald, that:

“This Council notes that hundreds of thousands of women including many residents in Hastings had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little or no personal notification of the changes. Some women had only two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age.

This Council:

- gives its full support to the campaign by Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) to address this problem;
- calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born between 6th April 1951 and 5th April 1953 who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification;

- instructs the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and the Member of Parliament for Hastings and Rye to express this view and ask them to support WASPI's campaign and meet with their Hastings representatives.”

8. Motion (Rule 14)

Councillor Atkins to move, seconded by Councillor Wincott, that:

“Hastings Borough Council believes the safety of our children is of paramount importance as they travel to and from school within our Borough. Parents parking irresponsibly and illegally at school time is a real danger to children’s safety across Hastings and it is our duty to ensure our children are safe.

We therefore urge every school to include reminders to parents in their weekly newsletters to parents about parking safely around the school, alongside calling the County Council to deploy more enforcement officers at school peak times to help prevent illegal and irresponsible parking and to explore every other enforcement option and safety policy at their disposal to maintain the safety of our children.”

9. Motion (Rule 14)

Councillor Patmore to move, seconded by Councillor Lee, that:

“Hastings Borough Council will support the placing of a new Blue Plaque on 447 Bexhill Road, St. Leonards on Sea to commemorate Claude Nunney, the most decorated ordinary private soldier in the Canadian Army in World War 1 and the only Great War soldier who was born in this town to be awarded the Victoria Cross”

10. Membership of Committees

To give effect to any request received from a political group for a change in their representation on committee(s)

11. Appointment of Independent Persons

(Report of the Chief Legal Officer)

12. Reports of Committees

- a) To resolve that the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of any items considered while the public were excluded by the relevant committee because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972

- referred to in the minutes of the relevant committee
- b) To receive and consider the recommendations and any decisions of the following committees: -

<b>Minute No.</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Cabinet Member / Chair</b>
<b>CABINET – 8 AUGUST 2016</b>		
20.	European Maritime Fisheries Fund Community Led Local Development (Hastings FLAG( 2))	Poole
21.	Healthy Hastings & Rother Programme	Forward
22. (E)	Connecting Hastings and Rother Together – Community Led Local Development (CHART CLLD) (Part II)	Poole
<b>CABINET – 5 SEPTEMBER 2016</b>		
25.	Planning Service Review Report	Forward
26.	Anti-Poverty Strategy Refresh	Forward
27.	Management Response to the Overview and Scrutiny Review of Community Safety	Davies
28.	Management Response to the Overview and Scrutiny Review of Digital Inclusion	Cartwright
29.	Community Partnership Fund 2017/19	Forward
30.	Final Accounts 2015/16	Chowney
31. (C)	Annual Treasury Management Report 2015/16	Chowney
32.	Coastal Medium Term Plans	Poole
33.	Energy Procurement	Chowney
34.	Procurement of Cleaning Contracts	Chowney
<b>CABINET – 10 OCTOBER 2016</b>		
37.	Sustainable Housing in Inclusive Neighbourhoods (SHINE) Updated Bid	Forward
38.	Land on Churchfields Estate	Chowney
40. (E)	Land on Churchfields Estate	Chowney

- (C) – Council Decision  
(E) – Exempt

Notes:

1. The Mayor will call over the minutes and members will rise and indicate those items which they wish to have discussed

2. No discussion shall take place at this stage upon any part II minute covered by resolution 12a) above. Any such discussion shall be deferred until item 13 on the agenda
13. To consider the recommendations and decisions of committees (if any) which the Council has resolved should be discussed after the exclusion of the public from the meeting

Note: Nothing contained in this agenda or in the attached reports and minutes of committees constitutes an offer or acceptance of an offer or an undertaking or contract by the Borough Council

# Agenda Item 2 Public Document Pack

## FULL COUNCIL

20 JULY 2016

Present: The Right Worshipful The Mayor (Councillor Judy Rogers) in the Chair, Councillors Sinden, Batsford, Cartwright, Chowney, Clark, Cooke, Davies, Forward, Howard, Dowling, Poole, Sabetian, Scott, Street, Turner, Webb, Westley, Wincott, Beaver, Charman, Lee, Fitzgerald, Beaney, Edwards, Clarke, Dowling, Bacon, Patmore and Rankin

Apologies for absence were noted for Councillor Roberts and Atkins

14. **TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18 MAY 2016 AND THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15 JUNE 2016**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 18 May 2016 and the Special Council meeting held on 15 June 2016 be signed by the Mayor as a correct record of the proceedings

15. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER RULE 11**

A written question had been received from Ms B Rogers regarding the cost of a new cycle route in Alexandra Park. Councillor Davies, the Lead Member for Environment and Place, answered the question. Copies of the question and the reply were circulated at the meeting.

Ms Rogers asked Councillor Davies a supplementary question regarding the costs of additional safety measures identified during the public consultation on the proposed cycle route, including the cost of extra signage in the park. Councillor Davies welcomed the responses received during the public consultation and agreed to provide Ms Rogers with a written response to her supplementary question.

16. **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS UNDER RULE 12**

No written questions have been received from Councillors.

