

# **MINUTES OF CABINET**

**6 JANUARY 2026**

## **PRESENT:**

Councillors Moran (Chair), C Edwards, Livesey, Mistry, O'Rourke and Robinson.

Councillors S Edwards, Lewis, McKenzie, Poole, Roodhouse and Ward were also in attendance.

## **82. MINUTES**

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 17 December 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.

## **83. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence from the meeting.

## **84. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Item 8 of Part 1 – GEC Recreation Ground Changing Room development – Councillor Roodhouse (pecuniary interest as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors by virtue of being Chair of Fareham Youth Partnership).

Councillor Roodhouse left the meeting during the item in which he had declared and interest and took no part in the discussion thereon.

## **85. QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

### ***Growth and Investment, Digital and Communications Portfolio***

## **86. RUGBY BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN 2025-2042 REGULATION 19 CONSULTATION AND SUBMISSION**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Growth and Investment (Part 1 – agenda item 5) concerning the proposed submission of the Local Plan for public consultation and then submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

### **RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT –**

- (1) the proposed submission draft Local Plan (appendix 1) together with the proposed submission policies map (appendix 2), Sustainability Appraisal report (appendix 3), Habitats Regulation Assessment (appendix 4), Consultation Statement (appendix 5), and Equalities Impact Assessment (appendix 6) and the supporting evidence base (together the “proposed submission documents”)

be approved for a six week public consultation in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012;

- (2) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment to make minor amendments and corrections as necessary to the proposed submission documents prior to the commencement of the public consultation;
- (3) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment to, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Growth & Investment and Digital & Communications, agree a list of locations for in-person consultation events;
- (4) following close of the Regulation 19 consultation, delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Growth & Investment and Digital & Communication to submit to the Secretary of State for independent examination the Proposed Submission Local Plan and the other proposed submission documents, together with the Regulation 19 representations and a summary of the main issues raised in those representations;
- (5) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment to (if required) prepare a list of proposed changes to the plan needed to address issues raised in the Regulation 19 consultation responses and submit the same to the Secretary of State;
- (6) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Growth & Investment and Digital and Communications to:
  - a. Produce supplementary information that may be required as part of the examination process to address issues of soundness or legal compliance, including agreeing statements of common ground with other organisations;
  - b. Correspond with the Planning Inspector(s) on behalf of the council for the purposes of conducting the examination and addressing issues of legal compliance and soundness;
  - c. Propose additional (minor) modifications to the Proposed Submission Local Plan to address issues raised during the examination;
  - d. If necessary, request under s20(7C) that the inspector(s) examining the plan recommend main modifications to the plan necessary to resolve issues of soundness or legal compliance, and (where appropriate) suggest main modification needed to address those issues.
  - e. Agree any main modifications recommended by the Inspector(s) and undertake a six-week public consultation on those modifications; and
- (7) the amended Statement of Community Involvement 2026 (Appendix 7) be adopted.

## **87. RUGBY CENTRAL SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT CONSULTATION**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Growth and Investment (Part 1 – agenda item 6) concerning proposals for public consultation on the draft Rugby Central Supplementary Planning Document.

### **RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the Rugby Central Supplementary Planning Document (Appendix 1 to this report) be approved for four weeks public consultation in accordance with Regulations 12, 13 and 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) (as amended); and
- (2) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Growth and Investment to make minor amendments, as necessary, to the document before it is published for public consultation.

## **88. TOWN CENTRE FRONTAGES GRANT SCHEME**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Growth and Investment (Part 1 – agenda item 7) concerning proposals for a Town Centre Frontages Grant scheme to address key concerns in Rugby Town Centre around the condition of buildings and the impact this has on footfall, perception of the town and attracting new investment.

