



Minutes of the meeting of the CABINET held on TUESDAY 11 JULY 2017 at 6.30 pm

**Present:** Councillor Marland (Chair)  
Councillors Gifford, Gowans, Legg, Long, Middleton, Nolan and O'Neill

**Officers:** M Bracey (Corporate Director - People), D Sharkey (Corporate Director - Place), D McLure (Interim Corporate Director (Resources)), S Bridglalsingh (Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services)), S Richardson (Service Director (Finance and Resources)), P Gosal (Head of Corporate Economic Development and Inward Investment), J Cheston (Development Plans Team Leader), K Cook (Capital Development Manager), M Culley (Corporate Procurement Manager), A Rulton (Strategic Finance Business Partner), P Van Geete (Tariff Programme Manager), D Wilkinson (Economic Development Manager), R Mascarenhas (Youth Participation Worker), A Turner (Senior Planning Officer) and S Muir (Committee Manager).

**Also Present:** Councillors Bald, Bint, Brackenbury, R Bradburn, Crooks, A Geary, P Geary, D Hopkins and McLean and 5 members of the public.

**C18 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Cabinet) announced that Item 20 on the Agenda, Renaissance CMK - Update on Progress, would now be discussed in public.

**C19 MINUTES**

RESOLVED -

That the minutes of the meeting of the 13 June 2017 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**C20 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

None received.

**C21 DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS**

None received.

**C22 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Question from Mr T Davies to Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council):

Mr T Davies asked Councillor Marland when he anticipated that the One Stop Shop for Homelessness would be delivered and also for

support to find a site for Bus Shelter MK before the onset of the winter 2017/18.

Councillor Marland responded that the Council was in advanced discussions with the owners of a possible site for the One Stop Shop. These were still at a confidential stage therefore he was unable to announce any details at this time.

With reference to the site for the Bus Shelter MK, Councillor Marland indicated that a site had been identified which was managed by a third party and as Bus Shelter MK was an independently registered charity it would need to initiate negotiations with the third party, however the Council would support the charity in this.

**C23 COUNCILLORS' ITEMS**

None received.

**C24 COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS**

The Cabinet received two written questions from Councillors which were read out by the Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services) as directed by Cabinet Procedure Rule 2.4(c) which required a written response to be supplied:

- (a) Question from Councillor D Hopkins to Councillor Gowans (Cabinet member for Public Realm) asking for an update on when the 20mph speed limit would be in place at Walton Road, Wavendon.

Councillor Gowans indicated that a consultation exercise had been undertaken to seek the views of the local community and other interested parties which had concluded in June 2017. In response to this, a letter of objection from Thames Valley Police had been received which advised that they did not support the introduction of a 20mph speed limit and would not be in a position to enforce the restriction. This view was in line with National Guidance.

However, letters of support from the local ward members were received highlighting their wishes for the 20 mph scheme to progress, therefore, a final decision would be required by the Cabinet Member as to whether the scheme was to be implemented. If a decision was taken, the implementation of the scheme would be undertaken by the Highways Service.

- (b) Question from Councillor Bald to Councillor Long (Councillor Long (Cabinet member for Adult Care and Housing)).

Councillor Bald, referring to an article in the MK Citizen on 29 June 2017 about 5 potential sites for system build housing for homeless people stated that one of the reported sites was a Reserve Site on Cranbourne Avenue, Westcroft. About three years ago, she had spent a considerable amount of time with residents agreeing a Development Brief for the site to provide a dementia home and purpose built housing. Therefore,

residents, Ward Councillors and Parish Councillors were very surprised to see different proposals announced in the MK Citizen and Councillor Bald asked Councillor Long to:

- (a) Explain why residents, Ward Councillors and Parish Councillors were not informed in advance;
- (b) Clarify what the full consultation was that was mentioned in the newspaper;
- (c) Explain when the consultation would start and what form it would take; and
- (d) Clarify if the consultation was a statutory consultation for planning permission or something in addition to that.

Councillor Long indicated that he was not aware of a Development Brief for the site in Cranborne Avenue Westcroft. However; a number of sites had been put forward for modular housing by Milton Keynes Development Partnership.

Councillor Long also indicated that all the proposed sites had been put in the public domain to facilitate openness and public debate and there would be full public engagement over these sites as had happened at the trial site at Fishermead, followed by the formal planning process.

The proposed sites would be rolled out following a review of the process followed at Fishermead, but in all cases there would be full consultation with residents, parish councils and Ward Councillors.