Questions to the Leader, Deputy Leader and other Lead members were asked and answered in accordance with Rule 12.1 as follows: -

Questioner and Councillor	Subject	Reply Given By Councillor
Lee	<u>New Home Secretary</u> would the Leader of the Council join with him in congratulating our local MP on her appointment as Home Secretary? Councillor Chowney congratulated Amber Rudd	Chowney

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	<p>MP on her new appointment, and explained that he had emailed her shortly after her new role was announced. He explained that he met with Ms Rudd regularly to discuss issues of local concern.</p>	
Rankin	<p><u>Addressing Street Drinking</u> given the importance of inward migration and tourism to the local economy, what is the council doing to tackle street drinking in Hastings town centre? Councillor Chowney replied that addressing street drinking was primarily a matter for the Police, he continued that as a result of reductions to policing budgets, crimes were now assessed based on potential threat, harm and risk. Councillor Chowney had met with the newly appointed Chief Inspector for Hastings and put forward that street drinking should also be considered as an economic threat. The council also worked proactively with a range of other partners on this issue and was considering the implementation of Public Space Protection Orders to help tackle the issues experienced in the town centre.</p>	Chowney
Westley	<p><u>European Funding Opportunities</u> Hastings has benefited considerably from European funding in the past, what will the impact on the financial position of the town be after the vote to leave the European Union? Councillor Chowney responded that it was likely the town would have significantly fewer resources than previously, although there were still many unknown impacts of the decision to leave the European Union. It was likely that the council would also find it increasingly difficult to find other European partners to bid for new projects. Councillor Chowney added that the council, in partnership with Amicus Horizon, had recently successfully obtained European funding for the SHINE initiative to help tackle fuel poverty. The council was also pursuing a bid for Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG) 2 funding. Previous funding opportunities through Community Led Local Development (CLLD) may also now be limited from a 5 year programme, to 1 year.</p>	Chowney
Cooke	<p><u>Missed Bin Collection</u> a number of reports of missed bin collections have been received from residents around the town, what action is being taken with the contactor to improve performance? Councillor Davies replied that the council continued to work with the other members of the Joint Waste Committee and through officer</p>	Davies



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	contacts to address areas of under performance in the contract and support improvements to services.	
Scott	<u>Green Flag Award for Alexandra Park</u> can the lead member advise if Alexandra Park will retain its Green Flag accreditation for another year? Councillor Davies said he was pleased to announce that Alexandra Park had been awarded a Green Flag accreditation for another year. The Green Flag Award was a national scheme, which recognised that the park was maintained to a high standard.	Davies
Beaver	<u>Litter bins on the seafront</u> given the recent fine weather, could the lead member arrange for extra collections from the litter bins on Sea Road in the evening, to prevent rubbish from accumulating there? Councillor Davies explained that he had been monitoring this issue closely, reporting any incidents of overflowing bins online and meeting with staff from the council's waste and street cleansing contractor. Councillor Davies encouraged all members to report waste and street cleansing issues using the My Hastings online service.	Davies
Batsford	<u>Parking Near Schools</u> will the Leader of the Council request that East Sussex County Council (ESCC) deploy their Traffic Enforcement Officers outside local schools at busy times to help address safety concerns and instances of illegal parking? Councillor Chowney agreed to contact ESCC to make this request. He added that this was a longstanding issue in the town, but deploying Traffic Enforcement Officers in this way had been proven to improve safety.	Chowney
Clarke	<u>Engaging with Businesses</u> would the Leader of the Council comment on a recent report by the Local Government Association (LGA) which set out a series of measures for local authorities to engage more effectively with businesses? Councillor Chowney explained that the council already successfully engaged with businesses in a variety of ways. He continued that he was not yet familiar with the specific report Councillor Clarke referred to, but would investigate how its findings could be applied in Hastings.	Chowney
Patmore	<u>Renaming Aquila House</u> given the current financial position of the organisation, how can the	Chowney

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	<p>cost of renaming Aquila House to Muriel Matters House be justified? Councillor Chowney explained that the costs of renaming the building would be minimal. The current name of the building had been chosen by the previous owner and it was considered appropriate that the building should be re-named to honour a local resident who had made a significant contribution towards securing votes for women. Nationally, a number of initiatives were planned to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women gaining the vote in 2018. The new name was due to come into effect from 1 January 2017.</p>	
Bacon	<p><u>Dog Fouling</u> a minority of irresponsible dog owners are repeatedly allowing their dogs to foul and refusing to clear up after them, what is the council doing to address this? Councillor Davies replied that the council's warden service was involved in a range of initiatives to reduce dog fouling. He noted that the council continued to take robust enforcement action against irresponsible dog owners, an increased number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) had been issued in the first half of the year. The team were also preparing a new education and awareness campaign to help tackle dog fouling, which would be launched shortly.</p>	Davies
Edwards	<p><u>Renewal of Trident</u> does the Leader of the Council support the Leader of the Labour Party in his opposition to the renewal of Trident? Councillor Chowney replied that he did support the Leader of the Labour Party in this stance.</p>	Chowney

**17. MOTION (RULE 14)**

Councillor Turner proposed a motion, set out in the resolution below, seconded by Councillor Forward.

**RESOLVED (by 28 votes for to 1 against) that Hastings Borough Council believes that the Government's plans threaten patient access to pharmacies and pharmacy services in Hastings. Our local pharmacies are at risk of closure or being forced to cut services such as free delivery of prescription drugs, family planning advice and advice on medicines. This will put more pressure on GPs and hospitals and impact social services and is at odds with the local Clinical Commissioning Group's desire to increase the use of pharmacists to ease pressure on GPs.**

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We therefore call on the Government to abandon these cuts and maintain a fully-funded community pharmacy service and request the Leader of the Council write to the Secretary of state for Health, NHS England and Hastings and Rother Clinical Commissioning Group expressing this view

### 18. MOTION (RULE 14)

Councillor Bacon proposed a motion, set out in the resolution below, seconded by Councillor Webb:

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that Hastings Borough Council condemns discrimination in all its guises. The council fears that recent national events could leave many individuals and communities feeling isolated and fearful. We reassure all people living in Hastings and St Leonards that this council will use every opportunity to celebrate cultural diversity and to promote equality.**

Furthermore, Hastings Borough Council will continue its long term commitment to dealing with the multiple causes of hate crime. We will not allow hate to become acceptable. We will continue to invest in projects to both tackle the causes and support the victims of such crime, including domestic violence and abuse.