### **RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -**

- (1) a 4-year project to fund improvements to frontages in Rugby Town Centre be approved;
- (2) the creation of a two-stage grant process comprising of an enabling fund (revenue) and a works package (capital) be approved;
- (3) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer - Growth and Investment to make changes to the scheme during delivery;
- (4) a General Fund Supplementary revenue budget of £0.050m for 2026/27 for Shopfront Design Grants be approved. Future years will be incorporated into the annual budget setting process; and
- (5) a General Fund Supplementary capital budget of £0.300m, profiled as £0.100m per annum from 2026/27 to 2028/29 for the Shopfront Improvement Works Grants be approved and added to the capital programme.

### ***Partnerships and Wellbeing Portfolio***

## **89. GEC RECREATION GROUND CHANGING ROOMS DEVELOPMENT**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing (Part 1 – agenda item 8) concerning proposals for the creation of a capital budget for investment into the pavilion facility at GEC Recreation Ground to develop a highly used community asset.

**RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT** delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Leisure and Wellbeing for the establishment of a capital budget of £250,000 for the development of the GEC Recreation Ground facility to be funded through reserves and/or Section 106 funding following final confirmation of building cost specifications.

***Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance Portfolio***

**90. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2026/27, DRAFT GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2026/27 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 9) concerning the Council's draft General Fund revenue position for 2026/27 alongside the Medium Term Financial Plan, and the proposed Council Tax Base for 2026/27.

**RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) the draft General Fund Revenue position for 2026/27 alongside the Council's 2026-2030 Medium Term Financial Plan be noted; and
- (2) the Council Tax Base 2026/27 as detailed in Appendix 3 be approved.

**91. DRAFT HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS 2026/27 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026-2030**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 10) concerning a proposed HRA rent increase, the Council's draft Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue and capital position for 2026/27 alongside the HRA Medium Term Financial Plan for 2026-2030.

**RESOLVED THAT –** the initial review of the budget and rent increases for 2026/27 be noted.

***Communities, Homes, Regulation and Safety Portfolio***

**92. ASSETS AND PROPERTY REPAIRS SERVICE – TRANSFORMATION JOURNEY AND RESULTING BUDGETARY IMPACT**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Communities and Homes (Part 1 – agenda item 11) concerning the transformation journey of the Council's Assets and Property Repairs service together with the resulting budgetary impact.

**RESOLVED THAT –**

- (1) Cabinet notes the progress made in:
  - understanding the condition of the Council's homes
  - tackling the resulting repairs and hazards identified,
  - the transformation journey of the Property Repairs Service and the Assets Service; and
- (2) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT a supplementary budget of £0.850M from Housing Revenue Account Revenue reserves be utilised to support the additional repairs spend required for 2025/26.

**93. WARWICKSHIRE JOINT STATEMENT OF INTENT TO TACKLE HOMELESSNESS**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Communities and Homes (Part 1 – agenda item 12) concerning the proposed approval of the Warwickshire Joint Statement of Intent.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the Warwickshire Joint Statement of Intent, as at Appendix 1 to the report, setting out how the Warwickshire Councils will work collaboratively to tackle homelessness, be approved.

**94. MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC UNDER SECTION 100(A)(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**RESOLVED THAT** - under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of information defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

***Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance Portfolio***

**95. ELECTION OF MAYOR AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2026/27**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance (Part 2 – agenda item 1) concerning the election of Mayor and appointment of Deputy Mayor for 2026/27.

**RESOLVED THAT** – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT subject to the councillors concerned continuing to be Members of the Borough Council in that year,

(a) Councillor Sayani be nominated for election as Mayor for 2026/27; and

(b) Councillor Sandison be nominated for appointment as Deputy Mayor for 2026/27.

***Operations and Traded Services Portfolio***

**96. WASTE SERVICES REORGANISATION – PHASE 2**

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance (Part 2 – agenda item 1) concerning proposed changes to the Waste Services Team and Street Scene Team.

**RESOLVED THAT** – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT –

(1) the proposed structure be approved; and

(2) delegated authority be granted to the Waste Service Team Manager to implement the new structure as detailed within this report.

**CHAIR**