

CABINET

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 18 December 2018 commencing at 2.00 pm and finishing at 3.35 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Ian Hudspeth – in the Chair
Councillor Mrs Judith Heathcoat
Councillor Lawrie Stratford
Councillor Ian Corkin
Councillor Steve Harrod
Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
Councillor Yvonne Constance OBE
Councillor David Bartholomew
Councillor Mark Gray
Councillor Eddie Reeves

Other Members in Attendance: Councillor Jamila Begum Azad (Agenda Items 8 and 10)
Councillor Liz Brighthouse (Agenda Item 8)
Councillor Damian Haywood (Agenda Item 10)
Councillor Mark Lygo (Agenda Item 12)
Councillor Glynis Phillips (Agenda Items 6, 7 and 8)
Councillor John Sanders (Agenda Item 9)

Officers:

Whole of meeting Lorna Baxter, Director of Finance; Nick Graham, Director of Law & Governance; Yvonne Rees, Chief Executive; Sue Whitehead (Resources)

Part of meeting Item	Name
9 & 12	Bev Hindle, Strategic Director for Communities
10	Lucy Butler, Director for Children's Services; David Clarke, Deputy Director Education
11	Benedict Leigh, Deputy Director Adult Social Care

The Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting, together with a schedule of addenda tabled at the meeting and decided as set out below. Except insofar as otherwise specified, the reasons for the decisions are contained in the agenda, reports and schedule, copies of which are attached to the signed Minutes.

121/18 MINUTES

(Agenda Item. 3)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record.

122/18 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

(Agenda Item. 4)

Councillor Howson had given written notice of the following question to Councillor Constance: -

“Leaving aside East West Rail and the GWR electrification project, what progress on other rail projects has there been in Oxfordshire during 2018?”

Councillor Constance replied: -

“Network Rail has completed the £97 million Oxford area signalling scheme, replacing the 1960s signalling with a state-of-the-art system controlled from the Thames Valley Signalling Centre in Didcot. Signals have been replaced and extra signals provided to increase capacity.

Network Rail has completed Oxford Corridor Phase 1, a £163 million scheme to upgrade and remodel the track layout around Oxford station to remove conflicting movements, provide greater operational flexibility, improve train speeds and increase capacity.

Network Rail is finalising the business case for Oxford Corridor Phase 2, and this is due to be submitted to Government in spring 2019. This phase of work comprises a new northbound island platform, replacement of the Botley Road bridge, realignment of Roger Dudman Way and Cripsey Road, level crossing closures north of Oxford and upgraded track to and from East West Rail. It is estimated at around £160 million and will be delivered by 2023. Officers are working with Network Rail to define our future highway requirements.

The North Cotswold Line Taskforce has met regularly throughout the year and is developing a Strategic Outline Business Case for investing in extra capacity between Oxford and Hanborough to enable a more frequent train service that can support new housing and employment in West Oxfordshire.

Platform extension work is underway at stations on the North Cotswold Line to enable longer InterCity Express Trains to be introduced in 2019.

A new £20 million multi-storey car park has opened at Didcot Parkway partly funded from the Local Growth Fund. This has provided an extra 910 spaces, and increases car parking to 1800 spaces. Network Rail has built a step-free pedestrian link between the new car park and the station building.

Electrification of the Great Western Mainline through Oxfordshire is complete and electric trains can now operate between London Paddington and

Swindon (and from next year, Cardiff), albeit not through Steventon, where the ongoing objection to replacing the bridge means trains cannot use electric power and have to use their on-board diesel engines.

We have agreed that Network Rail will review the economic and operating case for completing electrification between Didcot and Oxford. If it were to go ahead, it would be designed with passive provision for future four-tracking.

The County Council jointly commissioned initial site assessment work for the proposed Wantage & Grove station with Vale of White Horse District Council to ensure appropriate land is safeguarded in their Local Plan. As a result, two potential sites have been identified.

Informal discussions have been held with Oxford University about a proposal for a new station near Begbroke. This will serve the expanding Science Park and the strategic housing site being proposed in the Cherwell Local Plan. We await further information from the University.

