

Minutes

Alamein Suite
City Hall, Salisbury
4.00 pm: 19 January 2005

Part I: Procedural Matters

ACTIONED BY
Cabinet Member
(Contact Officer)

452. 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 & Mrs S A Willan, (Environment and Transport), J A Cole-Morgan & R Britton (Community and Housing) and Mrs S A Warrander & D A Culver (Resources).

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor P V H Paisey (minute 465) Councillor Rycroft (minute 464) Councillors F Bissington and M Hewitt (Minute 458) were also in attendance and with the Chairman's permission spoke on the matters set out under the minutes as indicated.

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

Councillor Culver declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 13, Downton Road Development Brief and left the meeting during discussion thereon. Councillor Mrs Peach declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 8 Community Grants (South Wiltshire Credit Union) and left the meeting during discussion thereon.

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

454. Minutes:

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

Cllr Wren
(S Agland)

455. Public Questions and Statements:

Mr T West, Guilder Lane, Salisbury, gave notice of the following questions

1. "Why has not a progress report been submitted to Cabinet six months after the locking trolley scheme was implemented, in line with the agreement in the minutes of 24 April 2002 item 178 para 4. The scheme started one year ago. Is the legal agreement between SDC, Tesco's and Sainsbury's adequate? Have Tesco's broken this agreement?"
2. Why have many city centre residents been excluded from the opportunity to participate in the kerbside recycle collection scheme.

The response given by the Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder is attached as an annex to these minutes.

Note - when presenting his questions, Mr West expanded on them considerably - should he wish the other points he raised to be addressed, written details of them will be required (this was sought by the Officers and has subsequently been received). The response will not form part of the minutes as the questions were presented without the requisite notice.

456. Call-in:

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

457. Forward Plan:

The Leader presented his Forward Plan for the period 1 February 2005 – 31 May 2005 (previously circulated) that would be published on 20 January 2005 to become operational from 1 February 2005.

Agreed: that the Leader's previously circulated Forward Plan be adopted for publication on 20 January 2005, subject to the Nadder Valley Community plan being moved back to March for the reasons given later in the meeting.

The Cabinet also noted that the Southern Area Community Plan was not now due to be considered until May. Concern was expressed at the delay in completing the community planning process and it was -

Agreed that an early report be produced for Cabinet consideration on the lessons to be learnt during this community planning process, actions needed to improve the process in future and the Cabinet's proposed involvement therein.

***Cllr Wren
(S Agland)***

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Part 2: Recommendation to the Council

(The recommendations set out below will be considered by the Council on 21 February 2005)

ACTIONED BY
Cabinet Member
(Contact Officer)

458. Raising the Delegated Spending Limit for I06 Contribution Aided Projects:

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Development introduced the previously circulated report of the Development Contributions Officer which included the views of the Planning & Economic Development Overview & Scrutiny Panel and the Area Committees. It was noted that there would be a review of R2 in the spring this year - the review would examine ways to extend the scope of this policy and streamline procedures eg number of quotes needed for expenditure below a certain level.

Cllr Mrs Peach
(D Simmons)

Recommended to Full Council on 21 February 2005 that:

- (1) the local member/s (as with current arrangements) be consulted where a project costs between £10,000 & £30,000 and if an objection is raised, the project be referred to the area committee for determination.
- (2) the delegated spending limit for the release of S106 contributions be increased to £30,000.
- (3) That the inherent amendments to the General Delegation Scheme in the Constitution relating to the powers of the Head of Forward Planning and Transportation (para 13.2 refers) be approved.

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Part 3: Cabinet Decisions

All decisions set out in this section of the minutes will be implemented on or after 4th February 2005 (unless called in for consideration by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel)

ACTIONED BY
Cabinet Member
(Contact Officer)

459. Audit and Inspection Annual Letter 2003/04:

The Leader of the Council introduced the report from the Audit Commission, previously circulated.

The Leader welcomed Melanie Watson Relationship Manager and Peter Brown Audit Manager, who then gave a presentation on the points arising from the Audit Inspection annual letter (previously circulated).