Councillor Long, answered supplementary question asked by Councillor A Geary asked on behalf of Councillor Bald about future consultation and engagement for the sites for system build housing for homeless people.

## **C25**

### **REFERRAL FROM YOUTH CABINET - 6 MAY 2017**

The Cabinet received an update from the Youth Cabinet Meeting held on 6 May 2017, detailing the finding proposals for anticipated projects using funds provided by the Cabinet which were presented by representatives from YCab.

The YCab representatives indicated that £10,000 per year for three years had been provided by the Cabinet and the first year's projects had included Marketing & Promotional Material, MySayMK and Big Debate events and campaigns that included an Anti-Bullying and Hate Crime Campaign.

The Cabinet thanked the YCab representatives for the update.

**REFERRAL FROM HOUSING AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE -  
27 JUNE 2017**

The Cabinet considered recommendations from the meeting of the Housing and Community Committee held on 27 June 2017 which were presented by the Chair, Councillor C Williams.

Councillor C Williams, in presenting the item, indicated that several issues had been raised for referral to the Cabinet by the Housing and Community Committee. However, the most important of these was the perceived lack of progress by the Homelessness Partnership which, while being led by the voluntary sector, was facilitated by the Council with the Council helping the Partnership to progress its aims, but not control it.

Councillor C Williams indicated that one of the priorities of the Partnership, the establishment of a One-Stop Shop, had been identified to be established by September 2016, however, it was now the summer of 2017 and the Committee did not consider that any real progress had been made. There was view within both the Committee, and parts of the Partnership, that it had just become a 'talking shop' with very little ability to achieve its aims.

The Committee therefore had resolved that:

- (a) the Cabinet be requested, as a matter of urgency, to make available the necessary Council resources to enable the Milton Keynes Homelessness Partnership to identify and acquire suitable premises for the establishment of a "One-Stop Shop" to serve as a hub providing support services for the homeless, including rough sleepers, sofa surfers, those living in temporary accommodation or in housing need; and
- (b) the Milton Keynes Homelessness Partnership be requested, as a matter of urgency, to develop a business plan for the delivery of said support services to the homeless from the One-Stop Shop.

Councillor Long (Councillor Long (Cabinet member for Adult Care and Housing), thanked the Housing and Community Committee for its work and indicated that the Cabinet would review the progress of the Homelessness Partnership and its effectiveness in providing temporary accommodation for rough sleepers with the £200k funding that had been made available to the Homelessness Partnership by the Cabinet.

Councillor Long also indicated that little progress had been made in finding further solutions for temporarily homeless people in addition to the Winter Night Shelter and Bus Shelter MK. Additional staff would also be required to be based at the One-Stop Shop to support and advise rough sleepers and the voluntary sector were required to take the lead on this.

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council) clarified that the Council did not have a statutory duty to house rough sleepers although it

recognised that a tactical response was needed to signpost people to other providers, hence the Council's support for the Homelessness Partnership and its remit. The Winter Night Shelter and the proposed Bus Shelter MK were designed as emergency accommodation only, with the One Stop Shop, when it was in place, providing further long term advice.

Councillor Marland explained that Milton Keynes did not have funding providers as in other towns and cities. Therefore, the Homelessness Partnership would need to obtain charitable status in order to qualify to apply for other charity and Government funding and quoted 'Refugees Welcome Milton Keynes' as a model.

Councillor Marland also repeated his earlier response that the Council was in advanced discussions with the owners of a possible site for the One Stop Shop and he hoped the contract would be signed and the facility would be available to the Homelessness Partnership in September 2017, even if it wasn't fully operational by then and also that the Cabinet would work with the Bus Shelter MK to facilitate an identified site.

Councillor Marland also indicated that a review of the terms of reference, business plan and operation of the MK Homelessness Partnership should be carried out to ensure that it worked effectively, with the outcome of the review being reported to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

#### RESOLVED:

1. That a contract be finalised between Milton Keynes Development Partnership to establish the provision of a facility for a One Stop Shop for Homeless People by September 2017, recognising that it might not be fully operational at that time.
2. That the Council support Bus Shelter MK to facilitate a site for the provision of that service.
3. That it be noted that the Cabinet had established the MK Homelessness Partnership to review the provision of homelessness support in Milton Keynes and to seek to develop a means to work across agencies to develop a strategic plan for homelessness, moving away from tactical intervention to a sustainable model that provided a pathway to support, recognising the need for external funding in light of reduced Council resources.
4. That the Milton Keynes Homelessness Partnership be supported as a matter of urgency, in developing a business plan.
5. That the Council review the terms of reference and operation of the MK Homelessness Partnership to ensure that it worked effectively and that any changes be recommended to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

**C27**

## **FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN 2018/19 - 2021/22**

The Cabinet considered Financial Sustainability Plan 2018/19 - 2021/22 that set out the scale of the financial challenge ahead and the Council's approach to address the challenges in the coming years. The item was introduced by Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation.

