

Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 24 June 2008 at the Council Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham.

Present:

Chairman.....Councillor I.J. Henderson.

Councillors D Allen, C. Berry, C.J. Caswill, R Cinnamond, A. Clements, P Coleman, C. Crisp, P.R. Darby, J.P. Doubell, S.K. Doubell, P.J. Doyle, H. Greenman, M.E.M. Groom, J.L. Hall, J. Hartless, M.P. Hatton, R Henning, A. Hill, P.J. Hutton, H.T. Jones, J. Lay, R. MacGregor, S. Meadows, S. Parker, J.A. Phillips, N. Phillips, A. Pier, H.R. Plenty, C.V. Ramsey, C. Reid, P. Roberts, W.F. Roberts, J. Scott, J Scragg, S.J. Still, T.R. Sturgis, J. Thomson, R.L. Tonge, A. Trotman and V. Vines

Officers Present: D Burbidge (Chief Executive), J Cogswell (Community Partnership Manager), P Jeremiah (Legal Services Manager), M Rippon (Community Safety Officer), C Symes (Democratic Services Assistant) and M Todd (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

C15. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Banks, C Boase, A Bucknell, B Causer, G Greenaway, E Marston, R Sanderson, M Singlehurst, A Wannell and C Wannell.

C16. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 20 May 2008 were considered.

Resolved that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 20 May 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record

C17. Declarations of Interest

Name	Item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest	Action
Cllr D Allen	Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places – Proposed Order in Chippenham	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in the meeting, spoke and voted on the Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places Order.
	Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel			Remained in the meeting and voted on the Appointment of



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				Independent Remuneration Panel.
Cllr P Darby	Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places – Proposed Order in Chippenham Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in the meeting and voted on both items.
Cllr S Doubell	Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places – Proposed Order in Chippenham Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in the meeting, spoke and voted on the Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places Order. Remained in the meeting and voted on the Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel.
Cllr A Phillips	Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places – Proposed Order in Chippenham Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in the meeting and voted on both items
Cllr N Phillips	Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places – Proposed Order in Chippenham Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in the meeting, spoke and voted on the Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places Order. Remained in the meeting and

				voted on the Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel.
Cllr J Scragg	Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places – Proposed Order in Chippenham Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in the meeting, spoke and voted on the Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places Order. Remained in the meeting and voted on the Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel.

C18. Chairman’s Announcements

(a) Flooding in North Wiltshire

The Chairman informed Members that the third flooding newsletter had now been published. He thanked officers for all the work they had undertaken to make this happen and to ensure that all agencies were now working together towards flood prevention in North Wiltshire.

(b) Electoral Services Team

The Chairman reported that the Electoral Services Teams from the four District Councils in Wiltshire had merged early, and were based at Monkton Park.

Staff from Kennet would be relocating in the next few days to join Tracey Clements, Claire Beckley and John Watling, to be followed shortly afterwards by the electoral staff from West Wiltshire. In view of the greater distance involved, Salisbury staff would not be attending Monkton Park every day, but would still be part of the new team.

The Head of Service post would be advertised shortly, but all other posts would remain employed by their respective councils until vesting day. A lot of work had gone on behind the scenes to bring the team together to purchase a new electoral services software package, and rationalise systems and procedures.

(c) Calne Phase 3 Project

The Chairman announced that today all three contracts had been signed to enable the first part of the project, the construction of two new retail units and 16 flats, to go ahead. These were the pre-let contract between the Council and Woolworths, the contract between the Council and Westlea Housing Association, and that between Westlea and the selected Contractor. The start on site date had not yet been finalised but was expected to be in the middle of

July, which should enable the new shops to be open for trading in time for Christmas 2009. Work was also proceeding apace on the other three parts of the project – improvements to Phelps Parade, the new Square and the private development.

The welcome progress on this complex but exciting project showed the Council and its partners' continuing commitment to the regeneration of the centre of Calne, and the town's economic and architectural enhancement.

The Chairman thanked the officers, and those members who had been involved, for their hard work in bringing this complex project to its nail-biting conclusion. This development represented a strong vote of confidence for Calne and Members looked forward to its completion.

(d) Kings Lodge Primary School, Chippenham

The Chairman informed Members that the pupils from Kings Lodge Primary School had undertaken a survey regarding facilities in the area and had presented development recommendations for consideration. The Chairman and Councillor S Doubell would be meeting with the children to discuss their proposals in due course.

C19. Public Question Time/Receipt of Petitions

There were no public questions or petitions.

C20. Question Time

(a) Councillor P Roberts – Minute No. MO8 – Flooding in the Malmesbury Area

Councillor P Roberts asked for an update regarding flood prevention in the Malmesbury Area.

Councillor H Greenman, Portfolio Holder for Housing, responded by stating that all the actions set out in the minutes of the Malmesbury Area Committee were now being progressed. Dialogue was now taking place with Network Rail. Three topographical surveys were taking place and the County Council and Town and Parish Councils were also on board with this work.

(b) Councillor R Henning – Minute No. MO8 – Flooding in the Malmesbury Area

Councillor R Henning asked for further details regarding Councillor Greenman arranging payment for works in Crudwell.

Councillor H Greenman, Portfolio Holder for Housing, informed Members that this related to a payment to Hankerton Parish Council for works that they had undertaken.

(c) Councillor C Caswill – Minute No. E224 – Development of the Bath Road Car Park and the Bridge Centre, Chippenham

Councillor C Caswill asked for an update regarding the Bath Road project and when details would be available to Members.