Oxfordshire Rail Corridor Study – this is a vital project and an investment priority for Oxfordshire as it will establish the priorities for rail investment in Oxfordshire for the next 30 years. Officers have, and continue to be, heavily involved in working with Network Rail and the Department for Transport in drafting and agreeing key documents and defining the scope of the study. The first stage strategic study will demonstrate how prioritised rail investment can support the economy and wider growth development in Oxfordshire, including delivering the Housing & Growth deal (and the new housing it includes), and the emerging Joint Statutory Spatial Plan.

The strategic study will identify a number of interventions, some of which will then be developed further in the second stage. However, the importance of the Cowley Branch Line means that further development work will be done in parallel with the strategic study.

Supplementary: Responding to a further question Councillor Constance agreed that she would have expected to see a statement on the Cowley branch line and she undertook to provide a response.

Councillor Turnbull had given written notice of the following questions to Councillor Lindsay-Gale: -

“1. A key part of the SEND sufficiency of places strategy is ensuring that all mainstream schools support an inclusive approach to education. How confident are you that schools will be receptive to this approach, and what steps are being taken to ensure that academies, and not just maintained schools, adopt this inclusive approach?”

Councillor Lindsay-Gale replied:

“The code of practice states that where possible all children should be educated in a mainstream school, but especially when this is requested by the parent.

In many cases schools can sometimes feel that they lack the experience and expertise to meet some children’s needs in a mainstream environment. We have a high level of special educational needs expertise across the schools in Oxfordshire and by using this expertise to upskill our schools, where we/they have identified they require support, it will empower them to be able to meet more children with SEN in their local school.

In the autumn term 2018 a series of briefings were conducted in the North, Centre and South of the county where this was shared with Headteacher’s, Governors Inclusion leaders and SENCOs of both Academy and Maintained schools. The feedback from those that attended was very positive and agreed that this was the right direction to be taking. We work in the same way with academies and maintained schools in relation to special educational needs and will continue to foster and further develop our relationship with all schools in relation to an inclusive approach.

Oxfordshire LA have already identified that it needs to review the funding that is paid to schools to support children with special educational needs. We are hoping that with the above and a clear funding model this will also help to further support schools to meet all children’s needs.

In addition to the above, Ofsted have announced a change to the inspection framework from September 2019, which ensures that schools remain responsible for children who are on roll and have accessed alternative provision. Therefore, the journey of a child’s progress and provision be it at the school or at an alternative placement will be more closely tracked, this greater focus in the inspection framework can only improve the provision provided for all children in all types of schools.”

“2. The decision of the Cabinet in June to support a consultation to close Northfield School was extremely stressful for everyone involved with the school - a school that was already having to operate out of temporary classrooms across two sites because the main school building had been allowed to deteriorate. As Cabinet is now being asked to agree to rebuild and expand Northfield School (which when suggested by the Labour Group we were told was not an option) I would like to ask what lessons have been learned from this process about the way that the County Council manages its maintained schools, and special schools in particular?”

Councillor Lindsay-Gale replied:

“As stated in the question, the decision to look at closing Northfield was a stressful and difficult time for all. In April of 2018 due to a temporary school

closure it became clear that the school building was not fit for purpose and this resulted in the need for the temporary provision across the two sites. It was at this time that the need for options to be explored was required as the situation was totally unprecedented. As a result, the consultation paper was presented to enable the Council to gather the necessary information to inform any future proposal.

The consultation took place to determine views on:

- Close the Northfield School, placing current students in alternate and more suitable provision, pending the outcome of the SEND Review
- Continue to operate Northfield School as is, pending the outcome of the SEND Review

The clear feedback from a range of stakeholders including parents of children at the school, students, staff, Unions, MPs and presentations made to Cabinet by members of the public was that they were not supportive of the proposal to close the school and were very keen to consider all other options rather than closure.

A further consideration was that at the time of the decision the school had over 50 pupils on roll and when looking at the local market it was clear that to place these children in alternative school placements would not be possible. All maintained special schools in neighbouring authorities who take children with special needs such as those at Northfield, advised that they did not have any available places, and those schools in the independent sector, where places might have been available, could not accommodate the number of children who we would have needed to place at short notice.

Therefore, all these factors were taken into consideration in the decision to bring the proposal to Cabinet to rebuild Northfields as the best option for the children and young people with such complex needs.

