

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on Thursday 2 October 2008 at Monkton Park, Chippenham commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillor RL Tonge..... in the Chair

Councillors RMH Berry, AM Bucknell, C Crisp, VH Greenman, CV Ramsey, R Sanderson and VA Vines.

Non-Executive Councillors Present:

Councillors D Allen, S Doubell, I Henderson, R Henning, A Phillips and T Sturgis.

Officers Present:

D Burbidge (Chief Executive), P Jeremiah (Legal Services Manager), L Robertson (Head of Policy and Performance), D Stirling (Assets, Design and Regeneration Manager) and M Todd (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

E58. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor N Phillips.

E59. Public Question Time/Receipt of Petitions

No public questions or petitions were received.

E60. Questions from Non-Executive Councillors

There were no questions from Non-Executive Councillors.

E61. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 4 September 2008 were considered.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on the 4 September 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

E62. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

E63. Leader's Announcements

There were no Leader's Announcements.

E64. Cleansing & Amenities Improvement Plan – Quarterly Update

Consideration was given to report no. 7 providing an update on the improvements being undertaken by the Cleansing and Amenities Service Improvement Board.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Progress had been made in almost every area of this service and Members congratulated Chris Couzins-Short on his hard work.
- The Portfolio Holder for Waste and Sustainability explained that there were no proposals to recycle trade waste at this stage as this would be a matter for the new unitary authority to consider.
- Some concern was expressed about the proposed location of the recycling sites in Chippenham.
- Improvements were being made to the Whitespace system and this was likely to go live by mid November.

Resolved that:

- (1) The work undertaken within Cleansing and Amenities and the improvements being implemented be endorsed; and
- (2) A further update report be submitted to the Executive in January 2009.

E65. Response of North Wiltshire District Council to the Secretary of State's Proposed Changes to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West

Consideration was given to report no. 8 which asked members to comment on the content of a major planning policy document currently under consideration by the Secretary of State.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- Some concern was expressed about the proposed housing requirements. It was felt that a number of windfall sites had already contributed to this figure.
- The view was put forward that densities should not be considered in isolation.

Resolved that:

- (1) The following objections be raised to the South West Regional Spatial Strategy as proposed to be modified by the Secretary of State:
 - (a) There is objection to the Gypsy and Traveller Additional Pitch Requirements to 2011 for the North Wiltshire Area; and
 - (b) This authority considers that there has been insufficient examination of the principle of allocating 3000 dwellings within North Wiltshire to the West of Swindon. This authority is working in partnership with Swindon Borough Council, to prepare a study of the capacity for the area to accommodate this scale of growth.

It is requested that the allocation of up to 3000 dwellings be made subject to the conclusions reached by this study and subject to including such an allocation as may be appropriate within a relevant Development Plan Document.
- (2) Authority be delegated to the Head of Policy and Performance to issue the relevant response to the Government of the South West in the appropriate form.

E66. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved that:

In accordance with Regulation 21 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the following item of business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as follows and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

| Agenda item/Report name | Paragraph(s) of the Act / Schedule describing the exemption |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Item 10 – Bath Road Redevelopment | Paragraphs 3 and 5 |

E67. Development of Bath Road, Car Park and the Bridge Centre, Chippenham

Consideration was given to report no. 10 advising on expressions of interest received for the Bath Road redevelopment and setting out the revised project brief and programme.

Issues discussed during consideration of this item included:

- There was some concern that no Chippenham Councillors were to be included on the Project Group Selection Panel for this important site. The Executive agreed that Councillor S Doubell should be included on the Panel.
- In response to some concerns regarding possible design quality the Leader explained that the site was in a Conservation Area and contained a listed building. The final design would be subject to the usual planning process.
- It was confirmed that the developers would be asked to engage with the community and would receive a copy of the Vision for Chippenham document.
- Arrangements to replace the Youth Centre were discussed.
- The possible loss of public toilet provision on the site was highlighted.

Resolved that

- (1) The shortlisted parties identified in Appendix 1 of the report be approved and the County Council be recommended to progress the procurement of a retail scheme for the re-development of Bath Road Car Park and the Bridge Centre in accordance with the programme outlined in the report.
- (2) The Project Brief at Appendix 2 of the report be approved and recommended to the County Council.
- (3) Authority be delegated to the Asset Design and Regeneration Manager to agree the content of the Bidders Technical Pack with the Strategic Projects and Development Manager for the County Council.
- (4) Authority be delegated to the Joint Project Group Selection Panel to select the most suitable developer.
- (5) The Leader of the Council and the Liberal Democrat Group Leader be appointed to the Joint Project Group Selection Panel.

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and concluded at 7.30pm.

There were no members of the public present.