Councillor R Tonge responded stating that a written response would be sent.

(d) Councillor J Hall – Minute No OS150 – A Programme of Work for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor J Hall asked whether the Car Parking Working Group would be looking into the way that the Chippenham residents' parking scheme had been dealt with. It was clarified that the Group looking into this matter would be the Executive Car Parking Working Group and not the Car Parking Scrutiny Task Group.

Councillor R Tonge, Leader of the Council, informed Members that this would be considered at the next meeting of the Car Parking Working Group. A display regarding parking schemes would be held at the Council Offices on 3 July 2008 if any Member was interested.

(e) Councillor J Scragg – Minute No. P21 – Unitary Status Update

Councillor J Scragg asked whether there had been any progress on plans for Council Tax collection for next year.

Councillor R Tonge, Leader of the Council, stated that the transition board was working on this and the matter was in hand.

(f) Councillor C Caswill – Minute No. CH12 – Monkton Park Update

Councillor C Caswill asked whether there was any progress on the Monkton Park improvements. He urged the Executive to give urgent attention to this matter as Section 106 funding had already been allocated for this project.

Councillor D Allen, Chairman of the Chippenham Area (3) Committee responded stating that no progress had been made due to other commitments. Councillor Allen supported the concerns raised.

Councillor V Vines, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Economy, noted the concerns of Members.

(g) Councillor P Coleman – Minute No. P21 – Unitary Status Update

Councillor P Coleman asked whether all Council Tax payments would need to be made on 1st or 15th of April in 2009.

Councillor R Tonge stated that he was sure the new authority would have one date in mind for payment.

(h) Councillor V Vines – Minute No. M10 – Malmesbury and Villages Community Planning Update

Councillor V Vines was very sorry to inform members that Val Price, Chair of the Community Area Partnership had died. Val had been an enthusiastic supporter of the Community Area Partnership work and would be greatly missed.

(i) Councillor P Coleman – Minute No. CO61 – Corsham Area Planning Update

Councillor P Coleman asked whether the Executive was aware that the figures being used to calculate future housing provision in Wiltshire could lead to an over-provision of up to 90%.

Councillor C Berry stated that he was aware of this issue.

C21. Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places – Proposed Order in Chippenham

Consideration was given to Report No. 7 asking the Council to make an Order designating Chippenham as an area in which the drinking of alcohol in public places can be controlled.

The following issues were discussed:

- Members had received a copy of a letter from the Local Government Association regarding surveillance powers. It was noted that any powers used should be “necessary and proportionate.”
- There was some concern about possible displacement and it was important that the map attached to the report was clear about which areas were and were not included. Particular areas of concern were the cycle path alongside the River Avon, Black Bridge and John Coles Park.
- It would be very important to review the effectiveness of the Order after a period of time to ensure that it was working as intended. A review could be undertaken by the Chippenham Area (3) Committee (and/or the future Community Board) in conjunction with the neighbourhood policing team for the Chippenham area.

Resolved

- (1) That under s.13 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001, as amended by the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 (Section 26), the Council designate those streets and public areas in Chippenham identified on the plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report as areas in which the drinking of alcohol can be controlled and authorise the Legal Services Manager to make the appropriate Order; and
- (2) The required notice be placed in the local press advertising the Order and that in partnership with the Police the necessary signs are erected as agreed.

C22. Annual Report 2007/2008

Consideration was given to Report No. 8 presenting the Annual Report for 2007/08 for adoption by the Council. The report provided Members, Officers and

Stakeholders with performance, financial and other corporate information for 2007/08.

Members discussed the appropriate level for target setting and noted that public satisfaction data was collected by the Council.

Resolved that the Annual Report for 2007/08 be approved.

C23. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report

Consideration was given to report no. 9 presenting the annual report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

It was noted that progress had been made in the last year with a raised profile for Overview and Scrutiny and increased press coverage. Criteria for scrutiny topics had been agreed and light touch Task and Finish Groups had been created.

There was now a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Transition Board in place which was undertaking the Scrutiny function in relation to plans for the new unitary authority.

Challenges over the year had been an inadequate amount of officer time allocated to scrutiny, lack of publicity and website coverage and the call-in process.

Resolved that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report for 2007/08 be noted.

C24. Appointment of independent Remuneration Panel

Consideration was given to report no. 10 considering the appointment of an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to Chippenham Town Council concerning the payment of allowances to Town Council Members.

Resolved that

- (1) Authority be delegated to the Legal Services Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Council to appoint an Independent Remuneration Panel in accordance with the procedure set out in the report; and
- (2) Authority be delegated to the Legal Services Manager in consultation with the Town Council to determine the allowances to be paid to members of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

C25. Report on Implementation Executive Meeting

An oral update was given from the Leader of the Council on the meetings of the Implementation Executive held on 22 May and 17 June 2008. Issues discussed included:

- Summary reports of the meetings were available on the website.

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- Five Corporate Directors would shortly be appointed. George Batten had been appointed as Director for Transport, Environment and Leisure and Mark Boden had been appointed as Director for Planning and Housing.
- There was still some debate about when the elections for the new authority would take place i.e. May or June 2009.
- The Boundary Committee would be publishing its recommendations in July.

C26. Questions on Notice from Councillors – Council Procedure Rule 14.2

No questions from Councillors were received.

C27. Notices of Motion – Council Procedure Rule 15

No notices of motion were received.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 8.20pm.

There was one member of the public present.