

WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the: **WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Held on: **WEDNESDAY 11 APRIL 2007**

Held at: **COUNCIL OFFICES, BRADLEY ROAD, TROWBRIDGE**

Present: Councillors Batchelor (Chairman), Brice, Brown, Bryant, Burnan OBE, Clark, J Clegg, M Clegg, Conley, Content, Cox, Cunliffe-Jones, Davis, Fortescue, Hawker, James, Knight, Lovell, Manasseh, March, Mounde, Mudge, Newbury, Oakman, Oldrieve, Osborn, Payne, Phillips OBE, Repton, Ridout, Swabey, Viles, While and Wiltshire.

Also present: Tony Frost, Chairman of the Standards Committee

Officers: Chief Executive (AP), Head of Legal & Democratic Services (NM), Head of Human Resources (SL), Principal Environmental Health Officer (CH) and Member Support Officers (PS and JW)

25. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Barker, Blakemore, Bower, Carbin, Chivers, Farkas, Hames and Lewis.

26. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Clark declared an interest in the item: Responses to Consultation in Respect of the Planning Decision-making Process Ward (minute no.36 refers) as Chairman of Hilperton Parish Council when the item was discussed.

27. Announcements from the Chairman

Annual Audit Letter – the Chairman announced that the annual audit letter had just been received and that it was pleasing to note that the Council had been awarded ‘three’ for use of resources and value for money. This was an excellent achievement given out low rate of spending.

The Chairman also took the opportunity to thank members for giving him the opportunity to serve as Chairman for the past 2 years and wished good luck to all those standing for election. He thanked Cllr Bill Viles for his 31 years service with the Council and the Leader for the work she had carried out since being elected to office.

He then gave members who were not standing for re-election an opportunity to say a few words.

28. Minutes

The minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 21 February and the Extraordinary meeting of Council held on 20 March 2007 were approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

29. Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions from members of the public.

30. Reports from Cabinet and Cabinet Members

The Leader gave an overview of her term in office as Leader of the Council.

31. Reports of Committees

Council was asked to receive and note the minutes of the following meetings. This was also an opportunity for Members to ask questions for information or clarification.

Meeting	Date	Minute No.'s
Cabinet	14 March	48 - 68
LJCC	5 March	7 - 15
Planning	8 March	25 - 31
Planning	22 March	32 - 39
Scrutiny	28 Feb	10 - 17
Standards	1 March	11 - 16
Warminster Area	15 March	1 - 15

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meetings be received and noted.

32. Notices of Motion

Open Forum – Mr Alfred Storey – Green bin changes.

(i) Trowbridge Park – Cllrs Swabey and Payne

Council was asked to consider the following notice of motion submitted by Cllrs Swabey and Payne:

“That this Council being the owner of Trowbridge park and the local licensing authority, recommends that Trowbridge Park becomes a Designated Public Place whereby the consumption of alcohol is prohibited (except for special events)”

On being put to the vote, it was

RESOLVED:

That the above motion be referred to the Cabinet for consideration.

(ii) Minority Notice of Motion - Recycling System – Cllrs Phillips OBE, Hawker and Clark

Council was asked to consider the following notice of motion submitted by Cllrs Phillips OBE, Hawker and Clark:

“This council acknowledges:

1. its success in achieving good rates of recycling using the twin bin and black box system, and;

2. the problems which will be caused for many residents when the recycling system changes on 1st April when cardboard and kitchen waste will no longer be allowed in the fortnightly green bin collection because many people, including the elderly and disabled and those without cars, will be unable to take cardboard to the collecting points without considerable personal difficulty.

This council resolves to commence an immediate review of all possible options for future waste collection and recycling with a view to an interim report being made available to council by the end of June 2007.

This interim report should contain and compare estimated costs for the different configurations of waste collection and recycling looked at, including the possibility of using green bins for cardboard collection on alternate fortnightly collections.

This council further resolves that a review of the successes and problems with the new recycling system after 1st April 2007 should also take place with end-of-month updates issued. Issues to look at should include the number of all types of complaints received and all adverse press printed anywhere in the district related to the new recycling scheme. It is the intention of council to act on any clear major issues without delay if the data emerging from these reviews demonstrates that action sooner rather than later is required to correct any serious issues.”

RESOLVED:

That this Council

- **acknowledges the success of the current recycling arrangements in achieving excellent rates of recycling.**
- **will carefully monitor the effects of the changes to green bin recycling, and**
- **is undertaking a review of recycling arrangements in conjunction with the Wiltshire Waste Partnership over the summer months, to be reported back to Cabinet in August 2007.**

- **will carry out a full review of all bring sites.**

33. Questions from Members of the Council

No questions were received.

34. Representatives on Outside Bodies – Reporting Back

The Chairman invited Members to report back on meetings of outside bodies they had attended as representatives of the Council.

The following reports were made:

Cllr Osborn– West Wiltshire Housing Society (WWHS)

There had been a series of meetings planned to set the Board back on course. It was essential that the Board met Housing Corporation regulations so that it could remain independent and he urged all Board members to try to achieve this aim.

Cllr Newbury – Wiltshire Historic Buildings Trust

Had attended all but one of the meetings of the Wiltshire Historic Buildings Trust. He had been impressed with the knowledge that the Trust had of buildings at risk. The Trust still retained an interest in the future of Brook Hall.

35. Dates of meetings

Council was asked to approve the schedule of meeting dates for 2007/08.

RESOLVED:

That the dates of meetings be approved.

36. Responses to Consultation in Respect of the Planning Decision-making Process.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services presented the report which was a follow-up to the one presented to the Council meeting on 21 February. The report listed the results of the consultation process with town and parish councils regarding time period in which they can object to planning applications and whether they should be asked to provide a reason for that objection.

RESOLVED:

That this item be deferred to the next Council meeting.

37. Amendments to the Scheme of Delegation in the Constitution

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services presented the report which sought to rectify an omission regarding the a situation in which a decision has to be made in circumstances of urgency relating to a matter reserved to the Council.

RESOLVED:

That this item be deferred for a detailed explanation as to exactly what powers are to be delegated to the Chief Executive.

38. Setting of Gambling Act 2005 and other fees

The Principal Environmental Officer, Clive Harland, presented the report which requested delegation of powers to set the gambling Act 2005 and other fees to the Licensing Committee.

RESOLVED:

That Council

- **delegates the power to set fees under section 212 of the Gambling Act 2005 to the Licensing Committee as permitted by section 154(2)b of the Act.**
- **adopts the non-Gambling Act fees above with effect from 1 April 2007, which in summary are:**
 - £10 for applications to amend certain existing licenses**
 - £10 for priority processing of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire licenses**
- **authorises the Chief Executive to increase these fees, if necessary, in order to cover the Council's costs.**

39. Cabinet Forward Workplan

The Leader presented the Cabinet Forward Work Plan. There were two additions to the plan:

- An interim report on Designated Public Places for Trowbridge Park to be added to July meeting.
- The Green Bin review be brought forward to the August meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Forward Workplan be received and noted.

40. Urgent Departure Decisions – reporting back

There were no decisions to report.

These minutes were prepared by Pam Sidgwick, Member Support Officer, who can be contacted on direct telephone line 01225 770322 or email psidgwick@westwiltshire.gov.uk

(7.05pm – 9.50pm)