There have been a number of valuable lessons learnt from this process: -

- The clear need for a Council SEND Sufficiency of Places Strategy. The timing of this strategy was driven by the need for more places and this was clearly exemplified by the Northfield's situation.
- A survey of all Special Schools has been conducted to build the Council's knowledge of the condition of schools and working in partnership with Property services to develop a capital works programme for our schools.
- Review the delegation of repair and maintenance responsibility and budget with our schools
- Establish clearly defined and approved governance process to expediate decision making should an emergency situation arise and that key senior managers are pre identified to lead on the operations and decision making needed.
- Review our business continuity plan and budget for emergency school closure"

123/18 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item. 5)

The Leader of the Council had agreed the following requests to address the meeting:

Item	Speaker
Item 6– Financial Monitoring and Medium Term Financial Plan Delivery Report	Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance
Item 7 – Capital Programme Monitoring Report	Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance
Item 8 – Service & Resource Planning Report	Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance Councillor Liz Brighouse, Chairman of Performance Scrutiny Committee Councillor Jamila Begum Azad
Item 9 – Compulsory Purchase Powers for Acquisition of Land Required for Delivery of Schemes	Councillor John Sanders, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment
Item 10 – SEND Sufficiency Strategy and Northfield School	Councillor Jamila Begum Azad Councillor Damian Haywood (5 mins)
Item 11 – Daytime Support Sustainability Grant Awards	Councillor Sobia Afridi – Shadow Cabinet Member, Adult Social Care & Public Health – did not speak
Item 12 – Mill Arts Centre	Councillor Mark Lygo

124/18 FINANCIAL MONITORING AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN DELIVERY REPORT - OCTOBER 2018

(Agenda Item. 6)

The report set out the forecast position of the revenue budget as at the end of October 2018. The report also included an update on the delivery of savings, plus forecast reserves and balances.

Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance spoke to the report highlighting the continuing issues in CEF and commented on those issues that were underfunded by central government such as, unaccompanied young asylum seekers. Councillor Phillips welcomed the

winter pressure funding but felt the requirements around it were unreasonable. Councillor Phillips commented that in the Communities directorate the Carillion issue was a future risk. Overall, she commented that the position was unsustainable and that results were needed from the Transformation Programme to avoid cuts in future years.

Councillor David Bartholomew, Cabinet Member for Finance, responded to the comments made, noting that the CEF matters raised were national issues. The Directorate was developing an action plan in response. He added that the Council would deliver a balanced budget and thanked the diligent work of the Finance Team.

Councillor Bartholomew introduced the contents of the report.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) note the report;
- (b) approve the virements set out in Annex 2a and note the virements set out in Annex 2b; and
- (c) approve the bad debt write-offs as set out in paragraphs 67 and 68.

125/18 CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING REPORT - OCTOBER 2018

(Agenda Item. 7)

Cabinet considered the third separate capital programme update and monitoring report that focussed on the delivery of the 2018/19 capital programme based on projections at the end of October 2018 and new inclusions within the overall ten-year capital programme.

Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance drew attention to discussion at the Performance and Scrutiny Committee that had queried the capacity of the Council to manage the substantial number and scale of projects to be undertaken; she also referred to the large amount of capital funding. She commented that additional staff would be required and referred to the need for a transparent process. Monitoring would be important, and she hoped that the Council was up to the task. She welcomed the option of borrowing to build to bring out of county placements for children back in county and supported selling on any additional places. This needed to be pursued alongside a long-term strategy to deal with increased demand. On paragraph 17 Councillor Phillips sought clarification on whether the £17.4m referred to was additional spend. Councillor Phillips referred to the money allocated to look at a safe pedestrian crossing on Risinghurst Road. A child had been run over in a recent incident and she asked whether it was included.

Councillor David Bartholomew, Cabinet Member for Finance, agreed that it was an ambitious programme requiring sufficient capacity and added that an awareness of the need to monitor and manage it was high on the agenda. Councillor Ian Hudspeth, Leader of the Council, commented that capacity

was a crucial issue but that residents would question the Council if it did not put in ambitious bids to central government. He referred to the HIF bid, which if accepted would take the capital programme to over £1b.

