

MINUTES OF CABINET

2 JUNE 2026

PRESENT:

Councillors Robinson (Chair), C Edwards, S Edwards, McKenzie, Mistry, O'Rourke, Pimm and Roodhouse.

Councillors Downes, Glowacki, Kedward, Poole, Pullin and Ward were also in attendance.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2026 were approved and signed by the Chair.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence from the meeting was received from Councillor Stewart.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

4. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

Growth and Investment Portfolio

5. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY PAYMENT IN KIND POLICY

Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Place (Part 1 – agenda item 5) concerning the proposed adoption of a Community Infrastructure Levy Payment in Kind policy.

Options considered

The alternative option would be to not adopt the policy in its current form.

Reasons for decision

A payment in kind policy would allow but not compel the Council to accept land or infrastructure payments in satisfaction of the whole or part of the CIL due in respect of a chargeable development. This would provide the Council with greater flexibility as to how infrastructure improvements are delivered and could help to ensure that necessary infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the Community Infrastructure Levy Payment in Kind Policy at Appendix 1 be adopted; and
- (2) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director for Place to make minor typographical or other corrections to the policy.

Partnerships, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio

6. INVESTING IN LEISURE – SECTION 106 ALLOCATIONS

Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Place (Part 1 – agenda item 6) concerning proposals for the investment of Section 106 funding to two local community sports clubs.

Options considered

The alternative option would be to reject the capital budget requests for Section 106 allocations. However, this would have a detrimental impact on the long term sustainability and modernisation of sporting facilities at the two clubs identified in the report.

Reasons for decision

The identified projects directly contribute to the Council's ambitions of a Healthier Rugby and meet the objectives of the Corporate Strategy.

The capital budget requests will support the long term sustainability and modernisation of sporting facilities within the borough for future generations of Rugby residents supporting life-long participation in sport and physical activity.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) a supplementary general fund capital budget of £74,500 be added to the Capital Programme 2026/27 financed through existing Section 106 be approved; and
- (2) the apportionment of the S106 fund be approved as follows:
 - i) £50,000 for Rugby Gymnastics Club and;
 - ii) £24,500 for Rugby & Northampton Athletics Club.

People, Resources and Governance Portfolio

7. APPOINTMENTS TO WORKING GROUPS 2026/27

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive (Part 1 – agenda item 7) concerning appointments to working groups for 2026/27.

Options considered

None presented in the report.

Reasons for decision

The establishment of relevant working groups will ensure the priorities and business of the Council can be supported in an advisory capacity for the 2026/27 municipal year.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) delegated authority be given to the Monitoring Officer to agree the membership of each working group for the 2026/27 municipal year with all Group Leaders;
- (2) members of all working groups note that they represent the views of their political group at meetings and provide regular feedback to them on workstreams;
- (3) each working group review its terms of reference at its first meeting of the municipal year; and
- (4) delegated authority be given to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the relevant Chair, to disestablish any working group that has completed its business and is no longer required.

8. WRITE OFFS POLICY 2026-2028

Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Financial Officer (Part 1 – agenda item 8) concerning the proposed adoption of a write off policy and the approval of revised delegated authority limits for the write off of irrecoverable Council Tax, Non Domestic Rates, Housing Benefit overpayments and Sundry Income.

Options considered

The alternative option to not approve the policy and new limits for write off would result in risking administrative backlogs, inefficient financial reporting and non-compliance with accounting best practice.

Reasons for decision

The formal adoption of this policy ensures a robust and auditable framework for debt management, while promoting greater administrative efficiency for routine cases.

RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) the Write-Off policy at Appendix 1 be adopted;
- (2) the revised approval limits for the write-off on irrecoverable debts, as set out in paragraph 4.1 of this report, be approved;
- (3) the consequential amendments to Part 2B of the Constitution be approved;
- (4) the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make the necessary consequential amendments to the Constitution following Council approval; and
- (5) the total value of debts written off under delegated authority be reported to Cabinet at least twice yearly.

Communities, Housing and Safety Portfolio

9. SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE DIAGNOSED WITH MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE IN ACCESSING DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS

Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities (Part 1 – agenda item 9) concerning an update following the 27 January 2026 Notice of Motion to improve support for residents living with Motor Neurone Disease (MND).

Options considered

Option 1 - Cabinet notes the content of this report and Appendix 1 and endorses the continued partnership approach to supporting residents with MND and other life limiting conditions. This discharges the Council's Motion commitment and provides assurance to Cabinet of the adequacy of current partnership arrangements.

Option 2 - referral to Scrutiny Committee for further review.

