

# THE CABINET

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet held in the Luttrell Room, County Hall, Taunton, on Wednesday 18 October 2017 at 10am.

## PRESENT

Cllr D Fothergill (in the Chair)

Cllr A Groskop  
Cllr D Hall  
Cllr D Huxtable  
Cllr C Lawrence  
Cllr F Nicholson  
Cllr J Woodman

Junior Cabinet members:  
Cllr C Aparicio Paul  
Cllr Fraschini  
Cllr G Verdon

**Other Members present:** Cllr Simon Coles; Cllr Hugh Davies, Cllr Liz Leyshon, Cllr Jane Lock, Cllr Graham Noel, Cllr Bill Revans, Cllr Nigel Taylor

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr F Purbrick

### 35 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – agenda item 2

Members of the Cabinet declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Member of a District, City/Town or Parish Council:

Cllr A Groskop	South Somerset District Council
Cllr J Woodman	Sedgemoor District Council

Junior Cabinet Members declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Member of a District, City/Town or Parish Council:

Cllr C Aparicio Paul	South Somerset District Council
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### 36 **MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE CABINET HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2017** - agenda item 3

The Cabinet agreed the minutes and the Chairman signed these as a correct record of the proceedings.

### 37 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (PQT)** – agenda item 4

There were no public questions.

**PROPOSED 14 CLASS PRIMARY SCHOOL AT NERROLS FARM  
TAUNTON - agenda item 5**

The Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Cllr Frances Nicholson introduced the report, noting: work to ensure the adequate availability of school places; that a new school was clearly needed in the Nerrols Farm area; that it was recommended a contractor be appointed at a gross maximum cost; and that this development would be funded using Section 106 monies.

The Project Manager, Corporate Property Group added to the points raised by Cllr Nicholson, noting that: existing schools in the local area don't have the capacity to accommodate additional children; the additional places are required to be available from September 2019; and that the County Council has a statutory duty to provide school places.

Cllr Giuseppe Frascini noted his support for the new school as the relevant divisional member.

Further points raised in the debate included: safe access to the new school once open, given on-going developments in the local area; ensuring the availability of safe walking and cycle routes; ensuring the development is completed by September 2019; receipt of S106 monies; car parking in the vicinity of school sites; the proximity of the new West Monkton Primary School; the funding requirement in addition to S106 monies; safe school 'drop-off' and 'pick-up' points and associated OFSTED requirements; the importance of interaction between the Council's Education and Planning departments; and disabled access to the new school.

The Project Manager, Corporate Property Group and the Programme Manager – Schools and Early Years responded to the points raised in debate, highlighting that: the build would be completed by July 2019 to allow a final 'fit-out' by September 2019; that safe walking and cycle routes would be considered as a part of the school's planning application; that initially only 7 classrooms would be operational, with additional classrooms being brought into use when required; and that 17 of the 18 recent large scale school building projects were delivered on time.

The Director of Finance and Performance informed Members that additional capital funding had been agreed as a part of the 2017/18 budget.

The Chairman asked if there was support for the proposal and both Junior and Cabinet Members were in consensus.

Following consideration of the officer report, appendix and discussion the Cabinet RESOLVED to:

1. Approve the appointment of a contractor to proceed with the delivery of a 14 class primary school at Nerrols Farm, Taunton for September 2019 at a gross maximum project cost.

2. Approve the gross maximum project cost as set out in Appendix A.
3. Delegate authority to the Head of Corporate Property to finalise contract negotiations and to instruct the County Solicitor to execute all necessary contractual documents in order for SCC to enter into contract with the selected contractor.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report

REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report

**39 SOMERSET ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY UPDATE – agenda item 6**

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Cllr John Woodman, introduced the report highlighting that: the road safety strategy was last reviewed in 2013; that in the last year 1041 people were killed or seriously injured on Somerset's roads, costing the County's economy £69m; and that the updated strategy included a focus on working in partnership with other agencies.

The Transport Policy Manager added to the points raised by Cllr Woodman, noting that: the County's roads are becoming safer; the adoption of the safe systems approach which recognises that humans are fallible; the updated strategy supports the Council's Health and Wellbeing aspirations; and that a stronger partnership approach should help avoid duplication of work.

The Lead Director for Economic and Community Infrastructure & Director of Commissioning highlighted that the Scrutiny for Polices and Place Committee supported the updated strategy.

Further points raised in the debate included: the importance of recognising equestrian and rural road safety including agricultural vehicles; asking schools to help deliver road safety messages; the importance of education; the effectiveness of safety cameras; the devastating effects of road accidents; ensuring the safety of existing roads is enhanced where ever possible; safe routes to schools; the cultural shift required for children to walk to school; compensation paid to victims of road traffic accidents; and utilising Small Improvement Schemes funding to improve road safety.

The Transport Policy Manager and the Service Manager – Transport Programmes responded to the points raised in debate, noting that: the plan would be amended to include equestrian and rural road safety; the police were currently operating a significant mobile safety camera programme, but it was not thought that any new fixed camera installations were planned; and working with Highways England to improve road safety.

The Chairman asked if there was support for the proposal and both Junior and Cabinet Members were in consensus.

Following consideration of the officer report and discussion the Cabinet resolved to endorse the consultation draft Road Safety Strategy and authorises the commencement of public consultation on the draft Road Safety Strategy

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report

REASON FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report

40 **ANY OTHER URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS** – agenda item 7

None.

**CHAIRMAN**