

Minutes

Alamein Suite
City Hall, Salisbury
4.00 pm: 19 March 2003

Part 1: Procedural Matters

ACTIONED BY
Portfolio Holder
(Contact Officer)

460. Present:

Councillors: K C Wren (Leader) Councillor J Collier (Deputy Leader) E R Draper & J C Noeken (Planning and Economic Development), D W Brown & D A Culver (Environment and Transport), J A Cole-Morgan & A G Peach (Community & Housing) and Mrs S A Warrander & S G Sanders (Resources).

Councillors Brown-Hovelt (463 and written statements on 467, 472, 473, 475 and 477), Clegg (468), Moss (463), Mrs Peach (474 and 476), Randall (463) and West (467) were also in attendance and with the consent of the Chairman addressed the meeting in respect of the matters contained in the respective minutes.

461. Code of Conduct - Members & Officers' Interests:

There were none.

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

462. Minutes:

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

463. Public Questions and Statements:

Councillor Brown-Hovelt:

Asked what steps the Council was taking to encourage the provision of Broadband Internet access in rural areas.

In response, the Chief Executive drew attention to measures being pursued through the Wiltshire and Swindon Board Executive and agreed to write to Councillor Brown-Hovelt detailing these and other Council supported initiatives.

Dr Claydon:

Read a statement prepared by Mr Hedley of the Whiteparish Preservation Group detailing a number of objections to the proposed designation of the Moor Farm Sandpit - Brickworth Quarry as a Large Non Inert Landfill Site in the Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Local Plan 2011. Dr Claydon explained that unfortunately Mr Hedley had been admitted to hospital and was thus prevented from making the statement in person.

The Chairman asked Dr Claydon to pass on the Council's best wishes to Mr Hedley for a full and speedy recovery and informed him that the Cabinet would be considering the matter fully later during the meeting.

Councillor Randall:

Spoke in support of the matters raised by Dr Claydon and emphasized the issues

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

relating to the ambiguity surrounding the County Council's designation and the wording of the original planning consent, the traffic problems associated with the proposal and the attendant sustainability problems.

Councillor Moss:

Also spoke in support of the statement made by Dr Claydon and raised concerns about the demand for the facility given recent statements in the media about the Government's recycling targets.

464. Call-in:

No decisions from the Cabinet's last meeting had been called-in.

*Cllr Wren
(S Agland)*

465. Forward Plan:

The Leader presented his Forward Plan for the period 1 May 2003 – 31 August 2003 (previously circulated) which would be published on 5 April to become operational from 1 May 2003.

*Cllr Wren
(S Agland)*

Agreed: that the Leader's previously circulated proposed Forward Plan be adopted for publication.

Minutes

Alamein Suite
City Hall, Salisbury
4.00 pm: 19 March 2003

Part 2: Cabinet Decisions

*All decisions set out in this section of the minutes will be implemented on or after 1st April 2003
(unless called in for consideration by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel)*

ACTIONED BY
Portfolio Holder
(Contact Officer)

466. Audit Plan 2003 - 2007:

The Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the report of the Chief Internal Auditor (previously circulated).

Cllr Mrs Warrander
(D Melville)

Agreed: that the Internal Audit Plan for 2003/4 to 2006/7 be approved.

467. Outcome of Best Value Review – Corporate & Support Services:

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the report of the Best Value Officer along with the views of the Resources Overview & Scrutiny Panel and the External Best Value Panel (previously circulated).

Cllr Sanders
(D Neudegg)

Agreed: that

- (1) subject to the amendments set out at 2 and 3 below, the Cabinet notes the review and approves the recommendations contained within it;
- (2) in respect of recommendation 6 (Corporate Procurement) the Procurement Steering Group be tasked with reviewing the Council's rules and regulations relating to procurement with a view to simplifying and improving them to take account of modern procurement practices such as partnerships, e-commerce, e-tendering, open-book accounting and risk management;
- (3) in respect of recommendation 7 (Print Unit) the recommended review be undertaken immediately and submitted to Cabinet in June - the review to cover the following issues:
 - A review of current performance and capacity against industry best practice.
 - An evaluation of potential demand for services within the Council and for the Council's public and voluntary sector partners.
 - An evaluation of the options to achieve best value including "in-house" provision, private sector provision or the establishment of a "not-for-profit" consortium providing services to a range of partners.
 - An evaluation of whether design services are better placed with print

services or with marketing and communication services.

For each option:

- Determine the optimum capacity given the space, equipment, and skills currently available.
 - An investigation into the most appropriate management structures together with the skills, competencies and operational arrangements required to achieve optimum capacity.
 - Produce a clear Business Case and Plan showing what actions need to be taken to achieve Best Value;
- (4) The comments from the external panel and Resources Scrutiny Panel be noted and Officers be instructed to include the areas of concern within the Risk Assessment for the review;
- (5) the Council thanks the Resources Panel for developing the review;
- (6) the new recommended actions contained within the review be considered as part of the overall Council's action plan for next year with recommendations on their relative importance submitted to a future Cabinet meeting; and
- (7) the second sentence of the Section on Employment Diversity on page 9 of the report be amended to read "The Council's recruitment and retention policies will reflect the Council's Equal Opportunity Policy".

468. Waste Management Strategy:

The Cabinet considered the outcome of the Environment & Transport Overview & Scrutiny Panel's review of Waste Management Strategy (previously circulated).