It was reported that the aim was to achieve a sustainable medium term position against a backdrop of continued austerity whilst actively delivering the Council's political priorities, as set out in the published Council Plan.

It was also reported that a combination of substantial increases in demand for services and continued Government funding cuts was creating an ongoing need to deliver cost reductions or increase income. In total, the Council needed to address a £39.5m financial deficit over the next four years. It was anticipated that some of these demand pressures (£28.5m) would result in funding being reinvested into statutory demand led services; the remainder would offset cuts to Central Government funding.

Councillor Middleton emphasised that the single biggest potential financial challenge the Council was currently facing was due to the increased demand for temporary accommodation and the adverse consequences of this on other services such as Home to School Transport. Over the last three years (to May 2017) temporary accommodation usage had increased by 355%, resulting in 773 families in temporary accommodation at May 2017 compared to 170 in May 2014, which was unsustainable.

Councillor Middleton stated that most of the financial challenges were due to reductions in funding from Government such as the overall reduction of New Homes Bonus of £8.8m despite year on year increases in the local population, and cuts to Adults and Children's Social Care budgets.

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council) indicated that considerable work and actions were being undertaken with a number of key projects and programmes by the Corporate Director People, which it was anticipated would contribute to the delivery of financial sustainability.

### **RESOLVED -**

1. That the financial forecast in relation to both resources and expenditure be noted.
2. That the financial strategy and work underway be noted.
3. That the Financial Principles be endorsed as a sound basis for the future financial management of the Council.
4. That the Corporate Leadership Team and Cabinet continue to develop detailed actions to support the financial strategy.

## REVISIONS TO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND SPEND APPROVALS REPORT

The Cabinet considered granting spend approval for schemes and amendments to existing schemes within the 2017/18 Capital Programme.

It was reported that the changes outlined in this report resulted in a revised Capital Programme for 2017/18 of £304.35m. Against this programme, £228.61m of spend approval had been given to enable individual projects to commence or continue.

It was also reported that the Council was responsible for the management of the Milton Keynes Tariff, which was a mechanism to forward fund infrastructure in the expansion areas. Taking account of the changes outlined in the report, the Tariff Programme for 2017/18 was currently £40.77m; with the total spend approval for these contributions at £16.23m.

Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation, indicated that the Cabinet was continuing to invest in a variety of schemes across the borough, and highlighted the following projects:

- Spend approval request of £4.29m for the Purchase of Properties, to enable the continued purchase of houses for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).
- Spend approval request of £0.19m for the V4 Crossings, to complete the consultation on the junction 4 crossing £0.03m and detailed design for the junction 25 crossing £0.16m.
- Spend approval request of £0.03m for a Parish and Town Council Investment Scheme, to provide capital grants to parish and town councils for improvement work.
- An increase in resource allocation of £0.09m for the Parish Partnership, to add in external funding available for the identified play area projects.

### RESOLVED -

1. That the additions to resource allocation and spend approvals for the 2017/18 Capital Programme be approved.
2. That the amendments to resource allocation and spend approvals for the 2017/18 Capital Programme be approved.
3. That the amendments to resource allocation and spend approvals for the 2017/18 Capital Programme, approved by Delegated Decisions on 14 March 2017, be noted.
4. That the funding position for the 2017/18 Capital Programme be noted.
5. That the amendments to resource allocation and spend approvals for the 2017/18 Tariff Programme be approved.

6. That the current position of the 2017/18 Tariff Programme be noted.

**C29**

## **REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING - TO 30 JUNE 2017**

The Cabinet considered the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring report to 30 June 2017 which was introduced by Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation.

It was reported that:

- (a) the General Fund revenue account was overspent by £3.300m after the planned application of £2.231m of demand led reserves and £0.644m of other reserves;
- (b) the Capital programme was forecasting a spend of £222.360m against spend approval of £228.401m. Re-phasing of £6.243m into 2018/19 would result in an overspend of £0.202;
- (c) the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) was reporting a surplus of £0.127m;
- (d) the Housing Revenue Account had a provisional £0.008m surplus; and
- (e) that the forecast outturn spend on the Capital Programme was £222.360m and the re-phasing of £6.243m into 2018/19 be noted.