Finally, Hastings Borough Council will continue to deliver on its corporate commitment to community cohesion and a tolerant and inclusive Borough.

Hastings Borough Council therefore resolves to:

1. Maintain and build on our long-term commitments to fight hate crime and promote community cohesion
2. Write to each of our schools, charities and faith groups to request that they promote the message of "One Hastings, Many Voices"
3. Write to the Police and Crime Commissioner for an assurance that budget cuts will not adversely impacts on the ability of the police to both investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators of such crime
4. Work closely with our local police to maintain a community approach to the prevention of hate crime and supporting its victims
5. Seek clarification from our MP of the detail of additional funding for tackling hate crime recently announced

### 19. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Councillor Lee proposed a motion regarding the membership of committees, as set out in the resolution below.

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**RESOLVED** that the council adopt the following arrangements for the membership of committees: -

1. Councillor Edwards be appointed to the vacant seat on Licensing Committee

### 20. **ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT 2015/16 TO COUNCIL**

The report of the Chief Auditor, from the Audit Committee, on the annual review of the effectiveness of internal audit was submitted. Under regulation 6 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations (England) 2015, local authorities are required to publish a statement of internal control each year, with the authority's financial statements. The findings of the annual review of the council's internal control had been considered by the Audit Committee. The report set out the review of internal control and assurance gathering process.

Under rule 13.3 the report was approved without being called for discussion.

**RESOLVED** that the Audit Committee report 2015/16 to Council be accepted

The reason for this decision was:

Regulation 6 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations (England) 2015 requires relevant bodies to conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of its systems of internal audit and for a committee of the body to consider the findings.

### 21. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

The Mayor having called over the minutes set out in the agenda, the under mentioned minutes were reserved for discussion.

**RESOLVED** under rule 13.3 that the reports and minutes of committees set out in the agenda be received, including minute number 5 of Cabinet on 6 June 2016 and minute number 18 of Cabinet on 4 July 2016 which were matters for Council decision. Only those items which were reserved were discussed, as follows: -

Meeting	Minute	Councillor
Cabinet, 6 June 2016	8 – 1066 Anniversary Community Grants	Street
Cabinet, 4 July 2016	14 (C) – Housing Strategy	Forward
Cabinet, 4 July 2016	15 – Customer First Communication Strategy and Action Plan	Webb
Cabinet, 4 July	17 – Income Generation	Clarke

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2016		
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Minute number 14 of Cabinet on 4 July 2016 was a matter for Council decision. Councillor Forward moved approval of the minute, seconded by Councillor Lee and agreed unanimously.

No motions for reference to Overview and Scrutiny Committee or reference back to Cabinet were approved in respect of the items reserved for discussion and they were, therefore, received.

(The Mayor declared the meeting closed at. 8.27 pm)

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# Agenda Item 11

**Report to:** Full Council

**Date of Meeting:** 26 October 2016

**Report Title:** Appointment of Independent Persons

**Report By:** Christine Barkshire-Jones Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer

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## **Purpose of Report**

To appoint two Independent Persons to assist the Standards Process for a period of one year.

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## **Recommendation(s)**

To appoint Margaret Sandra and Andrew Colquhoun as Independent Persons to assist with the Standards process from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017

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## **Reasons for Recommendations**

The Localism Act 2011 requires the Council to appoint at least one Independent Person to assist with the Standards process. Further, changes in employment legislation requires an Independent person to be involved in any disciplinary action against any of the three statutory officers, those being the Head of Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

## Background

1. At the Council meeting of 21 June 2012 the Council considered a report on the proposed new arrangements relating to the Member's Code of Conduct as required in consequence of the relevant provisions in the Localism Act 2011. The legislation requires the Council to appoint "Independent Person/s".
2. Council recommended that two Independent Persons were appointed in case one Independent Person should be unavailable or a conflict of interest should arise. They were appointed from 25 October 2012 to 30 June 2013. The Localism Act 2011 (commencement No.6 and transitional savings and transitory provisions) Order No.12 provided that existing Independent Members could be Independent Persons, but only for a period of one year ending 30 June 2013.
3. The Act requires that the views of the Independent Person/s must be sought on a complaint referred for investigation before the outcome of the complaint is determined. Also, the Member who is subject of a complaint may discuss the matter with an Independent Person. It is therefore necessary for two Independent Persons to be appointed to avoid any conflict of interest. As it transpired two Independent Persons can be conflicted out which is why this year the Monitoring Officer and Deputy have been given delegated powers to use Rother's Independent Persons.
4. In accordance with the requirement of the Act, applications for the position of Independent Person were invited by advertisement in a local newspaper and the Council's website and each candidate submitted an application Ten candidates applied. All candidates were interviewed by the (then) Head of Corporate Services and the Chief Legal Officer who supported the recommendations contained in this report. The chair of Standards Committee was consulted and also supported the recommendations in this report.
5. The applicants were all very good, but after careful consideration and evaluation, it was decided that Margaret Sandra and Andrew Colquhoun were the most appropriate candidates. They were appointed for a period of three years until 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016.
6. They have both agreed to be re-appointed for a further period of a year from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017
7. Failure to appoint Independent Persons would mean that the Council was not fulfilling its statutory duties under the Localism Act 201. This would mean that any complaints received about Councillors could not be dealt with.

