

Minutes

Alamein Suite
City Hall, Salisbury
4.00 pm: 5 May 2004

Part I: Procedural Matters

ACTIONED BY
Cabinet Member
(Contact Officer)

301. Present:

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

Apologies: Councillor J A Cole-Morgan

With the permission of the Chairman, the following Councillors addressed the Cabinet on the matters indicated - Councillor Baker (minutes 309 & 312), Councillor Brady (minute 315), Councillor Clegg (minutes 307, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313) Councillor Hewitt (minutes 313 & 315).

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

Stewart Agland declared a personal interest in exempt agenda item 21.

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

303. Minutes:

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

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

304. Public Questions and Statements:

Mrs M Delauney asked a question in respect of agenda item 17 (attached as annex A to the minutes) submitted that day.

The Leader advised that in view of the late receipt of the question, a written response would be sent within 10 working days.

Mrs S Long asked a question (attached as annex B to the minutes), submitted that afternoon.

The Leader advised that in view of the late receipt of the question, a written response would be sent within 10 working days, subject to the Head of Legal Services firstly being satisfied as to the acceptability of any legal implications.

Mrs B Riley submitted a question immediately prior to the start of the meeting. The Leader advised that as the Council had been given no time to assess whether the question was permissible in accordance with the Constitution and as at a glance persons were named in the question, he had no choice but to exercise his discretion to not allow the question to be put to the meeting.

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

305. Call-in:

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

*Cllr Wren
(S Agland)*

306. Forward Plan:

The Leader presented his Forward Plan for the period 1 July 2004 – 31 October 2004 (previously circulated) that would be published on 15 June 2004 to become operational from 1 July 2004.

*Cllr Wren
(S Agland)*

Agreed: that the Leader's previously circulated Forward Plan be adopted for publication on 15 June 2004.

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Part 2: Recommendations to the Council

(The recommendations set out below will be considered by the Council on 17th May 2004)

ACTIONED BY
Cabinet Member
(Contact Officer)

307. Reconstitution of the Salisbury Transportation Plan Joint Committee and Determination of Membership:

The Leader introduced the above matter set out at agenda item 16.

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

Recommended to Full Council on 17 May 2004: that

- (1) That subject to Wiltshire County Council doing the same, the re-establishment of a Salisbury Transportation Plan Joint Committee consisting of 12 members be approved.
- (2) the Terms of Reference as shown in the attached annex C (which includes a minor amendment in respect of delegated power point 5), be approved.
- (3) That the political proportionality provisions under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in respect of the Joint Committee be set aside and each Council appoint six members not necessarily with political balance.
- (4) That the District Council's composition be as currently – 2 Conservatives 2 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Independent).
- (5) That three Members drawn from the Administration be appointed to serve on the Joint Committee (including the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport) - Leader to propose the three Members and their named deputies at the Annual Council meeting.
- (6) Further to (5) above, the remaining non administration Members (and named deputies) be appointed in accordance with the agreed allocation (nominations required from the relevant Group Leaders following consultation between them)

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Part 3: Cabinet Decisions

*All decisions set out in this section of the minutes will be implemented on or after 18 May 2004
(unless called in for consideration by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel)*

ACTIONED BY
Cabinet Member
(Contact Officer)

308. Premium Payments and Agency Staff:

The Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the previously circulated report of the Policy Director David Crook. As previously notified, the Cabinet noted that the figure in paragraph 3.1 relating to premium payments should read £125,969 and not £16,444 as indicated in the report.

Cllr Mrs Warrander
(D Crook)

Agreed: that the contents of the report be noted.

