

WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the: **WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Held on: **WEDNESDAY 21 November 2007**

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

Present: Councillors Alford, Blakemore, Bolwell, Brown, Bryant, Burden, Carbin, Carr, Clark, Conley, Coop, Davis, Denison-Pender, Eaton, Ezra, Fortescue, Fuller, Griffiths, Hawker, Hedley, Humphries, James, Jenkins, March, Martindale, Mudge, Newbury, H Osborn, J Osborn, Parks, Payne, Phillips OBE, Repton, Seager, Walker, While and Wiltshire

Officers: Chief Executive (AP), Corporate Director (TD), Property & Commercial Services Manager (JF), Principal Environmental Health Officer (CH), Licensing Officer (MJ) Principal Lawyer (A A-P), Member Support Team Leader (PD) and Member Support Officer (KH)

Also in attendance: Tony Frost (Chairman of Standards Committee)

At the start of the meeting due to the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Swabey, and the Vice Chairman, Cllr Ridout, nominations were sought for a Chairman for the duration of the meeting. Cllr Denison-Pender was proposed by Cllr Payne and seconded by Cllr Phillips OBE. There being no other nominations Cllr Denison-Pender took the Chair for the duration of the meeting.

105. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs King, Mounde, Newbury, Ridout and Swabey.

106. Declarations of Interest

Item No. – 11 Reps on outside bodies	Cllr Martindale	Personal interest – Executive Member of Racial Equality Council
Item No. 12 & 13 Update on LGR	Cllrs: Davis, J Osborn, While	Personal interest – Members of Wiltshire County Council
	Cllrs: Payne, Phillips OBE, Conley, Davis, Eaton, Fortescue, March, Mounde, While, Wiltshire	Personal Interest - Member may be affected by loss of significant allowances

107. Announcements from the Chairman

The Chairman invited members of Council to pay tribute to Cllr Grace Hill who sadly passed away last week.

Cllrs Burden, James, J Osborn & Phillips OBE said a few words in memory of the late Councillor.

The Chairman also wished the very best of health to Cllr Michael Mounde.

The Chairman informed the Council of a meeting regarding the new Area Boards on 4th December at 7.00pm in the Atrium.

108. Minutes

The minutes of the council meeting held on 12 September 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

109. Questions from Members of the Public

No questions had been received.

110. Appointment of Councillors to the Audit Committee

Nominations were requested to replace members who had resigned from the Audit Committee.

RESOLVED:

that

- **Cllr Alford replace Cllr Eaton**
- **Cllr Carbin replace Cllr Bolwell**

111. Reports from Cabinet and Cabinet Members

Cllr Payne asked that Cllr Eaton report on a Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) meeting that he had attended in London.

Cllr Eaton reported that we cannot proceed with our own Judicial Review until the Congleton Shrewsbury & Atcham appeal is heard.

However, we can support this appeal and it is the best route for us to take along with the other 8 councils including Kennet & Salisbury.

112. Reports of Committees

Council was asked to receive and note the minutes of the following meetings. This was also an opportunity for Members to ask questions for information or clarification.

Meeting	Date	Minute No.'s
Cabinet	5 September	120 -134
	3 October	135 -148
	7 November	
Audit	27 September	29 - 41
Licensing	20 September	9 -13
LJCC	17 September	26 -33

The Chair of LJCC referred to issues with Unison.

Planning	13 September	101-107
	4 October	108 -115
	25 October	116 -124

The Chair of Planning brought to the member attention the Important Planning Meeting for Kingston Mills that would be taking place on 29 November.

Scrutiny	19 September	52 -63
	17 October	64 -74

The Chair of Scrutiny informed Council of the Scrutiny task group for anti Social Behaviour.

Standards	11 September	47-52
	2 October	53 -58
	11 October	59 -67

Trowbridge Area Seminar	17 September	13 -26
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Warminster Area	1 November	16 - 31
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RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meetings be received and noted.

113. Notices of Motion

Cllrs Osborn & Brown – Waste & Recycle Review

That this Council considers that the Waste and Recycling Review has taken far too long to reach any definite conclusions. It seems unable to get to grips with the important issue of cardboard and plastic collection.

Therefore this Council requires that a scheme incorporating such objectives to be introduced by January 2008.

RESOLVED:

That the motion is referred to Cabinet

Cllrs Osborn & Brown – Supporting Congleton

That this Council regrets the decision of the Cabinet to waste taxpayers' money by financially supporting the Congleton appeal on the unitary decision.

RESOLVED

The motion was deferred until the debate on agenda item 13 – Local Government Reorganisation – Judicial Review.

In light of the response to the item Cllr Osborn withdrew his motion.