Wards Affected

None

Area(s) Affected

None

Policy Implications

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### Wards Affected

None

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### Policy Implications



Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	No
Human Rights Act	Yes
Organisational Consequences	Yes
Local People's Views	No
Anti-Poverty	No

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### **Additional Information**

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### **Officer to Contact**

Officer Name Chris Barkshire-Jones, Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer  
 Officer Email Address [cbarkshire-jones@hastings.gov.uk](mailto:cbarkshire-jones@hastings.gov.uk)  
 Officer Telephone Number 01424 451731

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8 AUGUST 2016

Present: Councillors Chowney (Chair), Forward, Cartwright, Poole, Atkins, Davies, Fitzgerald and Lee

19. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2016**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2016 be approved and signed by the chair as a correct record of the meeting

**RESOLVED** the Chair called over the items on the agenda, under rule 13.3 the recommendations set out in minute number 22 were agreed without being called for discussion

MATTERS FOR CABINET DECISION

20. **EUROPEAN MARITIME FISHERIES FUND COMMUNITY LED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT (HASTINGS FLAG (2))**

The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture, presented a report which advised Cabinet of the success of a first stage bid for European Maritime Fisheries Fund Community Led Local Development (Hastings Fisheries Local Action Group 2) (EMFF CLLD Hastings FLAG 2).

The report acknowledged that fisheries faced significant challenges due to declining income and employment in this sector. The FLAG programme aimed to assist local fisheries communities in utilising the knowledge of local stakeholders to address these challenges.

The proposals for FLAG 2 were intended to develop the successful outcomes of the first FLAG programme. The FLAG board had received confirmation from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) in April 2016 that its first stage bid to secure a second round of FLAG funding had been successful. The report set out the timetable for submitting a stage 2 bid to the MMO. The council and its partners had been required to submit a Local Development Strategy (LDS), detailing the delivery plan of the second FLAG programme, which could last for up to 3 years.

The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture, amended the second recommendation of the report, as set out in the resolution below, to reflect that the LDS had been submitted on 5 August 2016, in order to comply with the timetable set by the MMO.

Consideration was given to the impact of the recent referendum decision to leave the European Union on the availability of FLAG funding. The council had been advised that Hastings was still eligible to apply for funding under the FLAG 2 programme, but it was unlikely it would be able to bid for future rounds.

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Cabinet thanked all those who had been involved in supporting the first FLAG programme and developing the bid for the second round of funding.

Councillor Poole proposed approval of the amended recommendations to the Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture's report, as set out in the resolution below, which was seconded by Councillor Fitzgerald.

### **RESOLVED (unanimously) that Cabinet:**

- 1) **Notes the current position with regard to CLLD EMFF funding and the Hastings FLAG;**
- 2) **Notes that a LDS was submitted to the MMO on 5 August 2016, in order to comply with the timetable for the stage 2 bid process**
- 3) **Approves the continued role of the council as lead partner in the management and delivery of the FLAG programme subject to confirmation of funding to deliver the LDS**

The reason for this decision was:

The report gives an update on the CLLD EMFF FLAG funding, and the draft proposed areas of activity within the LDS. The deadline for submission of the LDS was 5 August 2016. If it is approved by the MMO, who is the UK Managing Authority for the UK FLAG programme, it is anticipated that implementation of the programme would commence in the first quarter of 2017.

### **21. HEALTHY HASTINGS & ROTHER PROGRAMME**

The Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment, presented a report to update members on the delivery of council-led projects within the NHS Hastings and Rother Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) Healthy Hastings and Rother (HHR) programme in 2015/16 and set out proposals for projects to be undertaken in 2016/17. Cabinet also welcomed Richard Watson, Programme Manager for the CCG, to the meeting and thanked him for attending.

Reducing health inequalities was a priority for the council and East Sussex Better Together, a joint programme between the local NHS and East Sussex County Council. In July 2015, Cabinet had approved a programme of work, funded by the NHS Hastings and Rother CCG to address the key thematic areas of preventing ill health, supporting people experiencing health inequalities, health and wellbeing centres and housing – people and places. The 2015/16 programme of activities had now been implemented, and the report gave an update on each of the projects. The CCG governing body had also approved four key recommendations regarding the development of health and wellbeing centres, following a community engagement and consultation project which had been undertaken in December 2015.

Experience from the previous year's programme suggested it would be beneficial to focus subsequent rounds on fewer, but larger scale, projects. The 2016/17 programme continued to address health inequalities in the most deprived parts of Hastings, St

## CABINET

8 AUGUST 2016

Leonards and Bexhill, focused on health and wellbeing centres, healthy homes – people and healthy homes – places.

Members commented that these projects provided an innovative approach to partnership working to address a significant issue affecting the quality of life of local residents.

Councillor Forward proposed approval of the recommendations to the Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment's report, which was seconded by Councillor Cartwright.

### **RESOLVED (unanimously)**

- 1) **To note progress with the delivery of HBC led projects within the CCG Healthy Hastings and Rother Programme;**
- 2) **To note the outcome from Health and Wellbeing Centre(s) consultation project;**
- 3) **To agree to implement sustainability partnerships within existing community centres (initiative 1) in partnership with the CCG;**
- 4) **To approve the development and delivery of the new projects in 2016/17 as described in the report, within the financial resources available, and;**
- 5) **To authorise the Director of Operational Services to take the necessary steps to develop and deliver the projects in consultation with the Deputy Leader**

The reason for this decision was:

- 1) The council has long held the position that good health is a key factor in determining the quality of people's lives and that health inequality is a significant outcome of and contributor to poverty.
- 2) If members approve the projects and initiatives outlined in this report it is necessary to provide the authorisations to allow the development and delivery of the funded projects.
- 3) As public sector budgets reduce it becomes ever more essential for public sector partners to co-operate in addressing issues of exclusion and inequality. This work may help to lay the basis for integrated work in the future.

### **22. CONNECTING HASTINGS AND ROTHER TOGETHER - COMMUNITY LED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT (CHART CLLD) (PART II)**

The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture, submitted a report to brief members on the submission of the Local Development Strategy (LDS) which was due on 31 August 2016.

### **RESOLVED – the report was for information only**

The reason for this decision was:

Delegated authority was given to proceed with the multi-stage CLLD application of the CHART bid at the 2 November 2015 Cabinet.

