

## WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Minutes of the: **Cabinet**

Held on: **Wednesday 2 April 2008**

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

Present:

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

Also present: Cllrs Brown and J Osborn (part)

Officers: Corporate Director (IG), Corporate Director (TD), Head of Financial Services (IJ), Property and Commercial Services Manager (JF), Principal Lawyer (SS), Member Support Officer (AM)

#### 43. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Wiltshire.

#### 44. Declarations of Interest

Personal interest – Member may be affected by loss of significant allowances

Personal interest – Member may be affected by loss of significant allowances, also Member serves on the County Council.

Cllrs Conley, Eaton, Fortescue, March, Mounde, Parks, Payne and Phillips OBE

Cllrs Davis & While

#### 45. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

#### **46. Recommendations from Scrutiny Committee**

Cllr J Osborn presented a report asking Cabinet to consider the comments and recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee, making recommendations where appropriate to Wiltshire Constabulary and the Safer Wiltshire Executive Board.

#### **RESOLVED**

##### **Recommendations direct to Cabinet:**

- **That the Cabinet will support the creation of an on-line ‘calendar’ for all County & District Councils and will contribute towards its preparation.**
- **That the Cabinet endorses the desirability of bringing the boundaries of Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT’s), Community Areas and Council wards into synchronisation with each other.**

##### **Recommendations to Wiltshire Constabulary:**

- **It is requested that police monitor the abstraction rates, which divert NPT officers into reactive policing, and keep this Council informed. Wiltshire Constabulary’s plan to reduce abstraction by making significant changes to their business procedure is welcomed.**
- **Wiltshire Constabulary is requested to allow all partners access to the police NPT database, with appropriate safeguards. If this does not prove possible, investment in a county-wide Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) database and co-ordinating officer, recording all ASB incidents, should be considered. This would be available to practitioners to minimise duplication and maximise the benefits of liaison and co-operation.**
- **Wiltshire Constabulary’s ongoing reviews into the effectiveness of partnership working in the NPT Tasking Groups are appreciated. In particular, the development of a suite of partnership working indicators by the police is welcomed**

##### **Recommendations to the Safer Wiltshire Executive Board:**

- **It is recommended that there should be a single, easy-to-remember telephone number/e-mail address to report all ASB, which needs to be actively promoted through a professional publicity campaign. Use of a non-police number should be considered.**
- **It is recommended that Partnership bodies should be streamlined, to reduce the burden on partners and encourage a wider range of stakeholders to become involved.**
- **It is recommended that continued training in the skills of partnership working is required for those sitting on partnership groups. This would include the need to be flexible and to understand partner agencies’**

strengths and constraints, and the need for genuine power-sharing and transparent decision-making so that all partners feel the process is fair. Training should include an appreciation of the value of partnership working in the field of ASB, its effectiveness in preventing ASB, the role of Tasking Groups, and their need to include a wide range of stakeholders. In addition, examples of good practice should be circulated.

- **Positive professional publicity about Neighbourhood Policing and what NPT Tasking Groups have achieved, is required. A regular publication listing ASB statistics for an area, and local feedback on problems raised and action taken within communities – by Tasking Groups and other bodies - would provide accountability to the public.**

#### **County-wide co-ordination of CCTV**

- **That the Cabinet supports the relevant partnership in improving the coordination of activity throughout the County in relation to CCTV.**

#### **47. Multi Storey Car Park Refurbishment**

The Corporate Director presented his report to Cabinet. A further two reports were tabled one of which contained exempt information within the meaning of paragraphs 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Update Cabinet on progress with this project.
- Consider the evaluation of the tenders for the intermediate works to be carried out and agree arrangements for the appointment of a contractor.
- Delegate authority to evaluate the consultation response to the publication of a temporary car parking order for the Bowyers site and to make the final order.