Councillor Bartholomew referring to building children's homes was supportive of the possibility of selling on spare places although there were obstacles to be overcome. Councillor Bartholomew clarified that there was £10m already identified for spend on roads and there was an additional £7.4m. Councillor Constance, Cabinet Member for Environment added that in recent discussions with Skanska she had raised with them their ability to step up in the light of increased investment.

Councillor Bartholomew, introduced the contents of the report. He drew attention to the recommendation to approve £6.3m towards the extension of Broadband for Business in Rural Oxfordshire which was a formality as the project would be fully funded by a grant from DEFRA.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) note the report;
- (b) approve the updated Capital Programme at Annex 2 and the associated changes to the programme in Annex 1c; and
- (c) approve the budget requirement of £6.3m towards the extension of Broadband for Business in Rural Oxfordshire.

**126/18 SERVICE & RESOURCE PLANNING REPORT - 2019/20 -
DECEMBER 2018**

(Agenda Item. 8)

Cabinet had before them the second in the series of reports on the Service & Resource Planning process for 2019/20 and it set out the latest identified pressures and proposed savings for 2019/20 and the medium term as well as key points arising from the Autumn Budget announced on 29 October 2018.

Councillor Glynis Phillips, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance, expressed disappointment at the budget settlement, commented that the underlying situation gave cause for concern and highlighted several specific areas of concern including that relating to learning disability, older people and mental health. In particular Councillor Phillips urged Cabinet to reject reductions in the budget relating to mental health services.

Councillor Liz Brighouse, Chairman of Performance Scrutiny Committee commented, following that Committee's consideration of the proposals. In particular the Committee: was keen to undertake further work to scrutinise the impact of the transformation programme, noting that its impact was unclear, and it was not included in the proposals; was keen to see an emphasis on prevention to manage demand, expressed significant concerns over the proposals for mental health services and expressed concern over

the purchase of care home beds on block. The Committee also highlighted areas where they would continue to keep a watching brief including daytime support, Carillion and the Growth agenda.

Councillor David Bartholomew, Cabinet Member for Finance responded to the comments made. He indicated that transformation was coming out temporarily to allow for greater clarity. There had been something of a pause and reset on transformation but the numbers, both the savings and the cost of achieving them would be going back in before decisions were taken. It would be an ongoing and iterative process. Councillor Brighthouse asked that any new numbers come to Scrutiny. Councillor Ian Hudspeth, Leader of the Council, highlighted the role of the Transformation Sub-Committee that was a joint meeting of Performance Scrutiny Committee and Audit & Governance Committee members. The figures referred to would go to that Sub-Committee before February Council.

Councillor Jamila Begum Azad, local councillor for St Clement's & Cowley Marsh, referred to a new sign on the St Clements community building identifying it as Blackbird Leys Family Solutions service. She queried why it had been named Blackbird Leys and highlighted the needs of young people and vulnerable people in the wider East Oxford area. Councillor Gray, Cabinet Member for Local Communities replied that he had recently visited the centre and would take up the comments made.

Referring to the comments made on adult social care Councillor Lawrie Stratford, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, stated that the changes to mental health were still proposals and the Council was still in discussion with Oxford Health. The Daytime Support changes were going well but there would be a review and some changes could be expected.

Councillor David Bartholomew, Cabinet Member for Finance, in moving the recommendations, thanked officers for their work. Lorna Baxter, Director of Finance, introduced the contents of the addenda setting out details of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2019/20 and noting that the Council was still waiting on confirmation on schools' capital funding.

During discussion a Cabinet Member highlighted innovation including the street lighting programme which was a great use of new technology and the Bus Service Operators Grant. In his Division three buses were running that otherwise would not be able to run.

RESOLVED: to take the issues set out in the report into consideration in forming their proposed budget for 2019/20, Medium Term Financial Plan to 2022/23 and Capital Programme to 2028/29.

127/18 COMPULSORY PURCHASE POWERS FOR ACQUISITION OF LAND REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY OF SCHEMES

(Agenda Item. 9)

The Council is proposing to deliver a programme of major transport infrastructure projects, to support and enable housing and economic growth in Oxfordshire. To progress with the delivery of proposed major transport infrastructure schemes, the use of Compulsory Purchase Powers may have to be used for the acquisition of land required for the construction work.

