

# **WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES**

Minutes of the: **Cabinet**

Held on: **Wednesday 4 July 2007**

Held at: **Council Chamber, Bradley Road, Trowbridge**

Present:

Councillors: Payne (Leader), Conley, Davis, Fortescue, March, Mounde, Phillips OBE, While and Wiltshire

Also present: Cllrs J Osborn, Jenkins, Martindale and Mudge

Officers: Corporate Director (TD), Head of Finance, (IJ), Head of Legal and Democratic Services (NM), Environmental Health Services Manager (JC), Building Control Service Manager (GJ), Conservation Officer (CP), Community Safety Officer (IT) and Member Support Team Leader (PS)

### **102. Apologies**

There were no apologies.

### **103. Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 6 June 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

### **104. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Davis  
Cllr While

Local Government  
Reorganisation -  
Judicial Review

Members of the County  
Council and will abstain from  
voting but will remain in the  
Chamber

### **105. Recommendations from Scrutiny Committee**

Cllr Osborn presented the recommendations from Scrutiny committee on the Ombudsman's Investigation into the handling of a planning application for the erection of a terrace of five dwellings at the former gasworks site, Frome Road, Bradford on Avon

### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. The Council issues a formal apology for the maladministration that has occurred.**
- 2. A report be made to the Planning Committee on:**

- a) the outstanding enforcement issues and actions to be taken to resolve them
- b) the outstanding landscaping condition on the development and how it should be implemented.

#### **106. Announcements from the Leader**

The Leader said that he had written to all Service Managers advising that six months advance notice is required for Cabinet Forward Workplan items. This is so that Member Support and all interested parties can plan ahead and ensure a balanced agenda.

#### **107. Financial Monitoring Report**

Cllr While presented the report which details the Council's financial position for the period ended 31 May 2007.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That Cabinet**

- notes the current financial position and the likely out-turn.
- increases the gross capital programme by £0.008m.

#### **108. Financial results 2006/07**

Cllr While presented the report which details the out-turn for 2006-07

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That Cabinet**

- agrees slippage of £1.381 million in respect of capital programme in Appendix A of the report
- notes that the Cabinet budget commitments of June and November 2006 amounting to £200,333, listed in Appendix B of the report are funded from the General Fund Balance.
- agrees the funding of identified priorities of £250,113 listed in Appendix B of the report from the General Fund Balance.
- agrees levels of significant reserves listed in Appendix C of the report
- agrees the allocation of the surplus £188,000 General Fund Balance towards easing 2008/09 budget pressures
- notes the revenue and capital out-turn for 2006-07 and the position on the General Fund Balance at 31 March 2007.

#### **109. Write-Off Report**

Cllr While presented the write-off report, which proposes the write-off of various debts as at 31 May 2007.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That Cabinet:**

- **notes the action of the Section 151 officer in writing off the debts under £500 totalling £33,011.07**
- **approves the write off of the debts over £500 totalling £50,449.75.**
- **notes that the total amount of debt written off from the proposals above equals £83,460.82.**

#### **110. Local Government Reorganisation – Judicial Review**

The Corporate Director presented the report, which sought Cabinet's support to pledge up to £5000 from the appropriate budgets to support the judicial review brought by Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council against the Secretary of State in relation to the Local Government Review.

This report was tabled as an urgent item as a result of Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council requiring to know what support is in place as papers are prepared in advance of the Court Hearing.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That Cabinet**

- **approves a contribution of up to £5,000 to support the judicial review challenge being brought against the Secretary of State by Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council.**
- **notes that a date for the court hearing has been set and that the substantive hearing is to take place on 12 and 13 September.**

#### **111. The Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 and Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) (Key Decision)**

Cllr Conley presented the report which advised Cabinet about the Violent crime Reduction Act 2006 and the procedural matters that needed to be undertaken to justify a Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) in Trowbridge Park.

## **RESOLVED**

**That the Council leads on the implementation of a DPPO in a specified area in and around Trowbridge in consultation with the Town Council, the Police and the local inhabitants. A further report will be brought to Cabinet in December following the completion of the procedural steps set out in the report.**

### **Key decision box**

Statement of reason for key decision	Significance to the locality
Options considered and rejected	Not implementing the DPPO
Date of Implementation	On completion of procedural steps

## **112. Corporate Enforcement Policy**

Cllr Conley presented the report, which sought Cabinet's endorsement of a new corporate enforcement policy.

## **RESOLVED**

**It was resolved that**

- **the policy be endorsed**
- **the policy is referred to Council for approval**
- **an approach to the use of data for naming and shaming as described in options two and three in Annexe A of the report is agreed.**
- **Officers liaise with Inspector Cullop of Wiltshire Police to investigate supply and funding for helmet cameras for the Council's enforcement officers.**

## **113. Joint Working for Building Control (Key Decision)**

Cllr Phillips OBE presented the report which informed Cabinet on progress made on the project and sought approval to continue to develop the business case as requested by the Wiltshire Customer First partnership.

The Cabinet thanked the Building Control Service Manager and his team for all their hard work in bringing together the report.

## **RESOLVED**

**It was resolved that**

- **Cabinet approves in principle the establishment of joint working in Building Control.**
- **Cabinet endorses the Joint Working in Building Control business case**
- **a further report be prepared when the detailed information is completed and approved by the Wiltshire Customer First Partnership Board.**

**Key decision box.**

Statement of reason for key decision	Decision will be of significance to the services that the Council provides.
Options considered and rejected	To not establish joint working.
Date of implementation	Estimated April 2008

**114. Historic Buildings and Area Grants**

Cllr Phillips OBE presented the report which detailed the new grant system for historic buildings and areas and how it would be administered.

**RESOLVED**

**It was resolved that**

- **the proposed district-wide grant system for historic building and areas be approved and implemented.**
- **the Council's share of the residual monies from the former HBJCs be retained for use in the historic buildings and areas scheme.**
- **that the various historic buildings and areas budgets be consolidated and any under- or overspend be transferred to or from a specific revenue reserve.**
- **Council amends the Constitution to establish delegated authority to approve grants up to the value of £10,000 for the Planning Policy and Conservation Sections Manager in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.**
- **that Council be recommended to amend the Constitution to recognise the termination of the HBJCs.**

**115. Cabinet Forward Workplan**

The latest version of the Cabinet Forward Work Plan was presented.

**RESOLVED:**

- **That the Cabinet Forward Work Plan be approved.**

#### **116. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Cabinet was scheduled for Wednesday 5 September at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, at the Council Offices, Bradley Road, Trowbridge.

(7.05pm – 8.40pm)

These minutes were prepared by Pam Sidgwick, who can be contacted on 01225 776655 ext. 204 or by e-mail: [psidgwick@westwiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:psidgwick@westwiltshire.gov.uk)

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