Option 3 - deferral pending additional Heart Partnership data on Occupational Therapist waiting times. This would delay discharging the Council's Motion commitment.

Reasons for decision

Moving towards local government reorganisation, a review will ensure all elements of care, as described in the report, are considered to ensure residents of the borough receive the best possible service.

RESOLVED THAT – this matter be referred to Scrutiny Committee to look at as part of its work programme for 2026/27 municipal year with a short timeline established to carry out the review.

Environment and Climate Portfolio

10. HIGH STREET RENTAL AUCTION GRANT FUNDING

Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director – Operations and Transformation (Part 1 – agenda item 10) concerning the proposed acceptance of a grant award from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to bring 26/27 Sheep Street, Rugby, back into use following long term vacancy.

Options considered

The alternative option to not recommend to Council to accept and award the grant would result in a long term retail unit continuing to be left vacant and in need of renovation.

Reasons for decision

The grant award will allow a long term vacant retail unit to be brought back into use contributing to the wider Town Centre Regeneration Plan.

RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) the award of £221,625 from Ministry Housing, Communities and Local Government for the purpose of renovating 26/27 Sheep Street to the minimum lettable standard be accepted;

- (2) an award of £221,625 be made to the owner of 26/27 Sheep Street subject to a funding agreement setting out the acceptable minimum works; and
- (3) a supplementary General Fund capital budget of £221,625 be approved for 2026/27 and added to the capital programme, to be financed via grant funding.

11. 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.

The Chair reminded all Members that all confidential papers should remain within the Council's systems and should not be shared with anyone.

People, Resources and Governance Portfolio

12. DECISION TAKEN IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Cabinet considered the private report of the Monitoring Officer (Part 2 – agenda item 1) concerning an urgent decision taken under delegated powers.

Options considered

None presented in the report.

Reason for urgency

Following review, this decision was treated as urgent as immediate action was required to be taken to ensure compliance with licensing requirements.

Reasons for decision

The decision taken will ensure that the Council has sufficient licences to meet demand.

RESOLVED THAT – the report be noted.

Note: this decision is not subject to call-in.

Communities, Housing and Safety Portfolio

13. ALBERT STREET (VICTORIA HOUSE) – ENABLING WORKS, PROCUREMENT STRATEGY AND BLRF ALIGNMENT

Cabinet considered the private report of the Strategic Director - Communities (Part 2 – agenda item 2) concerning an update relating to Victoria House, Albert Street, Rugby.

Options considered

Four options were proposed, as detailed within the confidential report.

Reasons for decision

The enabling-first approach allows the Council to move the Albert Street site forward in a financially prudent and well-controlled way, without committing to demolition before the scope, statutory requirements and funding or delivery route are clear.

RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) a supplementary HRA revenue budget of £0.300m be approved for 2026/27, funded from the Housing Revenue Account Balances (revenue reserve), to progress enabling works, surveys/site investigation, and RIBA Stages 0-2 concept design and appraisal, as set out in Section 4 of this report be approved;
- (2) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director for Communities, in consultation with the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance and the Chief Officer for Legal and Governance, to procure and appoint the required enabling support through compliant routes and to progress the approved enabling works within the approved budget, maintaining a full auditable decision trail; and
- (3) any future demolition procurement, contract award, disposal, grant funding agreement, or development partner appointment will return to Cabinet and/or Full Council as required under the Constitution and Scheme of Delegation.

14. TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC SPACE SURVEILLANCE – SYSTEM AND CONNECTIVITY UPGRADE

Cabinet considered the private report of the Strategic Director - Communities (Part 2 – agenda item 3) concerning a proposed upgrade to the town centre public space surveillance system.

Options considered

The alternative option of continuing with the current CCTV provision would present significant risks as detailed within the confidential report.

Reasons for decision

The decision provides a sustainable, resilient and legally compliant solution to the significant risks currently facing the Council's public space surveillance CCTV provision.

RESOLVED THAT – IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT -

- (1) a supplementary General Fund capital budget of £0.440m be approved and added to the capital programme 2026/27 for the replacement of the town centre Public Space Surveillance CCTV system and associated connectivity infrastructure (Option 2) and to be financed through borrowing;
- (2) the delivery of the scheme via the existing Section 101 arrangement with West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), including procurement, installation and ongoing maintenance through WMCA's appointed contractor, be approved; and

- (3) delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director – Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and Section 151 Officer, to progress the project, manage delivery within the approved capital envelope, and report further to Council on progress, final costs and implementation outcomes as required.

CHAIR