

WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the: **WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL – HOUSING PFI SEMINAR**

Held on: **WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2006**

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

Present: Councillors Batchelor (Chairman), Bower, Brice, Brown, Carbin, Clark, Conley, Content, Cox, Cunliffe-Jones (part), Davis, Fortescue, Hawker, James, Knight, March, Mounde, Oldrieve, Phillips, Repton, Viles (part), While

Officers: Chief Executive (AP), Corporate Director (TD), Legal & Democratic Services Manager (NM) Lawyer (GC), Housing PFI Project Manager (CT) Member Support Team Leader (YR)

26. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Barker, Bryant, Burnan OBE, Chivers, John Clegg, Marion Clegg, Manasseh, Mudge, Newbury, Oakman, Osborn, Rosier, Swabey.

27. Announcements

The Chairman welcomed those present and stressed that this was a Seminar to update Members on the latest position and was not a decision making meeting.

Nicola Mathiason

The Chairman welcomed Nicola Mathiason, the new Legal and Democratic Services Manager who had started her employment with the Council on 6 March 2006.

28. Declarations of Interest

Members were referred to guidance previously circulated and invited to declare interests where appropriate. George Curran reiterated this advice especially in relation to members who would serve on the Planning Committee either now or in the future. Members were advised not to make comments on the planning merits or otherwise of any consequent applications for planning permissions so as to avoid accusations of predetermination.

On receiving this advice, Cllr Viles left the meeting.

The following declarations of interest were made:

General declaration by all Members present by virtue of them being members of this Council.

- Cllr Davis - In the event of him being appointed to the Planning Committee in the future or serving as a substitute member.
- Cllr Bower - Had been a member of the PFI Project Board of West Wiltshire Housing Society but had recently stood down from this position. Continues to be a member of the WWHS.
- Cllr Hawker - Advised that he would not be declaring an interest as he did not believe this to be necessary
- Cllr March - Member of this Council and member of the Planning Committee.
- Cllr Fortescue - Member of the Planning Committee and had attended the District Council's PFI Project Board meetings.
- Cllr Knight - Member of the Council and member of the Planning Committee.
- Cllr Brice - Member of the Council.
- Cllr Clark - Personal interest – chaired Hilperton Parish Council meeting when it had formulated its response to the consultation.
- Cllr James - Had chaired Trowbridge Town Council's Planning and Development Committee when it had considered its response to the consultation. Served on the PFI Project Board as Housing Portfolio Holder. Undertook to listen to the officer's update without predetermination.

29. Council Owned Development Sites for the Housing PFI Scheme

Open Forum Speakers:

| Name | Representing |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Adrian Bass, Michael Adam & Geoff Young | Westbury Leigh Car Park Action Group |
| Francis Morland | Self |
| Sarah Cardy | Melksham Town Council |

The Housing PFI Project Manager gave a power point presentation in order to update Members on the latest position with regards the scheme in advance of Cabinet considering the matter on 5 April.

During the discussion which ensued, he answered Members' questions.

Note: Cllr Cunliffe-Jones arrived during the presentation.

Cllr Carbin and the Chairman of Council thanked the Corporate Management Team, the Housing PFI Project Manager and other officers involved in the scheme for their hard work. They also thanked members of the public for the manner in which they had conducted themselves during the consultation process.

These minutes were prepared by Yamina Rhouati, Member Support Team Leader who can be contacted on direct telephone line 01225 770322 or email yrhouati@westwiltshire.gov.uk

(7.00pm – 8.22pm)