309. Draft Corporate Plan:

The Leader introduced the draft corporate Plan attached to the Management Team's cover report (both previously circulated), together with appendix 4 - performance information, circulated following agenda despatch. The Leader advised that a final version will be produced for consideration at the June Cabinet meeting to take account of the CPA report following its publication on 6 May and following a number of typographical amendments he would forward to the Chief Executive outside of this meeting. The Cabinet indicated that it would be useful if the report could highlight those services/functions which are statutory and those which are discretionary. The Chief Executive advised that the Officers would seek to draw out those functions/services which are clearly statutory, however it was not a straightforward exercise as although certain services are statutory, the extent to which they are provided is discretionary.

Cllr Wren
(R Sheard)

In respect of the categorisation of services, (pages 43 and 105/106) it was noted that there was no reference to the environment.

Agreed: that the draft Corporate Plan be further refined to take account of the CPA report, the above statutory service point, other officer development work being undertaken and the necessary typographical revisions and, if deemed appropriate, the inclusion of the environment in the categorisation of services, with a view to the finalised version being considered at the Cabinet meeting on 23 June, with a subsequent recommendation to Full Council on 28 June 2004.

310. Corporate Capacity to Deliver Actions Within Portfolio Plans:

The Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the report of the Policy Director, David Neudegg (previously circulated). In considering this item, the Cabinet noted that whilst the Scrutiny Panel Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen had been consulted on the proposals, their response was not detailed in the report, although it was understood that no objections to the proposals had been received. The Cabinet also appreciated that the formal views of the respective Panels had not been sought.

Agreed: that the actions set out in section 3 of the report be approved.

*Cllr Mrs Warrander
(D Neudegg)*

311. Wiltshire and Swindon Customer Services Programme:

The Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the report of the Policy Director, David Neudegg (previously circulated).

*Cllr Mrs Warrander
(D Neudegg)*

Agreed:

- (1) the joint report of Wiltshire and Swindon Local Authorities be noted and the initial work programme be approved;
- (2) an allocation of £20,000 from the Implementing Electronic Government budget to support the establishment and initial development of the partnership be approved;
- (3) that the leader be delegated to nominate a Councillor to represent Salisbury on the Steering Group; and
- (4) that the Bourne Hill Campus be the site for the comprehensive Contact Centre, especially in view of the advantages afforded by having the front and back office on the same site
- (5) in principle the Cabinet would like to see a contact point in all the Community areas within the District, subject firstly to establishing whether such an objective is an effective use of Council resources - it would involve establishing points in Tisbury, Wilton and somewhere within the Southern Area.

312. Review of IT Provision to Members:

The Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the previously circulated recommendations of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 19 April 2004. The lead Member on the Resources Panel IT Sub Group, Councillor Baker, explained the recommendations. The Leader congratulated the Sub Group on an excellent piece of work.

*Cllr Mrs Warrander
(D Neudegg)*

Agreed:

- (1) That whilst the e-government strategy for the Council has been produced, it should be simplified and circulated to all Members and Officers so that everybody is made fully aware of how this strategy will affect their working practices.
- (2) That the e-government strategy should be treated discretely rather than form part of a Cabinet Member's wider portfolio and it was noted that the Leader would be recommending to Annual Council that this becomes the responsibility of the Deputy Leader, along with the procurement function.
- (3) To welcome the proposal that the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel, or any relevant replacement, keep a watching brief on the e-government strategy, with leave to scrutinise any aspect of it.

- (4) Future IT provision to Members be included as part of the e-government strategy of the Council - this has been included in the e-advocates brief and that a Member of the Scrutiny Panel be invited to join the e-advocates group.
- (5) In the 6 months leading up to a Council election, all Members are to receive periodic communication from SDC reminding them that IT equipment must be returned to the Council should they not be re-elected and instructions for this return to be distributed in good time prior to the election, unless the Member is given leave to keep their equipment due to it's age.
- (6) Depending on capacity, available resources and the achievement of the Council's other priorities, a facility will be put in place that will allow Members to, remotely, access SDC's intranet and also document files and folders. This access could be gained through the internet and using a Member-only password leading to a site specifically for Members.
- (7) That the Officers undertake a financial appraisal of the feasibility of the Council providing Members with an ADSL or a Broadband connection to their home in the long term as and when the technology becomes available in South Wiltshire.