Melanie Watson's key message for the Council was to persevere with the excellent improvements made so that progress was sustained. It was also noted that much greater emphasis would in future be placed on best value performance indicators.

It was noted that in respect of performance monitoring/improvement, the Audit Commission would be in future be concentrating its efforts on the poorer performing authorities and that it would be reducing its resource level in this area of the Commission's work.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development referred to the outstanding performance improvement in the development control decision making process and how targets were now being met - the Leader advised that this was a credit to all those involved.

Reference was made to the new code of Audit practice, which involves a more strategic approach to regulation so that authorities would be less burdened by inspections (as a good authority Salisbury District Council was unlikely to be inspected this year) and there would be a greater emphasis on value for money.

If the District Council chooses to establish an Audit Committee later in the year, this will be the last time the Annual Audit and Inspection letter will come before Cabinet.

The Leader thanked the representatives of District Audit for their presentation. He informed the Cabinet that he was pleased with the report and thanked the Officers and Members for their excellent hard work in ensuring such a positive letter.

Cllr Wren
(D Melville)

460. **Allocation of Community Grants 2005/06:**

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

**Cllr Cole-Morgan
(A Skyring)**

Agreed: that

- (1) the recommendations agreed by the Grants Working Group as set out in Appendix Two of the report be approved, subject to budget approval by Council in February 2005 and to the Council's grant policy and terms of conditions.
- (2) Approval be given to the CAB application subject to the Principal Community Development Officer's approval of the 2005/2008 service level agreement.
- (3) those organisations funded over £5k as part of the grant conditions put into place robust Equal Opportunity Policy, Reserves Policy, Funding Strategies and where relevant Child & Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy.
- (4) groups be asked to demonstrate that they are actively seeking funding from other sources and not relying completely on funding from SDC -this will be used to influence decisions on funding.
- (5) there be 3 year secured funding (subject to the Councils Annual Budget) for those organisations with Service Agreements. Those organisations are no longer required to submit applications on an annual basis, however are still subject to financial amendments based on the Councils Annual budget setting process and a satisfactory annual and 6 monthly review as stated in the service agreements.
- (6) the Principal Community Development officer put in place appropriate and separate monitoring process for grants under/over £5k that are not subject to Service Agreements.
- (7) the Principal Community Development officer put in place information checklist sheets to assist applicants on the required information to submit and information on how decisions on their grants will be made and what influences those decisions.
- (8) the CVS receive its funding as a contribution to a Community Support Worker subject to agreement of the posts annual work programme as part of the three year service agreement with SDC and partners.
- (9) the CDG grants form be redesigned to reflect changes agreed in the recommendations
- (10) the Wiltshire Racial Equality Council grant be approved subject to the grant being paid in two equal installments. The second installment will only be released after a satisfactory 6 month review meeting with the Community District Grants Review Panel and Principal Community Development Officer.

It was also -

Suggested that in future, the Grants Working Group should produce a criteria matrix to enable the Cabinet to see readily which applicants are meeting the council's objectives.

The working group, in deciding its recommendations, should continue to ensure that the Council is not being asked to fill funding gaps which may more appropriately be met by other organisations.

Exemplar policies should be provided to assist applicants to comply with the council's requirements.

461. Community Plans - Nadder Valley:

Agreed: that consideration of the Community Plan be deferred to allow sufficient time to incorporate the various suggestions put forward by the Western Area Committee at its meeting on 6 January, including those from Tisbury Parish Council.

**Cllr Cole-Morgan
(D Neudegg)**

462. Draft Local Development Scheme:

The Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Development introduced the report of the Principal Forward Planning Officer (previously circulated). A draft leaflet for this scheme was circulated at the meeting.

**Cllr Noeken
(J Meeker)**

It was acknowledged that the priorities identified through the Parish Planning and Community Planning processes were not always reconciled and that a way was needed to ensure this occurred so that it could then all be meshed into the Local Development Framework.