Councillor Middleton repeated his comments of earlier in the meeting that the overspends were caused by underfunding rather than overspending as the Council was having to support vulnerable people across most service areas. These included Home to School Transport, Adult and Children's Social Care and Temporary Housing.

Councillor Long (the Cabinet member for Adult Care and Housing) indicated that dramatic progress had been made to reduce the number of people in temporary Bed and Breakfast Accommodation. The next step was to move the people who had been housed out of Milton Keynes back into the borough. He had made Delegated Decisions earlier that evening to acquire properties by a variety of methods to increase the stock of available social rented properties. It was anticipated that the consequential effect of these acquisitions would be to reduce other costs to the Council such as Home to School Transport.

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council) indicated that reports reviewing Home to School Travel and Temporary Accommodation were due to be considered by the Budget Scrutiny Committee on 18 July 2017, which it was anticipated would scrutinise overspends in these areas.

RESOLVED -

1. That the forecast General Fund Revenue Account outturn of a £3.300m overspend, after the use of £2.875m of one-off resources and the mitigating management actions to minimise the overspend be noted.
2. That the use of one-off resources to offset risks and higher than expected levels of demand, be noted.
3. That the forecast outturn surplus on the Housing revenue Account of £0.008m be noted.
4. That the forecast Dedicated Schools Grant surplus of £0.127m be noted.
5. That the forecast outturn spend on the Capital Programme of £222.360m and re-phasing of £6.243m into 2018/19 be noted.

**C30**

### **MAKING OF THE OLNEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Cabinet considered the outcome of the Olney Neighbourhood Plan Referendum and recommending that the Council made the Olney Neighbourhood Plan, which was introduced by Councillor Gifford, the Cabinet member for Place.

Councillor Gifford indicated that, following the referendum held on 6 July 2017, residents of Olney had returned a majority 'Yes' to the question asked "whether those voting wanted Milton Keynes Council to use the neighbourhood plan when deciding planning applications in the neighbourhood area".

Councillor Gifford also indicated that following the Council's agreement, notification of the decision was required to be sent to Olney Town Council and be published by the Council.

Councillor Gifford stated that as the final result had been very close and the 'campaign' had caused friction between some residents, it would be timely, in consultation with Ward Councillors, to review the guidance provided to Parish Councils about the Neighbourhood Plan process.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillors A Geary and McLean during consideration of the item.

RESOLVED -

1. That the Council be recommended to make the Olney Neighbourhood Plan pursuant to the provisions of Section 38(A)(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. That, subject to the Council's agreement to the making of the Neighbourhood Plan:
  - (a) the decision document and the Olney Neighbourhood Plan be published on the Council's website and in other manners, to bring them to the attention of people

who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area; and

- (b) the decision document and details on how to view the plan be sent to the qualifying body (Olney Town Council) and any person who asked to be notified of the decision.

### **C31                    RESPONSE TO CALL IN OF JUNE 2017 - REVISIONS TO CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

The Cabinet considered the response to the issues raised in the call-in of the 13 June 2017 Cabinet decision relating to Tariff Funding to support a Strategic Land Traffic Mitigation Scheme. This formed part of the Revisions to 'Capital Programme and Spend Approvals Report' that clarified and explained the basis of the Cabinet decision. The report was introduced by Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation.

It was reported that at the meeting of the Cabinet on 7 March 2017, (Minute C141 refers) the Revisions to Capital Programme and Spend Approvals Report had incorrectly requested Resource Allocation and Spend Approval from Cabinet for £40k of Tariff funding to support a Traffic Mitigation Scheme. This was a typographical error as it should have read £50k.

The Cabinet also heard that Councillors A Geary and Morris, who had requested that the decision be called-in, had withdrawn the call in subject to the Cabinet noting the issues they had raised.

Councillor Middleton indicated that the Strategic Land Traffic Mitigation Scheme was to be funded from Tariff resources, to be generated from the Strategic Land Area development to the south of the A421 in the Parish of Wavendon. Specifically, the funding was earmarked for Local Roads and historically was described in the Tariff as 'Other City Streets'. This funding was provided by the developers to mitigate the impacts of their development.

Councillor Middleton clarified that when the Council granted outline planning permissions for the Strategic Land Area development in 2014, it took into consideration representations from Aspley Guise Parish Council about the potential impact of traffic from the new development on that village (Minute DCC28 of the Development Control Committee held on 11 September 2014 refers).