#### **RESOLVED**

#### **That Cabinet:**

- **Notes the progress of the project**
- **Approve revised tender B following CMT recommendation and instruct officers to proceed with the works to the Multi Storey Car Park.**
- **Agrees the car park charges as indicated**
- **Delegates authority to the Corporate Director (IG) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to evaluate the consultation responses following an order being advertised and to make the final order.**

### Key decision box

|                                             |                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Statement of reason for key decision</b> | <b>The award of a contract over £100,000 is regarded as a key decision</b> |
| <b>Options considered and rejected</b>      | <b>See options in Cabinet report 5 March 2008 and revised tender A</b>     |
| <b>Date of implementation</b>               | <b>5 days after the publication of the meeting minutes</b>                 |

#### 48. CPO issues relating to St Stephens Place

The Corporate Director (IG) presented a verbal update to Cabinet Members on the compulsory purchase orders related to St Stephens Place.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That Cabinet noted the verbal update.**

#### 49. Core Strategy Preferred Options

Cllr Phillips OBE presented a verbal update to Cabinet Members on the Core Strategy Preferred Options:

Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 the Council is obliged to prepare a Local Development Framework (LDF) to guide spatial development in its area. The Council has embarked on the preparation of its LDF, and in December 2007 published the West Wiltshire Core Strategy – Issues and Option document for public consultation.

Although the consultation period was due to finish on 29 February 2008, a number of organisations and individuals have requested more time to enable their views to be submitted. Officers have therefore extended the consultation period and responses are still being received.

#### **Preferred Options**

In the normal course of events, the representations received would be summarised and reported to Members, and these would then be used to inform the preparation of the Preferred Options document, prior to a further round of public consultation. The responses will indeed be reported to Cabinet as soon as possible, but the next stages in the preparation of the LDF have been complicated by Local Government Reorganisation in Wiltshire.

The new Wiltshire Council will need eventually to have its own, comprehensive, LDF. It therefore makes little sense for four districts and the county council (who are responsible for minerals and waste) to produce their own separate documents, especially as they will not be able to complete the process before 1 April 2009.

The Wiltshire authorities are currently discussing the best way in which to combine their planning strategies to form one single Core Strategy. This will probably entail West Wilts, North Wilts and Kennet producing a joint Core Strategy - Preferred Options, and combining this at a later stage with Salisbury's own. The intention would be to seek to have the Preferred Options for West and North Wilts and Kennet in draft by Vesting Day.

None of the above is certain, and much remains to be agreed by the individual councils, as well as by the Front Line Services Board.

## **RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet noted the verbal update.**

### **50. Review of Melksham and Westbury Conservation Areas – Formation of PPG's**

Cllr Phillips presented a report to Cabinet to establish Policy Project Groups (PPG) for reviewing Melksham and Westbury Conservation Areas (CA) as part of the on-going work for the District's Historic Environment Strategy.

## **RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet :**

- **Sets up two PPGs, one for the review of Melksham conservation area and one for Westbury conservation area.**
- **Agree to the stated objectives and timetable of these PPG's.**
- **Delegates authority to the Leader to appoint the Membership of these PPG's**

### **51. Introduction of Differential Charges for Penalty Charge Notices under the Traffic Management Act 2004.**

Cllr Conley presented a report to Cabinet to inform Members of the changes to legislation used to issue and enforce Penalty Charge Notices and to seek agreement to use the Band 2 level (£70 and £50) as the level for Penalty Charge Notices (PCN) charges for the off street car parks in West Wiltshire.

## **RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet:**

- **Adopt Band 2 for all Penalty Charge Notices as set out in option 2.**
- **Authorise the Property and Commercial Services Manager to take any necessary steps to amend the Off-Street Parking Places Orders to**

**comply with the Traffic Management Act 2004 and to give effect to the revised PCN levels.**

**52. Financial Monitoring 2007-08**

Cllr While updated Members on the Council's financial position for the period ending 29 February 2008.

**RESOLVED**

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

**53. Update on Local Government Reorganisation**

Cllrs Phillips and Eaton updated Members on the Local Government Reorganisation. This included:

- Staff have been leaving the Council at an average of 4.3 per month. Interviews for posts in Development Control are scheduled for Friday 4 April 2008
- The Implementation Executive had their first formal meeting on 19 March 2008
- At present the appointment of the new Chief Executive to Wiltshire Council is likely to be made at the latest opportunity in 2010
- District Councils will continue to have responsibility for their budgets during the transition process

**54. Cabinet Forward Workplan**

The latest version of the Cabinet Forward Work Plan for the period March – July 2008 was presented.

**RESOLVED:**

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

**55. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Cabinet is scheduled for Wednesday 7 May 2008 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, at the Council Offices, Bradley Road, Trowbridge.

(7.00 – 8.30pm)

These minutes were prepared by Andrew Mitchell, Member Support Officer, who can be contacted on Tel:01225 776655