Agreed: that the Draft Local Development Scheme (LDS) be approved, (subject the Salisbury District Design Guide SPD being amended by the inclusion of Strategic Housing and Community Initiatives in the other key departments section) enabling Officers to undertake clear discussions with Government Office and the Planning Inspectorate to confirm the final timetable.

463. E-Government Vision:

The Deputy Leader of the Cabinet introduced the previously circulated report of the Head of Information Technology.

**Cllr Collier
(L Wright)**

Agreed: that the SDC E-Government Vision, attached as **Appendix I** to the previously circulated report be approved, subject

- (a) on page 4 in respect of political priorities, to "improving our housing stock" being changed to "maintaining our housing stock" so that it is consistent with the previous revisions made to the Council's priorities;
- (b) to any capital and staffing costs being processed in the normal way.

464. Draft Development Brief : Land at Downton Road Salisbury:

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Development introduced the report of the Principal Forward Planning Officer (previously circulated). Councillor Mrs Peach reported on the outcome of the meeting held on 5 January 2005, between Rowbarrow Residents' Association, Salisbury District Council and Westbury Homes. The main points raised by the Residents Association concerned, height of three storey buildings, density of development, building elevations, landscape planting, traffic safety, environmental impacts, retail store, relocation of community centre, overall quality and location of access. The only change which the Residents' Association wish to make to the development brief is the deletion of the words "be expected to" in line 6 of the third bullet point under Development Principle DP2 - this is acceptable to Westbury Homes.

**Cllr Mrs Peach
(S Hughes)**

The impact on local schools which would have to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers likely to be generated by this development was also discussed.

Councillor Mrs Peach also referred to the views of the City Area Committee, set out in the report as regards marketing the shop.

Agreed: that

- (1) the proposed changes in the revised Development Brief be approved, including the above change to Development principle 2, and subject to a revision in the brief's introduction so that it states adoption is on 19 January and not 15 December as currently indicated and
- (2) the brief as amended be adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

465. Revised Draft Development Brief : Land at Old Sarum Salisbury:

The Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Development introduced the report of the Special Projects Manager and Planning Officer (previously circulated). The Cabinet Member advised that late correspondence had been received from a landowner on the site who did not comment under the original consultation period. The Brief contains some minor revisions related to the phasing of the development, to reflect the issues they have raised. Also the City Area Committee had recommended adoption of the brief to set a robust framework for delivering a very high quality mixed- use development and associated social and technical infrastructure. The Cabinet Member expressed pleasure at the commitment to sustainable buildings and EcoHomes in both this and the Downton Road Brief, which he believed would make them both exemplar developments.

The impact of this development on local schools was also discussed.

Agreed: that

- (1) the proposed revisions to the draft development brief and the support expressed by the City Area Committee both be noted, and the development brief be approved (subject to comments from the meeting of Southern Area Committee on January 26th) as setting a robust framework for delivering a very high quality mixed-use development and associated social and technical infrastructure at Old Sarum.
- (2) Delegation of the adoption of the brief be given to the Head of Forward Planning & Transportation following the Southern Area Committee meeting on January 26th providing that SAC does not raise any objections which, in the view of the Head of Forward Planning & Transportation, are so fundamental that they should be referred back to Cabinet.

466. Corporate Training Plan 2005:

The Cabinet Member for Resources introduced the previously circulated report of the Training & Development Manager.

Agreed: that approval be given to the priorities set out in the report as key areas of activity for 2005, as well as allowing for flexibility to defer non-essential items in case of unforeseeable activities and the Officers be thanked for their excellent work.

**Cllr Noeken
(D Milton)
(J Iles)**

**Cllr Mrs Warrander
(R Broome)**

467. The Future of the Salisbury Joint Transportation Team:

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport introduced the report from the Head of Forward Planning and Transportation (previously circulated).

Agreed: that

- (1) approval be given in principle to the continued existence of the Salisbury Joint Transportation Team after the completion of the current Local Transport Plan programme, with the amended remit as set out in Table I of the report; and
- (2) this decision be subject to the consideration of a further report on the financial implications of the proposals.

***Cllr D Brown
(E Teagle)***

There were 4 members
of the public present
The meeting finished at
6.08 pm