

Minutes

Alamein Suite
City Hall, Salisbury
4.00 pm: 9 April 2003

Part 1: *Procedural Matters*

ACTIONED BY
Portfolio Holder
(Contact Officer)

478. 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 Bissington and Hewitt were also in attendance and with the consent of the Chairman addressed the meeting in respect of the matter contained in minute 487 below.

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

There were none.

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

480. Minutes:

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

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

481. Public Questions and Statements:

Mr Gross of Elm Close Laverstock, asked if the Council knew when the next re-evaluation of Council Tax property Bands was scheduled.

The Chairman advised that the Valuation Office (part of the Inland Revenue) intended to undertake a re-evaluation exercise in 2005, with a view to rebilling starting from April 2007.

Mr Gross then referred to an article in a recent edition of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries Magazine entitled "local government - meeting the future" which principally concerned the role and operation of Full Council under the new political management structure arrangements. Mr Gross welcomed the Leader's views on this article.

The Leader advised that he would read the article and respond to Mr Gross within 10 working days, with any comments he may have.

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

482. Call-in:

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

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

483. Forward Plan:

The Leader presented his Forward Plan for the period 1 June 2003 – 30 September 2003 (previously circulated) which would be published on 15 May to become operational from 1 June 2003.

Agreed: that the Leader's previously circulated proposed Forward Plan be adopted for publication, subject to the inclusion of an Arts Review for the month of July..

*Cllr Wren
(S Agland)*

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Part 2: Cabinet Decisions

*All decisions set out in this section of the minutes will be implemented on or after 24 April 2003
(unless called in for consideration by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel)*

ACTIONED BY
Portfolio Holder
(Contact Officer)

484. Wiltshire & Swindon E-Government Partnership:

The Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the previously circulated Joint report of the Policy Director, David Neudegg and the Legal Services Manager. The Cabinet discussed Partnership representation and noted the relationship between the Steering Group, which guides the Partnership's work, and the Wiltshire Strategic Board. The Cabinet expressed its appreciation to the responsible Officers for the effort that has gone into this project and the resultant progress made. Finally the Cabinet noted that in 12 months time the revenue implications of this Capital project would need to be considered.

Cllr Mrs Warrander
(D Neudegg)
(S Tovey)

Agreed: that

- (1) the draft "partnership agreement" be approved;
- (2) authorisation be given to entering into the legal agreements for the projects in which it is involved, and
- (3) authorisation be given to entering into any other legal agreements that may be necessary in the future for the successful completion of the projects by the 31st March 2004.

485. Registered Social Landlords 2003/04 – Funding Allocations:

The Cabinet Member for Community & Housing introduced the report of the Head of Strategic Housing (previously circulated). The Cabinet noted that the Schemes identified in paragraph 4 of the report are what the Council has applied for - the outcome of the applications is currently unknown

Cllr Cole-Morgan
(A Reynolds)

Agreed:

- (1) the final outturn for 2002/03 detailed in paragraph 3 be noted;
- (2) to support the schemes set out in Paragraph 4 of the report to qualify for an allocation under the transitional arrangements;
- (3) The Housing Corporation Allocations for 2003/04 detailed in Appendix 2 be noted; and

- (4) The Head of Strategic Housing in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Community and Housing be given delegated authority to support any further schemes, that achieve the Council's priorities, to be submitted by the June deadline - From May 1st this authority be delegated to the Head of Strategic Housing alone as no Cabinet Members will exist from then until the Annual Council meeting.

486. Disposal of Harestock Cottage Whiteparish:

It was noted that the proposal in the report could lead to a key decision being made which was not contained in the published Forward Plan, consequently, in accordance with the Constitution, the Chairman of the Community and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel, Councillor Leo was informed and indicated his support for the proposed disposal.

The Cabinet Member for Community & Housing introduced the report of the Head of Strategic Housing (previously circulated). The Cabinet thought it prudent to seek further valuations on this property, accepting that these may involve additional expenditure.

Agreed: that

- (1) Harestock Cottage be disposed of by public auction, and
- (2) The Head of Legal & Property Services be instructed to make the necessary arrangements, once a further two valuations on this property had been obtained, enabling a reserve price based on all the information consequently available, to be set.

*Cllr Cole-Morgan
(A Reynolds)*

487. Proposals for Housing Mediation Service in Partnership with Salisbury Mediation Service:

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Community & Housing introduced the report of the Head of Strategic Housing (previously circulated). On the issue of homelessness generally, it was noted that the Officers were seeking to establish whether it was permissible, having regard to any planning conditions, to accommodate homeless persons below the age of 60 in the Council's various sheltered housing schemes.

Agreed: that

- (1) approval be given to a one year pilot project with Salisbury Mediation Service, with a report back to Cabinet at the end of the period to assess the effectiveness of this initiative; and
- (2) the sum of £5,000 be allocated towards meeting the referral costs.

*Cllr Peach
(A Reynolds)*

488. Special Delegation Procedure:

The Cabinet noted the decision dealt with under the above procedure as set out under Agenda Item 11 relating to:

- (1) Corporate Financial Management Information System & Associated Income Module.

*Cllrs Wren & Collier
(J Bulgin)*

*There was 1 member of the public present.
The meeting finished at 5.00pm*