Consequently in 2016, the Council had received an approach from Central Bedfordshire Council for financial support for a traffic mitigation scheme for Aspley Guise. The scheme was costed at £150k and following an assessment by officer colleagues, it was recommended that Milton Keynes Council's contribution be capped at £50k, subject to conditions that included:

- the proposed scheme having the support of Aspley Guise Parish Council; and

- Central Bedfordshire Council itself committing to paying the majority of the delivery cost.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillor McLean, who asked Councillor Gowans to investigate a similar traffic situation at Salford, Bedfordshire, and from Councillors Bint and Morris during consideration on the item.

RESOLVED -

That Cabinet noted:

1. The supporting evidence for the decisions made within the March and June 2017 Capital Programme and Spend Approvals Reports in relation to the Strategic Land Traffic Mitigation Scheme.
2. That there were two different projects within the Capital Programme and Tariff Allocation; 'City Streets' dealing with the delivery of Fen Street and Countess Way improvements in Broughton Ward, and 'Other City Streets' an allocation within the Tariff Programme for 'Local Roads' in other Expansion Area developments.
3. That to secure the best value for the Council's contribution to the traffic calming scheme in Aspley Guise the offer of funding would be subject to the following conditions:
  - (a) The lion's share of the funding of the entire scheme would be provided by Central Bedfordshire Council; and
  - (b) The scheme must secure the support of both Aspley Guise parish council and the MKC Cabinet Member for Highways.

**C32**

**CAPITAL BUILD PROGRAMME**

The Cabinet considered the adoption of an updated approach to the procurement of major Council construction projects, such as Schools, Off Street Car Parks, Pavilions and Health Facilities in Milton Keynes, which was introduced by Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member, for Resources and Innovation.

It was reported that as the current SCAPE framework, agreed at Cabinet on 13 October 2014 (Minute C72 refers), had expired in May 2017, the opportunity had arisen for the Council to utilise a more holistic approach that included a mixture of procurement routes. This would include benchmarking of all future projects across the proposed procurement routes, to provide best value across all schemes.

It was also reported that the construction market was currently very buoyant in Milton Keynes and by choosing to utilise a mixture of procurement routes the risk of being unable to secure suitably qualified and experienced contractors to support projects was much reduced.

Councillor Middleton listed the proposed procurement options and suggested that these should be reviewed on an annual basis to enable the Cabinet to consider either further potential participation in the framework arrangements, or the development of alternative procurement options.

Councillor Middleton also indicated that there would be exceptions to the proposed model (for example, specialist works) where it would be more appropriate to seek open market tenders. Any permission to seek tenders would be sought in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. There were no intentions to change the key decision thresholds.

The Corporate Procurement Manager outlined that requests for change control in projects would be managed more flexibly e.g. when a project specification changed.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillor Bint, during consideration of the item.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the following options be approved for the future procurement of school building and other major Milton Keynes Council construction projects:
  - (a) to seek open market tenders for works up to the value of £350k, with targeted efforts to stimulate the local market to bid for these opportunities as well as the option to open tender works above the value if necessary is approved.
  - (b) to utilise LGSS Construction Frameworks for any project over £100k in value.
  - (c) to utilise the Pagabo Major Construction framework ;and
  - (d) to utilise the SCAPE National Construction framework..
2. That these arrangements be reviewed annually to determine if the benchmarking has proved successful, to enable the Cabinet to consider either further potential participation in the framework arrangements, or the development of alternative procurement options.
3. That it be noted that there will be exceptions to this model (for example, specialist works) where it will be most appropriate to seek open market tenders, permission for which will be sought in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

**C33**

**MILTON KEYNES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2017-2027**

The Cabinet considered recommending the Milton Keynes Economic Development Strategy 2018-2027 to Council for adoption. The report was introduced by Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council).

It was reported that the Economic Development Strategy 2018-2027 had been developed through extensive consultation with key

partners, local business representatives, Councillors, officer colleagues and the public.

It was also reported that the Strategy sought to build on the current economic success of Milton Keynes in order to capitalise on potential future opportunities and to address the challenges the faced by the City. The Strategy aimed to secure strong and inclusive growth which benefitted businesses and residents, and sustained the reputation of Milton Keynes as a prosperous, innovative and culturally vibrant place. The Strategy had a fundamental role in supporting the aims of the Council Plan, the Core Strategy and the emerging Plan:MK. It was aligned with, and would support delivery of, the vision and projects of the MK Futures 2050 Commission.

