

WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the: **Cabinet**

Held on: **Wednesday 5 September 2007**

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

Present:

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

Also present: Cllrs Hedley, James, Martindale and J Osborn,

Officers: Chief Executive (AP), Corporate Director (TD), Head of Finance, (IJ), Head of Legal and Democratic Services (NM), Head of Human Resources (SL), Property and Commercial Services Manager (JF), Planning Policy and Conservation Services Manager (MR), Leisure Manager (L M-B), Consultant (MJ) Member Support Team Leader (PS) and Member Support Officer (EW)

120. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Phillips OBE.

121. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 4 July 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

122. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Davis	Local Government Reorganisation	Personal interest - member of the County Council
Cllr While	Affordable Housing in Rural Areas – Single Dwellings	Personal interest – Property developer

123. Announcements from the Leader

The Leader asked Cllr Fortescue to update members on a recent meeting of West Wiltshire Housing Society. Cllr Fortescue said that the Society had decided to change its name and proposed that its new name should be Silwood Housing Society. Cllr Fortescue requested that if members wished to comment on the proposed name change that they contact her direct.

The Leader then updated members on Local Government Reorganisation. He said that the judicial review papers would be sent off to counsel on Thursday 6 September. Shrewsbury and Atcham Councils were due to be in the High Court the following week and within 2 or 3 weeks they should hear if they could proceed to the second phase.

He also said that members had a busy autumn ahead and that future plans would be detailed once the judicial review had been determined. He had already written to MP's asking them for support and would be seeking support from elsewhere over the next few weeks.

124. Gender Equality Scheme

Cllr Payne presented the report which sought Cabinet's approval for the implementation of the Gender Equality Scheme.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet

- **Approves the Gender Equality Scheme, action plan and its implementation**
- **Agrees to the Scheme being reviewed and updated as required**
- **Authorises the Head of Human Resources and Customer Services, having consulted with the Portfolio Holders, to make minor alterations or amendments to finalise the Scheme prior to publication**

125. Update on Local Government Reorganisation

The Chief Executive updated members on developments regarding Local Government Reorganisation. He said that members had received a consultation paper from the Government which set out the process. The Council should express a view on this and it would be considered at full Council next week.

Wiltshire County Council (WCC) Cabinet had met to consider a timetable for reorganisation and had decided to recommend elections in May 2009 with the vesting date being April 2009.

There will be a joint executive formed before Christmas this year and it is proposed that it will consist of the 4 members of WCC Cabinet plus the Leaders of the District Councils.

Cllr Eaton said it was important that the District council was strongly represented on all our partnerships created to achieve a unitary council.

He added that he would be doing a presentation for the Scrutiny Committee on 19 September.

126. Annual Treasury Management Stewardship Report for 2006-2007

Cllr While presented the report, which covers both the treasury activity for 2006/07 and Prudential Indicators for 2006/07, and reviews some of the 2007/08 indicators that need to be updated as a consequence.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

- **Notes the treasury management stewardship report for 2006/07.**
- **Requests Council to approve the revised Prudential Indicators for 2007/08, as set out in Appendix B of the report.**

127. Financial Monitoring 2007 - 08

Cllr While presented the report to inform members of the Council's financial position for the period ending 31 July 2007.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet notes the current financial position and the likely out-turn.

128. Leisure and Recreation Development Plan Document

Cllr Wiltshire presented the report which sought Cabinet's approval for a draft new development plan document for leisure and recreation.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet recommends to Council the draft Leisure and Recreation Development Plan Document for submission to the Secretary of State for public examination.

129. Play Strategy

Cllr Wiltshire presented the report which sought the approval of Cabinet to adopt the Play Strategy 'Everything to Play For' to enable a ring-fenced lottery application to proceed.

Cllr Payne thanked the Leisure Manager and her team for an excellent report.

RESOLVED

It was resolved that Cabinet

- **adopts the Play Strategy; and**
- **supports the application to the Lottery**

130. Affordable Housing in Rural Areas – Single Dwellings

Open Forum: Mr B Charlton

The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager presented the report which reviewed the practice of requiring developers to make a financial contribution towards meeting affordable housing from developments of a single dwelling in rural areas. Cabinet was requested to consider alternative options 1 and 2, having regard to Counsel's opinion. A debate ensued and it was

RESOLVED

that Cabinet agrees not to seek a commuted sum towards the provision of affordable housing where developments of one dwelling within villages are proposed.

Key Decision Box

Statement of reason for key decision	May involve reduction in Council expenditure of £100,000 or more. Significance to the locality in terms of the implementation of planning policy.
Options considered and rejected	Continued operation of procedures without review.
Date of implementation	11 September 2007

131. Cabinet Forward Workplan

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

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Forward Work Plan be approved.

132. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Cabinet was scheduled for Wednesday 3 October at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, at the Council Offices, Bradley Road, Trowbridge.

133. Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public including the press be excluded from the meeting during this item of business as it is likely, in the view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public and press were present during the item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the said Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information to the public. Paragraph 3 refers to 'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)'

134. Greenspace Management and Street Cleansing Contract Award

Cllr Conley presented the report which sought to award the Greenspace Management and Street Cleansing Contract

RESOLVED

That Cabinet awards the contract to Contractor A with a condition that sufficient management resources are provided by this Authority to monitor the Contractor and that sufficient contact is maintained with the Contractor to ensure compliance.

Key decision box

Statement of reason for key decision	Contract for Services to the Public in excess of £150,000
Options considered and rejected	Alternative tenders which were less advantageous to the Council.
Date of implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immediate award subject to (a) EU 10 day standstill period, (b) no objections during the five clear days following publication of Cabinet minutes, and (c) other contractual requirements being satisfied• Contract Commencement date is 1/11/07.

(7.03pm – 8.40pm)

These minutes were prepared by Pam Sidgwick, Member Support Team Leader, who can be contacted on Tel:01225 776655 ext. 204 or by e-mail: psidgwick@westwiltshire.gov.uk

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