*Cllr Brown
(B Chequer)*

Agreed: that

- (1) Cabinet thanks Officers, Members and all involved and particularly Councillor Clegg, for their hard work in so thoroughly scrutinising this subject, and for the comprehensive report produced;
- (2) the report is accepted by Cabinet as a strategy upon which future Waste Minimisation, Re-Use and Re-cycling initiatives should be based;
- (3) subject to the amendment of Recommendation 5.6 by the addition of the word "/less" after the word 'reusable', the recommendations at paragraph 5 of the report be approved;
- Where feasible and cost neutral, for implementation without delay.
 - Otherwise, with a view to possible incorporation in Service Development Bids during future budget rounds; and
- (4) Cabinet receives an up-date report on progress with the strategy in six months time, and that thereafter regular progress reports are received on a quarterly basis.

469. Removal of Abandoned Vehicles – Results of Tendering Exercise:

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport introduced the report of the Waste Management Officer (previously circulated).

*Cllr Brown
(B Chequer)*

Agreed: that

- (1) the contract for Removal & Disposal of Abandoned Vehicles is awarded to Contractor B;
- (2) Officers investigate the operational and financial implications of introducing an “unwanted vehicle” collection scheme. If it is achievable within the existing abandoned vehicle budget, then a report covering the details of administering the scheme, charges, etc be prepared and brought to Cabinet in time for it to be implemented in parallel with the Removal & Disposal Contract; and
- (3) a further report on the options and financial implications for additional staff resources to deal with maintaining the Council’s Dog Fouling enforcement service be prepared for consideration by Cabinet at a future meeting.

470. Wiltshire County Council Waste Local Plan:

The Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Development introduced the report of the Planning Officer incorporating the recommendations made by the Southern Area Committee (previously circulated).

*Cllr Draper
(S Hughes)*

Agreed: that

- (1) despite attempts to clarify the matter, the important issue regarding the precise materials for which Moor Farm Quarry and Landfill (Brickworth Quarry), Whiteparish has planning consent is still unresolved. In view of this, the Council is not able to support its use for recycling of inert materials; and
- (2) subject to (1) above the comments in the report and the relevant minute from this Cabinet Meeting be forwarded to Wiltshire County Council.

471. Planned Maintenance Programme 2003/04:

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Community & Housing introduced the report of the Senior Contracts Manager (previously circulated).

*Cllr A Peach
(P Bravery)*

Agreed: that the Planned Maintenance Programme for 2003/2004 as set out in the Senior Contract Manager's report be approved

472. Communities Plan & Pooling of Housing Capital Receipts:

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Community & Housing introduced the report of the Accountancy Services Manager (previously circulated).

*Cllr A Peach
(J Leng)*

Agreed: that the report be noted and a further report be submitted to the Cabinet when the Government's proposals become clearer.

473. Consultation Strategy:

The Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the report of the Senior Democratic Services Officer (previously circulated).

*Cllr Mrs Warrander
(P Bellas)*

Agreed: that subject to the amendment of the first line of the third paragraph on page 1 (Statement of Intent) to read: "Councillors' decisions do not always reflect the majority views of those who express an opinion when consulted, particularly..." then the Consultation Strategy be adopted.

474. Adoption of Public Art Policy - 'Creating Opportunities for Public Art':

The Cabinet Member for Community & Housing and Planning and Economic Development introduced the previously circulated report of the Principal Arts Officer.

*Cllr Cole- Morgan
& Cllr Draper
(R Efemey)*

Agreed: that

- (1) the Public Art Policy 2003 – 2006 – "Creating Opportunities for Public Art" be adopted;
- (2) a code of practice be drawn up for the process of commissioning Public Art; this to be the subject of consultation, agreed with the relevant Scrutiny Panels and brought back to Cabinet for adoption at a later date; and
- (3) a Supplementary Planning Guidance leaflet to include the Commissioning Code of Practice be produced in conjunction with the Forward Planning Unit.

475. County Community Strategy:

The Cabinet Member for Community & Housing introduced the report of the Chief Executive (previously circulated).

*Cllr Cole- Morgan
(R Sheard)*

Agreed: that the report be noted.

476. A Health Focus for Sports Development:

The Cabinet Member for Community & Housing introduced the report of the Principal Sports Development Officer (previously circulated).

*Cllr Cole- Morgan
(L Cary)*

Agreed: that

- (1) the report be approved as an update of the vital work that is being undertaken within the health remit;
- (2) the work priorities outlined in section 4 of the report be supported;
- (3) the report be circulated to the Strategic Alliance in order for it to gain a clearer understanding of the links between physical activity, health, rehabilitation of patients and prevention of disease and ill-health in order that access to funding is made easier; and
- (4) the Principal Sports Development Officer be commended for her comprehensive report.

477. Urgent Business:

In view of the need for a decision to be taken before the next meeting, the Chairman allowed the following matters to be considered under urgent business.

(a) The Planning Delivery Grant (Interim):

The Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Development introduced the report of the Head of Development Services (previously circulated).

**Cllr Draper
(S Thorne)**

Agreed: that the proposals set out in the report be approved.

(b) Public Question Time:

At the request of Councillor Brown-Hovelt the Cabinet:

**Cllr Warrander
(S Agland)**

Agreed: that

- (1) in the light of recent changes approved by the Council, the public question time procedure be reviewed in six months; and
- (2) the Council's commitment to maintain the independence of the Standards Committee be reaffirmed.

*There were 9 members of the public present.
The meeting finished at 7.00pm*