**CABINET**

**8 AUGUST 2016**

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 6.33 pm)

# Public Document Pack

## CABINET

5 SEPTEMBER 2016

Present: Councillors Chowney (Chair), Forward, Cartwright, Davies, Poole, Fitzgerald and Lee

Councillor Lee announced that, following Councillor Atkins resignation, he had been appointed as Leader of the Conservative group. Councillor Patmore had been appointed as Deputy Leader of the Conservative group.

### 23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared their interest in the minutes as follows:

Councillor	Minute Number	Interest
:Lee	35 – minutes of the Museums Committee meeting held on 27 June 2016	Personal – he had been appointed as a substitute member of the committee for that meeting

### 24. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 AUGUST 2016

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 August 2016 be approved and signed by the chair as a correct record of the meeting**

**RESOLVED the Chair called over the items on the agenda, under rule 13.3 the recommendations set out in minute numbers 31 and 33 were agreed without being called for discussion**

### 25. PLANNING SERVICE REVIEW REPORT

This item was moved up the agenda with the agreement of the Chair.

The Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment, presented a report which outlined the key findings of a review of the council's Planning Service, which had been undertaken by the newly appointed Planning Services Manager.

The review had considered the impact of the new Housing and Planning Act 2016, identifying potential constraints on meeting statutory performance targets and how these could be addressed. The report also assessed the implementation of recommendations from an earlier review of the service. Appended to the report was an existing and proposed staff structure for the department. The proposed structure

## CABINET

5 SEPTEMBER 2016

included the recruitment of additional staff to create the required capacity within the team.

Agreement was also sought in principle for introducing charges for general queries, DCQ's. The report detailed the fee structures operated by other local authorities, further consideration would be given to the charging structure to be applied in Hastings before the fees were introduced.

The Planning Services Manager advised Cabinet of revisions to the recommendations to the report, as set out in the resolution below.

Councillor Forward proposed approval of the amended recommendations to the Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment's report, which was seconded by Councillor Cartwright.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that:**

- 1. The improvements in the conclusion of the report are noted;**
- 2. The revised staffing structure outlined in Appendix 1 of the report is implemented, and;**
- 3. The principal of charging for DCQ's is agreed and a charging structure and criteria for charging DCQ's will be included in the scale of fees and charges as part of the budget setting process**

The reason for this decision was:

The proposals outlined will address a staffing deficit identified in the review and create the capacity for staff to effectively manage the council's core primary planning functions whilst maintaining and improving customer focus.

The changes are considered necessary to meet service expectations, including current corporate performance targets for planning and the new national performance indicators set by the government following the implementation of the Housing and Planning Act 2016.

The introduction of the charging structure outlined, along with other supportive measures, should reduce the number of general enquiries received whilst improving the overall availability of planning advice to residents. This will enable the planning team to better balance their workloads, whilst maintain a focus on service improvement.

### **26. ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY REFRESH**

This item was moved up the agenda with the agreement of the Chair.

The Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment, presented a report which advised Cabinet of a refresh of the anti-poverty strategy, ahead of its adoption by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). The existing strategy had been developed to address the impact of the recession and reforms to the welfare system on vulnerable



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groups. It was necessary to update the strategy to reflect current economic conditions and changes to the structure of public and voluntary organisations. The proposed strategy identified the three priority areas of education and employment, health and wellbeing and housing. The strategy also included a commitment to produce an annual statement detailing key achievements and challenges faced in the preceding year.

It was noted that partnership working between a range of agencies was essential to effectively addressing poverty. An earlier draft of the strategy had been shared with the LSP and was due to be adopted by the board.

Since the Cabinet agenda had been published, minor amendments had been made to the foreword to the draft strategy.

Councillor Lee proposed an amendment to the draft strategy:

“Amendments to agenda item 10 – anti poverty strategy

- 1) Page 74 – remove paragraph - *Conversely manufacturing jobs are forecast to drop by 13.4% a loss of 1,700 jobs* – this is an older statistic in relation to economic growth and is no longer accurate. The adjustment of the value of the pound has seen a jump in manufacturing output.
- 2) Page 77 – add objective to education and employment: to encourage major national and international enterprise to relocate to the borough, providing opportunity, wealth creation and aspiration for young people.
- 3) Page 84 – remove welfare reform case study 2: This is very much out of date as ATOS no longer have this contract. More recent examples are required.
- 4) Page 71 – add table to show the year on year drop in child poverty in the Borough with the following paragraph:

This table shows that the increased attainment of children in Hastings is proportional to the drop in child poverty in the borough. Increased employment in town and a drop in claimant count creates a ‘virtuous cycle’ in which education, increased opportunity and greater household economic activity lessen child poverty.

- 5) Page 73 – Underneath the paragraph entitled ‘Employment’ These statistics should also be updated the most recent of them are 18 months old. This Paragraph should be corrected to the latest figures or removed.
- 6) Appendix 2 Children in low –income families  
This table shows year on year changes in the number of families on low income, however it only covers the period form 2009 -13 please update the table so clear picture can be shown.”

The proposed amendment was lost by 1 vote for, 6 against.

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Councillor Forward suggested the inclusion of a footnote to the strategy explaining that some of the statistics referred to may not be the latest available.

Councillor Forward proposed approval of the recommendations to the Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment's report, which was seconded by Councillor Davies.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that:**

- 1. Cabinet recommend the refresh of the Anti-Poverty Strategy ahead of its adoption by the LSP**
- 2. An Annual Statement is produced beginning in April 2017, detailing key actions and challenges faced in the preceding year**

The reason for this decision was:

The existing strategy was adopted prior to the implementation of the welfare reform agenda and government spending reduction plans. The strategy is therefore in need of revision to take account of the new economic framework.

**27. MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW OF COMMUNITY SAFETY**

The Director of Corporate Services and Governance presented the management response to recommendations made by an overview and scrutiny review team.