Councillor Marland indicated that for every house built in Milton Keynes, 1.5 jobs were developed. However, finding businesses to move to Milton Keynes was becoming more challenging as the world of work and skills evolved. It was fundamental that Milton Keynes provided a prosperous base with good jobs to allow people to develop skills and lift themselves out of the unskilled trap.. It was also anticipated that the proposed developments of the East /West Rail and Road links, which were aligned to the Council Plan and South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP), would attract new businesses to Milton Keynes.

Councillor Marland stated that different parts of the borough suited different types of industry e.g. Central Milton Keynes aligned itself with knowledge and skills whereas manufacturing companies such as Travis Perkins were better suited to industrial estates and their transport links.

Councillor Marland also indicated that the strategy was part of a suite of policies in the Council's' Policy Framework and as such would be recommended to Council for adoption.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillors Bint and McLean during consideration of the item.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Milton Keynes Economic Development Strategy, 2017-2027, be recommended to Council for adoption.

## **C34**

### **APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND ADVISORY GROUPS**

The Cabinet considered the current list of appointments to be made to strategic outside organisations and advisory groups by the Cabinet for 2017/18.

The Cabinet also received for information the list of Outside Organisations Appointments for 2017/18 noting that appointments to these bodies was the responsibility of the Council.

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council) introduced the item and indicated a number of changes to the appointments.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That appointments be made to the Strategic Outside Organisations, and Advisory Groups for 2017/18 as indicated in these minutes.
- 1.2 That in the event that any vacancies are remaining, the Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services), in consultation with Leader of the Council, be authorised to agree the appointments.

**C35 PROCUREMENT AND COMMISSIONING**

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of Procurement and Commissioning held on 7 February 2017 be received.

**C36 RENAISSANCE CMK – UPDATE ON PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS**

The Cabinet considered an update on progress and next steps for Renaissance Central Milton Keynes which was one of the "big six" projects identified in the MK Futures 2050 Commission report – "Making a Great City Greater", which was introduced by Councillor Gifford, the Cabinet Member for Place.

It was reported that Milton Keynes Development Partnership had evaluated the various sites that it owned together with private sector development sites within Central Milton Keynes. The work appraised the deliverability of those sites in relation to the findings arising from analysis carried out into the residential, retail leisure and office / employment sectors and would form a key body of evidence to support the future approach to development.

It was also reported that the Renaissance Programme had identified a series of outcomes that built on the outline vision contained in the MK Futures report – "Making a Great City Greater". A key outcome, on which many of the others were dependent, would be to increase levels of external investment and development. It was clear that the scale and impact of the outcomes identified could not be delivered through the work of the Council, or public sector partners, alone. Whilst individual projects would be delivered and would have great impact, greater leverage of investment to secure much greater private sector investment was required.

Councillor Gifford indicated that next steps included holding internal and external stakeholders workshops, starting with an internal event in July, to define, clarify, give certainty and identify further detail to the approach required, particularly how to improve developer confidence and encourage external investment. Key engagement events such as the MK Futures Connect Group and an external

stakeholder workshop would be utilised to gain a wide range of stakeholder views. Engagement with youth groups was essential to ensure that the views of groups that it was anticipated would be using the city centre in the years to come, were fully represented.

The external stakeholder workshop was scheduled for later in 2017 to discuss formulation of the programme vision and development prospectus.

Councillor Gifford clarified that following the stakeholder engagement process a workable and compelling programme of key outcomes would be developed as a prospectus for change and development in Central Milton Keynes. It was anticipated that this would be used to build confidence, encourage investment and to act as a guide to the various types, densities and quantum of development required across Central Milton Keynes.

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council) indicated that MK Futures had identified a need to encourage a vibrant society. Although Milton Keynes was good at most things, it was struggling to attract inward investment as it lagged behind other major cities in the number of Grade A business premises being developed. It seemed there was a perception by the investments market that major projects were considered, but not taken forward due to local Parish and Town Council resistance. Work needed to be done to improve engagement with Town Councils to improve external perceptions.

The Cabinet also heard from a member of the public and Councillor Bint during consideration of the item

RESOLVED -

1. That the progress made to date in establishing the Renaissance CMK programme be noted.
2. That the key outcome for the Renaissance Central Milton Keynes programme to create conditions that attract increased external investment and development to Central Milton Keynes, be agreed.
3. That the effective means to achieve this outcome be identified as the primary focus for the vision for Central Milton Keynes and should drive future engagement with external stakeholders.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8.15 PM