

**MINUTES OF THE SHAREHOLDER CABINET COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 10:00AM, ON
MONDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2020
VIA ZOOM**

Members Present: Councillor Fitzgerald (Chair), Councillor Allen, Councillor Cereste, Councillor Seaton, Councillor Walsh

8. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received. It was noted that Councillor Farooq was in attendance in his capacity as Chairman of Aragon Direct Services Ltd.

10. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 SEPTEMBER 2020

The minutes of the Shareholder Cabinet Committee meeting held on 14 September 2020 were referred to Cabinet for approval.

11. PETERBOROUGH MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY UPDATE

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee received a report in relation to the Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery.

The purpose of this report was to give an update on the transfer of services to City Culture Peterborough, on the re-opening plans, and on the role of the service during and post the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Service Director of Communities and Partnerships addressed the Shareholder Cabinet Committee and advised that this was the first report to the committee since the service transferred to City College, thanking Vivacity for its legacy for the city. Members were advised that the aim was to use the opportunity to create a sense of place within the city.

Members were further advised that reopening plans had been revised in light of the second national COVID-19 lockdown, with a number of staff being furloughed once more. It was noted that a new identity was established, City Culture Peterborough, so that the public would not be confused. Engagement was ongoing with local and national partners, including Historic England.

Additional information was provided in relation to Flag Fen following a recent fire on site. It was confirmed that no artefacts were damaged but security was being reviewed. Working was being done to enable the site to be open all year round.

Councillor Cereste joined the meeting at this point.

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- It was felt that Flag Fen could learn a number of lessons from the JORVIK Viking Centre in York and could take on a key role in the future of the leisure offer in the city.
- It was noted that the Towns Fund included an element for the extension of Peterborough Museum for a bronze heritage centre.
- Members congratulated officers on the transition of services and were pleased to hear about plans for the future.
- Next steps included refining the plans for a grant from the Arts Council and how this was to tie in with the cultural strategy for the city. It was hoped that such a strategy would be ready for adoption by March 2021.
- The current intention was to open up leisure services the day after the end of the current COVID-19 national lockdown, and to subsequently open Flag Fen on 21 December in order to maintain an open space over the Winter months.

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to note the progress of the transfer of the Museum and Art Gallery to City Culture Peterborough (part of the City College Peterborough Foundation).

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To give an update on the transfer of services and in helping to improve service provision.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

There were no alternative options considered in relation to this report.

12. NPS PETERBOROUGH PLAN

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee received a report in relation to NPS Peterborough.

The purpose of this report was to provide the Committee with the NPS Peterborough Business Plan and strategic overview of how the business supported Peterborough City Council.

The Operations Director of NPS Property addressed the Shareholder Cabinet Committee and provided an update on the NPS Business Plan.

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- There were a number of opportunities identified within the Council's rural estate in relation to indoor and outdoor education venues, which were currently being investigated.
- Members considered that that the Council's rural estates may be a benefit to the establishment of the university, and officers advised that every opportunity would be taken to link in with the university project.
- Officers noted that staffing difficulties were being faced, however this was considered to be a national problem. The company were focusing on graduate recruitment.
- Members commented that, following discussion at a previous committee meeting, work had commenced with Aragon Direct Services to ensure that the two bodies were aligned.

- Officers were reviewing NPS' service level agreements to establish NPS' responsibilities, which were subsequently being measure through KPIs.
- It was noted that the company had seen a reduction in overall complaints. Challenges did still occur in relation to response times, work on which was ongoing.
- It was felt that further explanation in relation the company's projected financial position within reports presented to the Committee would be useful. Officers noted that information was contained within the asset management policy but could be extracted.
- Officers would circulate information to the Committee in relation to type, number and value of assets.

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to note the contents of the report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Committee were asked to note the report and associated documents and raise any queries or comments.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

There were no alternative options considered in relation to this report.

13. SHAREHOLDER CABINET COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee received the Shareholder Cabinet Committee work programme for the 2020/2021 municipal year.

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to note the latest version of the work programme.

14. PETERBOROUGH LIMITED BUSINESS PLAN 2020 TO 2023

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee received a report in relation to the Peterborough Limited Business Plan 2020-2023.

The purpose of this report was to update the Shareholder Cabinet Sub Committee on the Peterborough Limited Business Plan 2020-2023, as well as the financial position of the company, and key achievements and milestones over the last nine months.

In accordance with the Standing Orders, the Shareholder Cabinet Committee was asked to determine whether appendix 1 of agenda item 6, 'Peterborough Limited Business Plan 2020 to 2023', which contained commercially sensitive information as defined by paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972, should be exempt and the press and public excluded from the meeting when it was discussed, or whether the public interest in disclosing this information outweighed the public interest in maintaining the exemption.

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee unanimously agreed to the exclusion of the press and public for the exempt appendix.

The Managing Director of Peterborough Limited addressed the Shareholder Cabinet Committee and advised that with the outbreak of COVID-19 the Business Plan had not progressed as anticipated. Work with schools around the capital programme had not happened and while work with commercial waste was moving forward, this had been delayed by the pandemic. The focus for the year had been on delivering the

service as usual, with most of the company's staff categorised as key workers. Outside of the national lockdown periods, waste collection had increased by 30%, which was a considerable amount, and collection vehicles were close to maximum capacity. Garden waste collection was paused in order to ensure sufficient vehicles.

It was noted that fly tipping levels had increased and maintained at a high level even following the reopening of the household waste centre. A change in littering habits had been observed.

In August 2020 Peterborough Limited took over the leisure services, including the swimming pools, which represented a massive expansion with over 700 staff now employed. Plans to commence the swim academy had been halted following the announcement of the second lockdown, with a large number of staff being placed back onto furlough.

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members commended Peterborough Limited employees for their work during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- It was advised that recycling levels had increased, however, with no real increase in food waste tonnage. Work would be carried out to improve education in this area.
- A review of all all-weather pitches was undertaken in October and it was established that throughout lockdown there had been some significant damage to the sites. These were in the process of being fixed, though supply-chain issues were being encountered, with many sub-contractors currently furloughed.

Councillor Cereste left the meeting at this point.

As agreed, the meeting moved into exempt session at this point.

The Shareholder Cabinet Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** to note the information within the report and the impact which COVID-19 has had on Peterborough Limited.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It was recommended that the Shareholder Cabinet Sub-Committee noted the information within the report and the impact which COVID-19 had had on Peterborough Limited.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, options were limited at this time.

Chairman
10:00am – 12:03am
9 November 2020