As part of their 2015/16 work programme, a group of overview and scrutiny members had undertaken a review of community safety. The review had considered performance in respect of supporting improvements to community safety over recent years as well as examining the council's role in terms of existing and future community safety provision in the context of a challenging financial climate.

The review team had made a number of recommendations to continue to support improvements to community safety through a variety of partnership structures, including a pilot project to merge Hastings and Rother's crime reduction partnership. The management response supported the review team's recommendations and noted that any future allocation of funding towards community safety interventions would need to be considered as part of the council's broader budget setting process.

Cabinet thanked all those involved in the overview and scrutiny review for their contribution.

Councillor Davies proposed approval of the recommendations to the Director of Corporate Services and Governance's report, which was seconded by Councillor Forward.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that:**

- 1. Cabinet thank the scrutiny review team for their report, and;**
- 2. Cabinet approve the recommendations of the scrutiny review team**

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The reason for this decision was:

To acknowledge and respond to the recommendations of the work undertaken by the scrutiny review team.

### **28. MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW OF DIGITAL INCLUSION**

The Director of Operational Services presented the management response to recommendations made by an overview and scrutiny review team.

As part of their 2015/16 work programme, a group of overview and scrutiny members had undertaken a review of digital inclusion. A key aspect of the council's ongoing organisational transformation programme was to make an increased number of services available online. The review had considered the potential barriers to accessing services online, and good practice for how these could be overcome. The review had found that wide range of activities were already underway by a variety of partners to support digital inclusion and the team had made a number of recommendations to support this.

Cabinet thanked all those involved in the overview and scrutiny review for their contribution.

Councillor Cartwright proposed approval of the recommendations to the Director of Operational Services' report, which was seconded by Councillor Davies.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that:**

- 1. Cabinet thank the scrutiny review team for their report, and;**
- 2. Cabinet approve the recommendations of the scrutiny review team**

The reason for this decision was:

To acknowledge and respond to the recommendations arising from the work undertaken by the scrutiny review team.

### **29. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FUND 2017-19**

The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture, presented a report which set out the recommendations for the Community Partnership Funding (CPF) 2017/19 programme.

The current round of CPF, which had covered the period from 2015/16 to 2016/17, came to an end in March 2017. Given the continued financial pressures facing the council, it was necessary to review the programme priorities for 2017-19 to ensure resources were focused on supporting the most vulnerable groups.

The report also proposed a new approach to delivering the programme, by which services would be commissioned from the community and voluntary sectors for

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specifically identified outcomes. The priorities for this round of funding had also been identified as housing, legal welfare and debt advice, domestic violence support, advice and support to organisations, rough sleepers outreach support and advice and support to migrant and newly settled communities.

The proposed new approach and priorities had been subject to consultation with a number of voluntary and community sector organisations, the feedback received had been broadly supportive.

Councillor Chowney proposed approval of the recommendations to the Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture's, report which was seconded by Councillor Cartwright.

**RESOLVED that Cabinet adopts a commissioning approach to future community partnership rounds with a focus on the new priorities as set out in the report**

The reason for this decision was:

The current round of CPF comes to an end in March 2017. The proposals set out in the report have been developed following a consultation process with the community and voluntary sector. Many of the organisations responding to the consultation (appendix 1) generally agree with the proposed new priorities and commissioning process.

### **30. FINAL ACCOUNTS 2015/16**

The Assistant Director Financial Services and Revenues presented a report which set out the draft final accounts position for 2015/16. The final accounts were subject to an external audit.

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011, required the council's section 151 officer to certify the statement of accounts by 30 June each year and to publish them by 30 September.

The final accounts set out variances in the council's income and expenditure since the budget was set for 2015/16, the report included the outturn results for the general fund and capital programme for this period. The council continuously seeks to improve value for money and any over or underspends identified in the final accounts were being investigated to help inform the budget setting process for future years.

Councillor Chowney proposed approval of the recommendations to the Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenue's, report which was seconded by Councillor Poole.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that: -**

- 1. Cabinet review the outturn position on the General Fund for 2015/16;**
- 2. Cabinet review the capital outturn position for 2015/16, and;**

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- 3. The 2015/16 outturn position, along with revised estimates for 2016/17 be taken into account when preparing the revised 2016/17 budget and the 2017/18 budget**

The reason for this decision was:

Compliance with statutory requirements and good practice. The council is accountable for the use of public money and continuously seeks to improve value for money.

The outturn position informs the budget setting process. Where there are under or overspends the reasons behind these are investigated with a view to reallocating resources to meet priorities.

### **31. ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2016/17**

The Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues, submitted a report on the treasury management activities and performance over the 2015/16 financial year.

Treasury management referred to the management of the authority's investments, cash flow, banking, money market and capital market transactions and the potential risks associated with these activities. The report also gave an overview of the wider economic context within which the council operated.

The council complied fully with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management 2009, by undertaking an annual review report of its treasury management activities. The report was due to be considered by the Audit Committee at its meeting on 22 September 2016.

#### **RESOLVED that:**

- 1. The report be considered. No recommendations were made to amend the current Treasury Management Strategy as a result of the review, and;**
- 2. Full Council consider the report and any recommendations made by Cabinet**

The reason for this decision was:

To ensure that members are fully aware of the activities undertaken in the last financial year, that the Codes of Practice have been complied with and that the council's strategy has been effective in 2015/16.

Under the code adopted the Full Council is required to consider the report and any recommendations made.

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### 32. COASTAL MEDIUM TERM PLANS

The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture, presented a report to update Cabinet on a major coast protection project which had recently gained approval for grant funding.

Risks from coastal erosion and flooding had been identified through earlier studies, surveys and modelling. The council had previously received a grant to assess the risk of flooding in more detail and to investigate potential solutions to improve flood protection measures.