Cabinet had before them a report that detailed the schemes which may require CPOs to proceed, as well as schemes identified as likely to require CPO in future, but which are still in early feasibility stages where exact parcels of land have not yet been identified.

Councillor John Sanders, Shadow Cabinet Member for Environment was supportive of the proposals but noted that their use could be controversial and cause a reputational risk to the Council. He therefore expressed concern that the report was not detailed. He asked Cabinet to consider asking officers to come back to Cabinet to identify each site, with Cabinet making the decision unless it was time critical.

During discussion Cabinet supported the proposals, and the ability to move quickly where necessary. The decision would aid future negotiation and gave clarity to the Council's strength of purpose. A Cabinet Member suggested that in the event of a particularly controversial decision it could in any event be brought before Cabinet

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) approve delegation of the exercising of Compulsory Purchase Powers to the Director of Capital Investment and Delivery, in consultation with the Cabinet Member responsible for Transport, for the purchase of land required for the delivery of the major infrastructure schemes outlined in paragraphs 7 and 9 of this report, in the event that the land cannot be acquired by negotiation; and
- (b) note that should the whole or any part of lands required are not acquired by negotiation, the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order under provisions contained in Part XII of the Highways Act 1980 for the acquisition of the land, will be progressed. This could include providing the necessary attendance, expert witness provision, etc. at a Public Enquiry if required.

128/18 SEND SUFFICIENCY STRATEGY AND NORTHFIELD SCHOOL

(Agenda Item. 10)

a Special Educational Needs & Disability Sufficiency of Places Strategy

Oxfordshire's school age population is growing, both because of the rise in births experienced between 2002-2011 and due to the large-scale housing growth planned for the county between now and 2027. However, the growth in demand for Special School and Resource Base provision has increased rapidly.

Currently, as a result, there are insufficient school places to meet this demand and the strategy was written to detail how the Council plans to address the current lack of special educational needs school places. Cabinet had before them a report and strategy that identified options to meet the increase in demand on places.

Councillor Damian Haywood, speaking as a local councillor for Iffley Fields & St Mary's and as a governor of Mabel Pritchard Special School stated that whilst welcoming the Strategy as an excellent piece of work he did have some concerns. Councillor Haywood:

- Queried whether the number of places to be provided was sufficient.
- Whether the annual saving targets were achievable.
- Whether there was sufficient capital for the number of places to be provided and whether funding would be included in the budget.

Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, Cabinet Member for Education and Cultural Services in moving the recommendations, thanked Councillor Haywood for his comments and hoped that he would be involved in the work going forward.

Lucy Butler, Director of Children's Services, referred to the context of a huge increase in demand and suggested that the Strategy be reviewed annually. The emphasis was on local first and she detailed for Cabinet Members the four strands of the Strategy. The fourth strand was to build new schools including the re-build of Northfield School.

RESOLVED: to note and approve the special educational needs sufficiency of places strategy.

b Proposal to Agree to Re-Build and Expand Northfield School Through the Special Educational Needs and Disability Sufficiency of Places Strategy

Cabinet considered a report that proposed the re-build of Northfield School in-line with the SEND Education Sufficiency Strategy 2018-2027 for circa 100 students. The report seeks approval for the admission of Year 7 pupils for

the academic year 2019/20 in to Northfield Special school and for in year transfers from January 2018.

Councillor Jamila Begum Azad, local councillor for St Clement's & Cowley Marsh asked that she receive the recent Ofsted Inspection report for Northfield School. Commenting on the proposals Councillor Begum Azad queried whether they were deliverable and what consultation there would be. Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, Cabinet Member for Education and Cultural Services replied that it had been received only recently and Councillor Begum Azad would receive a copy. It was disappointing but not unexpected that the School was in Special Measures. Parents and governors would have been notified.

Lucy Butler, Director for Children's Services, explained the context to the current proposal to re-build referring to the report to Cabinet in July. At that point the children were on a split site but now all children were back at the Northfield School site and the best outcome was seen to be the re-build of the school.

A Cabinet Member in commending the report, encouraged and supported mainstream schools to be as inclusive as possible. This provided benefits for mainstream pupils but as an additional challenge for schools needed to be funded.

