

**CABINET MEETING – 18 JUNE 2019**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

MINUTES, PART I

**Author(s):**

Assistant Director of Law and Governance

**Purpose of Report:**

Presents the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 16 May 2019, Part I.

**Action Required:**

To confirm the minutes as a correct record.



**At an Extraordinary Meeting of the CABINET held in the CIVIC CENTRE (COMMITTEE ROOM NO.1) on THURSDAY 16 MAY 2019 at 2.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor G. Miller in the Chair

Councillors Atkinson, Farthing, Mordey, Stewart, A. Wilson and G. Walker

**Part I**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Atkinson, who was appointed as the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regeneration, to her first meeting of the Cabinet.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 8 April 2019, Part I (copy circulated) were submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 8 April 2019, Part I, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest reported to the meeting.

**Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor Kelly.

## **Proposal to Publish Notice of Statutory Proposals for the Closure of Millfield Community Nursery School**

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide information relating to and to seek a decision on the proposal to commence the statutory consultation process required to close Millfield Community Nursery School.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Farthing, in highlighting the report, advised that Millfield Community Nursery School had been subject to increasing financial pressures in recent years. She explained that this had been as a consequence of changes to the nursery funding formula and an increased preference within the local community for nursery places within primary school settings, as opposed to a maintained nursery setting. She reported that this had resulted in the nursery accruing a deficit budget of £84,000 with the nursery's deficit projected to reach £420,000 by the close of 2023/24.

Cabinet Members were advised that the Council and the nursery's governing body had attempted to reduce financial pressure on the nursery through three recent staff restructures and attempts to increase attendance at the nursery. However, this had not been successful.

Councillor Farthing reported that should Millfield Community Nursery School close there would be a requirement to provide redundancy costs, currently estimated at £41,000 and to meet the existing nursery deficit outturn budget, currently projected at £81,000. She advised that there were no further opportunities to reduce costs at the nursery through restructure of the staffing base and alternative options considered that would seek to retain Millfield Nursery would not result in any savings. She explained that it was recognised that the financial difficulties at the nursery would start to negatively impact on the operation of the facility in coming years.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the proposals contained within the report be noted; and
- (ii) the commencement of the necessary statutory proposal process required to discontinue provision at Millfield Community Nursery School be authorised.

## **Proposal to Amalgamate Pennywell Early Years Centre and Academy 360**

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide information relating to and to seek a decision on the proposal to commence the statutory consultation process to discontinue Pennywell Early Years Centre, as required to amalgamate Pennywell Early Years Centre and Academy 360 (Laidlaw Academy Trust).

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Farthing highlighted that the Governing Body of Pennywell Early Years Centre and the Laidlaw Academy Group had approached the Council with a proposal for the Pennywell Early Years Centre to become part of the Laidlaw Schools Trust from 1 January 2020. She explained that while continuing to serve the local area, the nursery would become the formal nursery provision for Academy 360.

Cabinet Members were advised that maintained nursery schools had become increasingly financially vulnerable in recent years. This proposal would safeguard the long-term delivery of nursery places within the St. Anne's Ward. It would also increase the effectiveness of transition between children from Pennywell Early Years Centre and Academy 360.

Councillor Farthing advised Cabinet Members that currently there was no process to enable the 'academisation' of maintained nursery schools. She drew attention to the processes required to facilitate this proposal outlined in the report and emphasised that there would be no short-term change to the delivery of provision or staff at Pennywell Early Years Centre because of this proposal.

Councillor Wilson welcomed the proposals and advised that she did not foresee any problems to this proposal being accepted by residents in the Ward.

Councillor Farthing having reported that the proposal would safeguard the viability of the nursery for future years, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the proposals contained within the report be noted;
- (ii) the commencement of the necessary statutory consultation and proposal process required to amalgamate Pennywell Early Years Centre and Academy 360 (Laidlaw Academy Trust) including the discontinuation of the current Pennywell Early Years Centre be authorised; and
- (iii) subject to confirmation of the above proposals, a lease of 113 years be granted to Laidlaw Academy Trust for the current Pennywell Early Years Centre land and buildings.

### **Procurement of Care and Support at Home Services**

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated) to seek approval to procure Care and Support at Home Services for adults aged 18 years and over who have care and support needs that have been assessed as being eligible for support from the Council.

For copy report – see original minutes).

It was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be deferred to the next meeting of the Cabinet on 18 June 2019 to enable more detailed consideration of the proposals.

**Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006**

At the instance of the Chairman it was: -

5. RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered to involve a likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part 1, Paragraph 3). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

(Signed) G. MILLER,  
Chairman.

**Note:-**

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items during which the meeting was open to the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items are included in Part II.