A range of options were considered. A new rock groyne together with beach recycling at Carlisle Parade was chosen, as this was considered to be most in keeping with the existing environment and location. A second phase of the project would be undertaken in 2017 to include reinforcement works to maintain the structural integrity of the middle and outer section of the harbour arm. Funding for the works has been approved by the Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA), and the council was required to make an additional contribution of £30,000.

Councillor Poole proposed approval of the recommendations to the Assistant Director, Regeneration and Culture's, report which was seconded by Councillor Lee.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that delegated authority is given to the Director of Operational Services, in consultation with the Lead Member for Regeneration and Culture for the tender and contract for the works, based on the Environment Agency funding arrangements**

The reason for this decision was:

Hastings Borough Council as a Coastal Protection Authority has permissive powers under the Coastal Protection Act 1949 to carry out capital and revenue works to protect against coastal erosion. The Environment Agency (EA) maintains responsibility for flood risk management.

In 2009 we successfully bid for approximately £300k from DEFRA (Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs) for a relatively small scale coast protection scheme, to construct a new groyne at Carlisle Parade and to undertake concrete repairs to groyne 1, at Rock a Nore.

The rock groyne was built with the understanding that it would be the initial stage of improvement works in this vulnerable area of our seafront and the hope was that within five years the scheme would be improved, reusing the limestone rocks.

Stage 2 of the scheme will be completed in two phases over 2016 and 2017. It includes the construction of two rock groynes and shingle replenishment at Carlisle Parade and repairs and rock defence construction of the Harbour Arm.

The £4,061,000 is funded almost entirely by FDGiA (Flood Defence Grant in Aid) from DEFRA. HBC will be asked to contribute £30,000 towards the scheme funded from our rolling capital defence works programme.

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### 33. ENERGY PROCUREMENT

The Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues, submitted a report which sought Cabinet approval to re-new the council's membership of the Laser Energy Buying Group and to participate in the flexible procurement framework established by Laser from October 2016 to September 2020.

In 2011, the council agreed to participate in the Laser Buying Group's flexible procurement framework from September 2012 until October 2016. Laser undertook a tendering exercise on behalf of the council to ensure it was achieving the best possible energy prices for its property portfolio.

Laser had requested that the council indicate if it was willing to continue with these arrangements in future, before any further procurement works can be undertaken on behalf of the authorities Laser represents. Consideration had been given to a number of alternative options, but it was considered that Laser continued to provide the best value for money.

**RESOLVED to: -**

- 1. Continue to support and participate in the Laser Energy Buying Group's new flexible procurement framework for the period October 2016 to September 2020, and;**
- 2. Delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Services and Governance or her nominee to finalise the tripartite agreements associated with the framework**

The reason for this decision was:

The Laser Energy Buying Group is a government approved public sector buying agency (a trading arm of Kent County Council), providing an energy procurement service to some 210 member authorities in the South East of England, with a successful track record of purchasing performance for the period April 2009 to August 2016.

They have requested that they need an indication of commitment as they are unable to undertake any purchases until the contracts are in place which can take some time in terms of drafting the documentation based on each authority's individual requirements.

The council's constitution, part 9 financial rules section 3, requires Cabinet approval for expenditure exceeding £200,000.

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### 34. PROCUREMENT OF CLEANING CONTRACTS

The Director of Operational Services presented a report which sought Cabinet approval to procure a portfolio of cleaning contracts covering public conveniences, council premises and bus shelters.

The existing cleaning contract had been procured in 2010, via East Sussex Procurement Hub, in partnership with Rother and Wealden District Councils. The existing contract was coming to an end and it was therefore necessary to consider future arrangements. Investigation into the feasibility of bringing the service in house were underway, but not yet at an advanced enough stage to begin delivering the service by the end of the existing contract. It was proposed to procure the new contract on a basis which gave the council sufficient flexibility in terms of cost and timescales to respond to changes in the market and the council's future requirements.

It was proposed that the new contract is procured via the East Sussex Procurement Hub.

Councillor Chowney proposed approval of the recommendations to the Assistant Director, Environment and Place's, report which was seconded by Councillor Davies.

**RESOLVED (by 6 votes for to 1 against) that the Director of Operational services be delegated, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Assistant Director Financial Services and Revenues, to undertake a procurement exercise via East Sussex Procurement Hub and award the new cleaning contracts**

The reason for this decision was:

The existing contracts expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> march and they cannot be extended further.

It is essential that the council secures services to clean the public conveniences, council buildings and bus shelters.

Procurement in partnership via the East Sussex Procurement Hub is cost effective means of carrying out the procurement, and should result in good value bids from suitable service providers.

The proposed length of contracts allow for the development of a business case for potential future in house provision.

### 35. MINUTES OF THE MUSEUMS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27 JUNE 2016

The minutes of the Museums Committee meeting held on 27 June 2016 were submitted.



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**RESOLVED that the minutes of the Museums Committee meeting held on 27 June 2016 be received**

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 8.10 pm)

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Present: Councillors Chowney (Chair), Forward, Cartwright, Davies, Poole, Fitzgerald, Lee and Patmore

### 36. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2016

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2016 be approved and signed by the chair as a correct record

**RESOLVED** the Chair advised of an amendment to the recommendation contained in the Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment's report on Sustainable Housing in Inclusive Neighbourhoods (SHINE) updated bid, to read that delegated authority was given to the Director of Operational Services, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Housing, Communications and Equalities Portfolio Holder, to enter into a partnership agreement to support the EU funded SHINE (Sustainable Houses in Inclusive Neighbourhoods) project and deliver the associated outcomes. The Chair called over the items on the agenda, under rule 13.3 the recommendations set out in minute numbers 37, 38 and 39 were agreed without being called for discussion.

