

**THESE MINUTES WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE NEXT CABINET COMMITTEE  
ON 7 NOVEMBER 2007 FOR APPROVAL AS A CORRECT RECORD**

**WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the: **Cabinet**

Held on: **Wednesday 3 October 2007**

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

Present:

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

Also present: Cllrs Brown, Hawker, Hedley and J Osborn,

Officers: Chief Executive (AP), Corporate Director (TD) Corporate Director (IG), Head of Finance (IJ), Consultant (KG), Conservation Officer (CP), Housing PFI Project Manager (CT) and Member Support Team Leader (PS)

**135. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr White

**136. Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings held on 8 August and 5 September 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

**137. 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, Payne, Phillips OBE, and Wiltshire  
Cllr Davis

### **138. Recommendations from Scrutiny Committee**

Cllr J Osborn presented the recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee. These were:

- Consultation on the Government's Housing Green Paper – Homes for the future: more affordable, more sustainable.
- Staffing levels in Housing Renewal.
- Staffing levels in Development Control.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet notes the report and suggested actions and confirms that these matters will be considered by the relevant Portfolio Holders.**

### **139. Announcements from the Leader**

A letter has been sent to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) which reflects the position of all the Councils in Wiltshire. A copy of this letter will be made available to all members of staff.

The Judicial Review is proceeding, Shrewsbury and Atcham Review was held 2 weeks ago and the decision is anticipated next week.

### **140. Waterside Project Report**

Cllr Mounde presented the report which updated Cabinet on the current position in respect of the Waterside Scheme which comprises a mixed use development scheme including a new library, cinema and bowling complex.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet**

- **Notes the Council has the power to put its land at Court Street into the development scheme under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 and delegates authority to the Asset Management Group to confirm disposal of the site and to seek the Secretary of State's approval to dispose, if required.**
- **Instructs officers to finalise the development agreement.**
- **Delegates authority to the Portfolio Holder for Economy together with the relevant Director or the Chief Executive to sign the development agreement on behalf of West Wiltshire D.C.**

- **Delegates authority to officers (in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy where appropriate) to make minor variations to the scheme over the course of implementation.**

### **Key Decision Box**

Statement of reason for key decision	The decision relates to a significant development and to the use of Council Land.
Options considered and rejected	A range of options have been considered through the UDF process and specifically through the development of the Waterside Project.
Date of implementation	Signing of the development agreement is forecast for November 2007.

### **141. Update on Local Government Reorganisation**

Last Friday (28<sup>th</sup>) was the last day to respond to the Consultation document and West Wiltshire District Council produced a 4 page response.

The DCLG have asked the Local Government Association (LGA) to act as brokers in situations where Authorities can not agree.

There was concern that Senior Officers were not able to apply for any of the senior posts and the LGA had stressed that all senior posts should be open to all officers.

Cllr Phillips OBE had written to Ben Bradshaw MP asking him to talk to the Minister responsible for the unitary decision about our concerns. A copy of the letter would be circulated in MIS.

The Chief Executive drew attention to some key points:

- With regard to project planning and preparation for the unitary authority it is clear that everything is at an early stage. A letter has been sent by West Wiltshire District Council with observations regarding project planning problems.
- The District Council's formal response following the Council meeting on 12 September fitted in with the views of the LGA and the Government.
- The name of the new Council will be Wiltshire Council. April 2009 as the vesting date has been agreed by the County Council.

- Town and Parish councils should be consulted by the DCLG about election dates.

**142. Performance Monitoring, Quarter 1 – April – June 2007**

Cllr Davis presented the report which summarises the Council's performance in the first quarter of 2007-08.

**RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet**

- Reviewed the summary performance report
- Requests a full report into the staffing issues in Housing Renewal and Development Control
- Notes the general improvement in performance during 2007- 08

**143. Financial Monitoring 2007 - 08**

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

**RESOLVED:**

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

**144. Waste and Recycling Review**

Cllr Conley presented the report which updated Cabinet on the progress of the Waste and Recycling Review and recommended a number of possible options for the Council's waste and recycling services.

**RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet:**

- a) Notes the content and conclusions of the review to date.
- b) Agrees that the four options highlighted in appendix C of the report should be developed further.
- c) Requests a final report when short listed options have been considered in more detail.

### Key Decision Box

Statement of reason for key decision	The chosen shortlist of options may influence the councils recycling performance and hence a corporate objective of recycling more waste. Some options may increase waste collection and recycling costs.
Options considered and rejected	The table in Appendix C of the review outlines all options that have been considered. Shaded options are those that are being recommended for further investigation.
Date of implementation	Detailed appraisal of the short listed options will be undertaken during October and November and will be presented to December Cabinet.

#### 145. Bradford on Avon Conservation Area Character Assessment

Cllr Phillips OBE presented the report which asked Cabinet to agree a new draft Bradford on Avon Conservation Area Character Assessment for public consultation.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet approves the draft assessment for public consultation.**

#### 146. Approval of Council Development Sites for Housing PFI

Cllr Fortescue presented the report which sought Cabinet's approval of the District Council owned or controlled development sites to be included in the Housing PFI scheme.

#### **RESOLVED**

**That Cabinet**

- **considered public consultation responses on the council sites;**
- **considered objections to the disposal of open space in accordance with section 123(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972;**
- **confirms the list of District Council owned or controlled development sites to be included in the housing PFI scheme and which of these sites are to be offered for nil consideration and which at market value (as set out in Part A of Appendix 3);**

- **re-confirms the principle of maximising capital receipts, while meeting the Council’s financial commitment to the scheme and ensuring its overall deliverability;**
- **authorises the section 151 officer, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder, to finalise which sites are to be provided for nil consideration and which at market value; and**
- **authorises officers, in due course, to apply to the Secretary of State for consent for the disposal of land for less than best consideration.**

**Key decision box**

Statement of reason for key decision	Involves the acquisition or disposal of any land or interest in land in excess of a value of £250,000.
Options considered and rejected	Non-provision of sites or provision of fewer sites. Provision of additional and/or alternate sites.
Date of implementation	18 October 2007

**147. Cabinet Forward Workplan**

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

**RESOLVED:**

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

**148. Date of Next Meeting**

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

(7.00 – 8.45pm)

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](mailto:psidgwick@westwiltshire.gov.uk)

**These minutes were published on 9 October 2007**