Councillor Lindsay-Gale moved the recommendations.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) note the outcome of the informal consultation and capacity reviews and agree not to issue a statutory notice for closure.
- (b) approve the proposed re-build of Northfield School in-line with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Education Sufficiency Strategy 2018-2027 for circa 100 students.
- (c) support allocation of £9.52m capital budget within the capital programme for the delivery of re-provision of Northfield Special School, the funding for which will be agreed through the annual service and resource planning process and the Capital Programme to be approved by Council in February 2019; and
- (d) approve admission of Year 7 pupils for the academic year 2019/20 in to Northfield Special school and for in year transfers from January 2019.

129/18 DAYTIME SUPPORT SUSTAINABILITY GRANT AWARDS

(Agenda Item. 11)

There are grant funds available to support the continuation and development of community and voluntary sector daytime support opportunities in Oxfordshire; these funds include the Innovation Fund to support new initiatives and the sustainability fund to support existing services.

Cabinet considered a report relating to the Sustainability Grant Fund for 2019/20, to support community and voluntary sector daytime support services to continue and flourish. There is £250,000 available in this fund.

As per the agreed cross-party panel decision making process, the report set out the panel's final recommendations for allocation of the Sustainability Fund in 2019-20, for decision by Cabinet.

Councillor Lawrie Stratford. Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care moved the recommendations.

Councillor Mark Gray, Cabinet Member for Local Communities, thanked the cross party working group and service users for their involvement. Councillor Gray explained the approach taken by the Working Group in making their recommendations and noted that almost all recommendations had unanimous support of the Working Group members.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) congratulate the voluntary sector for its dedication and commitment to continuing to provide much valued services, and their work towards self-sustainability
- (b) approve for funding the bids listed under paragraph 31 (a) of the report.
- (c) approve the recommendations for funding the bids listed under paragraph 31 (b) of the report.
- (d) approve the recommendations for funding the bids listed under paragraph 31 (c) of the report, subject to conditions as set out in the cross-party panel recommendations (Annex 2).
- (e) approve for funding the combined bids listed under paragraph 31 (d) of the report.
- (f) approve the recommendation to reject the bids listed under paragraph 31 (e) of the report.
- (g) approve transferring the remaining amount, as set out under paragraph 31 (f) of the report, to the Innovation Fund 2018; and
- (h) approve the recommendations set out under paragraph 37 (1-5) of the report.

130/18 THE MILL ARTS CENTRE, BANBURY

(Agenda Item. 12)

Cabinet had before them a report seeking approval to a proposal to improve the long-term sustainability of the Mill Arts Centre in Banbury by declaring the property surplus to council requirements and transferring to Cherwell District Council as a named purchaser for less than best consideration.

Councillor Mark Lygo, Shadow Cabinet Member for Transformation, supported the proposal and thanked officers for their efforts in bringing it forward.

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Councillor Eddie Reeves, Cabinet Member for Transformation, in moving the recommendations emphasised that the proposal would allow the Arts Centre to access heritage funding, with Cherwell District Council taking a lead through their cultural planning and vision.

Responding to a question from a Cabinet Member, Bev Hindle, Strategic Director of Communities confirmed that the review referred to as recommendation (d) would come back to Cabinet for approval.

Nick Graham, Director of Law & Governance, responding to a question confirmed that the agreement would include specific reference to buy back and overage to protect the Council's position.

Cabinet was advised that Cherwell District Council had agreed the proposals at their meeting on 17 December and they saw it as vital to that Council's regeneration plans for Banbury.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) declare The Mill surplus to the county council's requirements.
- (b) approve the principle of transferring The Mill to Cherwell District Council, as a named purchaser for £1 which is less than best consideration subject to the necessary legal safeguards being in place.
- (c) delegate to the Director of Law & Governance in conjunction with the Director of Capital Investment and Delivery to conclude the necessary legal agreement; and
- (d) request that officers review the procedure for the disposal of surplus land at less than market value and bring an updated approach back to Cabinet at the appropriate time (once the current government consultation on this issue has concluded).

131/18 FORWARD PLAN AND FUTURE BUSINESS

(Agenda Item. 13)

The Cabinet considered a list of items for the immediately forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet.

RESOLVED: to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing

2019