### 37. SUSTAINABLE HOUSING IN INCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS (SHINE) UPDATED BID

The Assistant Director, Housing and Built Environment, submitted a report which sought delegated authority for the Director of Operational Services, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Housing, Communication and Equalities portfolio holder, to enter into a partnership agreement to support the EU funded SHINE (Sustainable Houses in Inclusive Neighbourhoods) project.

There were currently two approved EU-funded projects in Hastings, SHINE and CAN (Climate Active Neighbourhood), which aimed to tackle fuel poverty and reduce the town's carbon emissions by piloting CO2 reduction and low carbon technologies. SHINE activities will take place across a number of deprived neighbourhoods in St Leonards, while CAN will focus on the Ore, Baird and Tressell wards of Hastings. Cabinet had been kept up to date with progress on both of these initiatives.

SHINE was a 4 year project, commencing in September 2016, and involving 15 partners from across the UK, Belgium, Netherlands and France. Hastings Borough Council intendeds to lead the activity of the UK partners; AmicusHorizon, Energise Sussex Coast (ESC) and Brighton and Hove City Council.

The report noted the risks associated with the SHINE and CAN (Climate Active Neighbourhood) projects following the recent referendum decision to leave the European Union (EU). The current advice from the DCLG and European partners is to proceed with the bid. The risk of disruption by the Brexit negotiations will be mitigated by keeping the projects under constant review and taking appropriate action

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to end the project as quickly as possible if funding comes to an end earlier than expected.

### **RESOLVED that:**

- 1. Delegated authority be given to the Director of Operational Services, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Housing, Communications and Equalities Portfolio Holder, to enter into a partnership agreement on the EU funded SHINE cooperation project and deliver the associated outcomes, and;**
- 2. To continue to participate in the SHINE and CAN programmes as detailed in the partnership agreements but regularly review the situation, taking into account the negotiations over Brexit and minimise the financial risk to the council**

### The reason for this decision was:

1. HBC's involvement in the SHINE project will see a total investment of £1.77m (Euro 2.11m) to the town. The funding application has been revised several times on the advice of assessors and this report confirms the final stage of the scheme and the funding approved.
2. The CAN project was approved by Cabinet in November 2015 and will see total investment of £845k in North East Hastings.
3. Funding for both projects will help reduce carbon emissions from properties and improve the housing conditions of residents living in some of the worst properties in the town. The initiatives will also help alleviate fuel poverty.
4. With the UK planning to leave the EU, the current advice is that the UK remains a full member and entitled to participate in EU funded projects, until such time of a withdrawal date. Once the Brexit negotiations are final and / or become clearer, actions may have to be taken when their impact on the projects has been assessed.

## **38. LAND ON CHURCHFIELDS ESTATE**

The Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues, submitted a report which sought approval to purchase land on the Churchfields Estate.

The plot, which was the largest undeveloped site on Churchfields Industrial Estate, adjoined two plots which were already in the council's ownership. The council was also in the process of acquiring the long leasehold interest on a further nearby plot.

The site was allocated in the Development Management Plan for employment use and acquiring the additional land would provide improved flexibility for potential development. Once developed, the land could provide opportunities for employment and economic development in the town, as well as enhancing the council's income stream in the long term.

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The current owners had agreed terms for the purchase in principle, as set out in an accompanying part II report. The price agreed was in accordance with the valuation obtained from the property services arm of the Valuation Office Agency.

### **RESOLVED to purchase the land on terms set out in the Part 2 report**

The reason for this decision was:

The land is allocated for employment use in the Development Management Plan (DMP) and adjoins vacant plots in the council's ownership so offers opportunities for development.

The council is seeking income generation opportunities in the future but most importantly looking to ensure economic development opportunities continue within Hastings.

### **39. MINUTES OF THE CHARITY COMMITTEE MEETING AND THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE FORESHORE TRUST HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2016**

The minutes of the Charity Committee meeting and the Annual Public Meeting of the Foreshore Trust held on 26 September 2016 were submitted.

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the Charity Committee and the Annual Public Meeting of the Foreshore Trust held on 26 September 2016 be received**

### **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Councillor Cartwright proposed a motion for the exclusion of the public from the meeting, which was seconded by Councillor Patmore.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the items of business listed below because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 referred to in the relevant report**

### **40. LAND ON CHURCHFIELDS ESTATE**

The Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues, presented a report which set out the financial implications of the purchase of land on the Churchfields Estate.

Councillor Chowney proposed approval of the recommendation to the Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues report, which was seconded by Councillor Cartwright.

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**RESOLVED (unanimously) to purchase the freehold of the land for the amount set out in the Assistant Director, Financial Services and Revenues, report (plus stamp duty land tax and registration fees)**

The reason for this decision was:

The land is allocated for employment use in the Development Management Plan (DMP) and adjoins vacant plots in the council's ownership so offers opportunities for development.

### **41. JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The Assistant Director, Environment and Place, presented a report which updated Cabinet on significant developments between the East Sussex Joint Waste Partnership and Kier Services Limited. The report sought approval for the recommendations of the East Sussex Joint Waste Committee on a proposed way forward.

Councillor Davies proposed approval of the recommendations to the Assistant Director, Environment and Place's report, which was seconded by Councillor Fitzgerald.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that:**

- 1. The Joint Waste Partnership proceed with Option B and the Lead Director for the Partnership (in discussion with the Hastings Borough Council Director of Operational Services) be authorised to conclude without prejudice negotiations and finalise legal terms for agreement, and;**
- 2. Cabinet expresses its thanks to the Lead Director for the Partnership (Dr Anthony Leonard of Rother District Council) and the Partnership Manager Madeleine Gorman, for the commitment and energy shown in dealing with this crucial and sensitive issue**

The reason for this decision was:

On 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016 the East Sussex Joint Waste Committee met to consider the developments set out in the appendix to this report. The committee resolved that Option B be recommended to each partner council for approval.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 6.35 pm)