HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the CABINET held in the CIVIC SUITE (LANCASTER/STIRLING ROOMS), PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON, PE29 3TN on Tuesday, 15 September 2026.

PRESENT: Councillor S J Conboy – Chair.

Councillors L Dewey-Beckett, N J Hunt, J E Kerr, B A Mickelburgh and D L Mickelburgh.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors S Claffey, J E Harvey and T D Sanderson.

21. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

22. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 14th July 2026 and 9th September 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

23. CAR PARKING STRATEGY

A report by the Head of Economy, Regeneration & Housing Delivery and the Operations Manager, Parking & Markets Services was submitted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) seeking the endorsement of the Parking Strategy.

The Executive Councillor for Economy, Regeneration & Housing Delivery, Councillor B Mickelburgh introduced the report, and made reference to the comments of the Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Performance & Growth).

In discussing the report, the Cabinet made the following comments:

- there had been extensive public engagement undertaken during the development of the Strategy;
- respondents had consistently identified parking as important in supporting town centres, improving accessibility, enabling access to businesses and services and supporting local economic activity;
- particular emphasis was placed on existing parking provision where evidence demonstrated an ongoing need;
- existing car parks should be retained unless robust evidence indicated they were no longer required;
- any proposal involving repurposing or redevelopment should demonstrate that parking demand could continue to be met; and
- replacement capacity should be available before the loss of any existing parking provision.

The Cabinet welcomed the Strategy and highlighted the importance of maintaining an evidence base that would enable future parking decisions to respond to changing travel patterns and support sustainable town centres.

Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the Parking Strategy be adopted.

24. CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 1

A report by the Data and Insight Analyst was submitted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) presenting the Council's progress against the Corporate Plan Actions and Corporate Performance Indicators during Quarter 1 (April to June) 2026/27.

The Executive Councillor for Resident Services and Corporate Performance, Councillor Hunt introduced the report.

The Cabinet noted key achievements relating to the One Leisure Huntingdon redevelopment, Active Lifestyles Programme, and the Community Health and Wealth Fund. Discussion took place regarding the small number of missed bins during June, and it was emphasised that the performance remained stronger than national benchmarking, despite the indicator being rated red. Reference was made to instances of challenging operating conditions, including periods of extreme heat and staff absences which had affected service delivery, however it was recognised that high standards were applied by the service. It was noted that targets were intentionally ambitious, and missed collections were generally rectified quickly where issues occurred.

The Cabinet commended the commitment and performance of staff across the Council.

Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the Cabinet has considered and commented on progress and performance during Quarter 1, as summarised in the Corporate Performance Report attached and detailed in Appendices A, B & C.

25. FINANCE PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 1

A report by the Head of Finance was submitted (a copy of which is appended to the Minute Book) presenting the forecast outturn for the financial year 2026/27, for both revenue and capital as forecast at the end of Quarter 1.

The Executive Councillor for Economy, Regeneration & Housing, Councillor B Mickelburgh introduced the report.

The Cabinet noted that while the current position remained positive,

there were indications of longer-term financial challenges, particularly if current trends continued and uncertainties surrounding Local Government Reorganisation persisted.

Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the Cabinet has

(1) considered and commented on the revenue financial performance for the financial year 2026/27 Q1, as detailed in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2;

(2) considered and commented on the capital financial performance for 2026/27 Q1, as detailed in Appendix 3;

(3) approved the funding proposals relating to the Priory Centre and wider regeneration schemes (Housing and Regeneration team), and One Leisure St Ives Outdoor Pitch funding (Option 3) (Leisure and Health). An explanation of the funding proposals can be found in the comments against these projects within the capital programme (Appendix 3) and within section 4.3 of the report; and

(4) considered and commented on the Treasury Management 2026/27 Q1 Report attached as Appendix 4.

26. APPOINTMENT(S) TO THE TREASURY AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

RESOLVED

that the Executive Councillor for Governance and Democratic Services be appointed to serve on the Treasury and Capital Management Group.

27. HINCHINGBROOKE COUNTRY PARK MINUTES / APPOINTMENT OF 4TH MEMBER

RESOLVED

that

(1) the Minutes of the Hinchingbrooke Country Park Joint Group meeting held on 16th July 2026, be noted; and

(2) Councillor R Coogan be appointed to serve on the Hinchingbrooke Country Park Joint Group.

Chair