

MINUTES OF CABINET

3 MARCH 2026

PRESENT:

Councillors Mistry (Vice-Chair in the Chair), C Edwards, Livesey, O'Rourke and Robinson.

Councillors Lewis, McKenzie and Roodhouse were also in attendance.

109. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2026 were approved and signed by the Chair.

110. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillors Moran, Poole and Ward.

111. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

112. QUESTION TIME

The following question was received in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

Mr Derek Palmer submitted the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Growth and Investment, Digital and Communications, Councillor Robinson:

"Why is the whole Council for bringing back motor sport to Brandon after declaring a climate emergency, while preferring to destroy Green Belt instead? Is there a difference policy between councils after Birmingham allowed building on their motorsport site?"

Councillor Robinson, Portfolio Holder for Growth and Investment, Digital and Communications, provided the following response:

"On 14 December 2022 a Notice of Motion was put forward by Councillor Gillias which received unanimous cross party support. This motion stated:

"This Council recognises the importance of the sporting heritage within the borough, not only in respect to the game of rugby, but also to other long established and well supported sports associated with Brandon Stadium. We therefore request that, following the overwhelming public desire to reopen Brandon Stadium, this Council explores options available to bring Brandon Stadium back into use and any likely public advantages to the local and wider communities, should this be achievable."

Work on bringing motor sport back to Brandon Stadium remains ongoing. In a planning context the protection of sporting facilities is also an important planning requirement in the National Planning Policy Framework, therefore it is an important

consideration in both developing a new Local Plan and the determination of planning applications for alternative uses. A previous Government appointed Planning Inspector did not consider that the provision of housing on the site overcame the harm caused by the loss of sporting facilities and dismissed the appeal to build housing on the site.”

Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance Portfolio

113. PERFORMANCE REPORT 2025/26 AT 31 DECEMBER 2025 (QUARTER THREE)

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 5) concerning the Council’s performance as at 31 December 2025.

RESOLVED THAT – the Council’s Performance Report at 31 December (Quarter Three) to be noted.

114. SUPPORT SCHEME FOR HOUSING PAYMENTS AND COUNCIL TAX HARDSHIP

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 1 – agenda item 6) concerning a proposed support scheme for emergency financial assistance with regard to housing payments and council tax.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the Discretionary Support Policy (2026) as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (2) the implementation of the Priority Weighting system to ensure funds are targeted at residents in critical and high-priority groups be noted; and
- (3) delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance to adjust the weighting intensity of the fund throughout the year to ensure the financial stability of the scheme.

115. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE POLICY

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance (Part 1 – agenda item 7) concerning a proposed policy to deal with assets of community value which had also been considered by Audit and Ethics Committee

RESOLVED THAT – the Assets of Community Value Policy, as at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

116. GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS: LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION AND SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive (Part 1 – agenda item 8) concerning key consultations which the government has recently begun relating to local government reorganisation and proposed geographies over which spatial development strategies should be produced.

RESOLVED THAT – delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive (in consultation with the All Leaders' Group) to respond to the following consultations:

- Local Government Reorganisation in Warwickshire
- Local Government Reorganisation in Worcestershire
- Local Government Reorganisation in Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland
- Local Government Reorganisation in Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent
- Local Government Reorganisation in Gloucestershire
- Local Government Reorganisation in Oxfordshire
- Local Government Reorganisation in any other area where Rugby Borough Council is not a named consultee.
- Proposed geographies over which spatial development strategies (SDS) should be produced.

Communities, Homes, Regulation and Safety Portfolio

117. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDERS RE-ADOPTION

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Regulation and Safety (Part 1 – agenda item 9) concerning the proposed re-adoption of Public Spaces Protection orders (PSPOs) following a consultation period.

RESOLVED THAT - the formal re-adoption of the Public Spaces Protection Orders, attached at Appendices 1–3 of the report, for a further three-year period be approved.

118. 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 paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Operations and Traded Services Portfolio

119. AMENDMENTS TO SHERBOURNE RECYCLING LTD SHAREHOLDER AGREEMENT

Cabinet considered the private report of the Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services (Part 2 – agenda item 1) concerning proposed amendments to the Sherbourne Recycling Ltd Shareholder agreement.

RESOLVED THAT – delegated authority be given to the Director for Sherbourne, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and the Portfolio Holder, to amend the Sherbourne Recycling Limited Group Shareholder Agreement, as detailed in the report.

Communities, Homes, Regulation and Safety Portfolio

120. TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC SPACE SURVEILLANCE – PROGRAMME UPDATE

Cabinet considered the additional private report of the interim Deputy Chief Executive concerning a programme update relating to town centre public space surveillance.

RESOLVED THAT – the recommendation, as detailed in the report, be approved.

Items considered en bloc

121. WRITE OFFS UNRECOVERABLE DEBTS

Cabinet considered the private report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 2 – agenda item 1) concerning write offs of unrecoverable debts.

RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT the schedule of write offs at Appendix 1 be approved.

122. URGENT DECISION UNDER DELEGATED POWERS – FUTURE OF THE CORPORATE ASSURANCE TEAM

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Officer – Finance and Performance (Part 2 – agenda item 2) concerning an urgent decision taken under delegated powers with regard to the future of the Corporate Assurance team.

RESOLVED THAT – the report be noted.

CHAIR