114. Questions from Members of the Council

Questions were received from Cllr Chivers to Cllr Chris March, Tony Frost - Chairman of the Standards Committee and to the Leader of the Council, Cllr Graham Payne. The replies were tabled at the meeting, however Cllr Chivers was absent.

A Question was also received from Cllr Jeff Osborn to Cllr Graham Payne.

Cllr Osborn asked a supplementary question: Don't you think it has taken an inordinate amount of time to do this?

Cllr Payne replied that it will be addressed at the next Cabinet meeting.

Cllr Osborn accepted the replies.

Note: A copy of the questions and responses are attached as an Appendix to these minutes.

115. Representatives on Outside Bodies – Reporting Back

The Chairman invited Members to report back on meetings of outside bodies they had attended as representatives of the Council.

The following reports were made:

Cllr Carr – Wilts and Berks Canal Partnership & Wessex Water Northern Liaison Panel

Councillor Carr tabled his reports. Please find those reports attached to these minutes.

Cllr J Osborn responded that there is a Seminar on Flooding on to be held on Tuesday 11 December at 2.00pm at County Hall, Trowbridge, details will be given to members via MIS.

Cllr Martindale – Wiltshire Racial Equality Council

Cllr Martindale's report is attached to these minutes.

Cllr J Osborn – West Wiltshire Housing Society

John Alford has been re-elected as chair and Pip Ridout has been elected Vice Chair.

Cllr Phillips OBE – South West Regional Assembly

The Regional Assembly will cease to exist in 2010. Its function will be transferred to the Regional Development Agency which has all its members appointed by a minister so democratic process will disappear from local affairs.

Other strategies like the spatial strategy will be merged into one regional strategy.

Cllr Chris March – Historic Buildings Trust

Cllr March attended the Governors meeting and AGM of the Historic Building Trust at Bowood. They are trying to progress a couple of projects. A project in Heytesbury will be finalised soon.

116. Polling District and Polling Places

The Principal Lawyer presented a report that determined the outcome of a review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in respect of the Parliamentary Constituencies within the West Wiltshire District.

RESOLVED:

That Council

- **Note the arrangements adopted for the conduct of this review together with the details of the content of the consultation responses together with the comments on the proposals presented provided that the Assembly Rooms at Warminster are subject to reconsideration.**
- **Delegate authority to the Leader and Chief Executive to make any necessary addition and deletions and notify the local member of any amendments made.**

117. Treasury Management – Revised Prudential Indicators 2007-08

Cllr Roy While presented the report that reviews and updates the 2007/08 prudential indicators that were agreed by Council as part of the Annual Treasury Management Statement in February 2007.

RESOLVED:

That Council

- **Adopts the revised prudential indicators**

118. Street Naming and Numbering Policy and Procedure

The Property and Commercial Services Manager presented the report to council to seek approval for a Street Naming and Numbering Policy and Procedure.

RESOLVED:

That Council

- **Agrees the procedure for achieving agreement over street naming**
- **Agrees on naming streets after persons living or dead**
- **Agrees and adopts a Street Naming and Numbering Policy and Procedure.**
- **Authorise the Property and Commercial Services Manager to update the procedure in the event of new legislation or standards of good practice, in consultation with the portfolio holder.**
- **Publicises the procedure regarding the fact that names and numbers should be used in conjunction.**

119. Statement of Licensing Policy 2008

The Principal Environmental Health Officer presented the report seeking approval from Council for the Statement of Licensing Policy which will come into effect on 7 January 2008.

RESOLVED:

That Council

- **Approves the Licensing Policy with the amendments recommended by Officers**

120. Cabinet Forward Workplan

The Leader presented the latest Cabinet Forward Work Plan.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Forward Work Plan be received and noted.

121. Urgent Departure Decisions – Reporting Back

No urgent decisions had been made.

At 8.15pm the Chairman announced that there would be a 10 minute comfort break

Meeting resumed at 8.25pm

122. Local Government Reorganisation – Judicial Review

The Chief Executive presented the report to obtain a view from Council about the appropriateness of supporting the Shrewsbury and Atcham and Congleton Appeal against the Secretary of State's decision about Local Government Reorganisation.

RESOLVED:

- **That Council supports the decision of Cabinet to spend up to £30,000 to support the Congleton appeal for judicial review.**
- **That if necessary an appropriate agreement to make the contribution is entered into with Shrewsbury and Congleton Borough Councils and delegated authority be given to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Change and Integration, to conclude such an agreement.**

(7.00 – 9.05pm)

These minutes were prepared by Karen Hart, Member Support Officer, who can be contacted on telephone number 01225 776655 ext. 242 or email khart@westwiltshire.gov.uk