313. Best Value Review - Street Services:

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport introduced the previously circulated Executive Summary and Service Continuous Improvement Programme (SCIP). The views of the Environment and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Panel following its meeting on 5 April were incorporated in the SCIP.

Agreed: that

- (1) the Service Continuous Improvement Programme as outlined in the report, be accepted as the basis on which the Council proceeds towards improving street services within the District, on the understanding that some of the target dates may be subject to change.
- (2) the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Officers involved be thanked for producing such a thorough and comprehensive review of Street Services

**Cllr Brown
(B Chequer)**

314. Licensing Act 2003 - Update:

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport introduced the report of the Principal Environmental Health Officer.

Agreed: that the report be noted and the proposed process for consultation be approved.

**Cllr Brown
(J Wickens)**

315. Alternative Routes to the A303 Stonehenge Improvement – Highways Agency Consultation:

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport introduced the previously circulated report of the Transportation Officer. He advised that in his opinion none of the alternative proposals offer a better solution to the published Highways Agency A303 Stonehenge Improvement Scheme.

Routes AR1, AR3 and AR9, place visible constructions and roads within the World Heritage Site: Routes AR5 and AR8 increase the tunnel length and hence the overall costs of the scheme: Routes AR6 and AR7 involve extensive additional road and junction construction, and route AR2 suggests using the main runway at Boscombe Down.

The Leader advised that the A303 Stonehenge Improvement Public Inquiry had now finished taking oral representations but was still receiving written evidence.

Agreed: that having considered the alternative route details proposed in Objectors' Alternatives AR1 to AR3 and AR5 to AR9, it is concluded that none offer a better solution to the published Highways Agency A303 Stonehenge Improvement Scheme, and these comments be relayed to both the Highways Agency and the A303 Stonehenge Improvement Public Inquiry Inspector.

*Cllr Brown
(G Wright)*

316. Improving Waste Management & Meeting Recycling Targets:

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport introduced the previously circulated report of the Head of Environmental Services.

Agreed: that

- (1) the plan for expanding waste recycling services from 2004 to 2008 contained in Appendix I of the report be approved.
- (2) a supplementary estimate of up to £75,000 for setting up and initial operating costs of the kerbside collection of green waste for composting be approved
- (3) that the Officers, Geoff Silver, Nick Derbyshire and Bob Chequer be thanked for all their excellent hardwork.

*Cllr Brown
(G Silver)*

317. Employment Tribunals and Associated Issues:

The Leader introduced the previously circulated report of the Chief Executive.

Agreed: that the Cabinet is content with the outcomes and no further investigations be carried out.

*Cllr Wren
(R Sheard)*

318. Special Delegation Procedure:

The Cabinet noted the matters determined under the Special Delegation Procedure set out at Item 18 in the Agenda (papers previously circulated) namely:

- (1) Purchase of replacement Refuse Collection Vehicles.
- (2) Multi-Agency Project to help People with Disabilities.

*Cllr Brown
Cllr Noeken*

319. Leader's Announcement

The Leader advised that as this was the last Cabinet meeting for this municipal year, he wished to place on record his thanks to all Cabinet Members for all their support, commitment and loyalty. He also thanked Officers for all their hardwork and help towards achieving the Council's objectives.

320. Exempt Information:

In view of the confidential and sensitive nature of the matters to be considered, it was:

Agreed: that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of those matters defined as 'Exempt' under the Access to Information Act 1985 as specified below:

Paragraph 1 namely: 'Information relating to a particular employee, former employee or applicant to become an employee of or a particular office-holder, former office-holder or applicant to become an office-holder under, the Authority'

Summary of Exempt Matter

Agenda Item 21 - Staffing Matters:

*There were 5 members
of the public present*

*The meeting finished at
6.15 pm*