

CABINET

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 9th February 2012 at Worksop Town Hall

Present: Councillor G A N Oxby (Chair),
Councillors J Evans, S A Greaves, J A Leigh, S May, D R Pressley and
A Rhodes.

Liaison Members: Councillors H Burton, S Toms and C Wanless.

Officers: D Armiger, S Brown, J Hamilton, M Hill, L Hull, D Hunter, M Ladyman,
N Taylor and R Theakstone.

Standards Members: None.

Also present: Councillors B Hopkinson and J Scott.

(The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and read out the Fire Alarm/Evacuation Procedure.)

127. QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC

Council Procedure Rules were suspended for fifteen minutes to allow questions from the public; two members of the public were present.

Have the Cabinet Members considered my question which I raised at Cabinet on 5th July 2011? i.e. Will the Council contribute £100 per year towards the running costs of the Clowne Community Bus service to take and return Bassetlaw's old and infirm residents to Hannah Park Cemetery on a fortnightly basis?

RESOLVED that a written response be made to Mr Coe on this issue.

128. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M W Quigley.

129. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

(a) Members

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

(b) Officers

There were no declarations of interest by officers.

130. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10TH JANUARY 2012

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2012 be approved.

131. MINUTES FOR ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

RESOLVED that the Minutes for Action and Implementation be received.

132. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

RESOLVED that the Outstanding Minutes List be received.

SECTION A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PUBLIC

Key Decisions

**133. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – POLICY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
– COUNCILLOR G A N OXBY**

(a) Corporate Plan 2012-2015 (Key Decision No 316)

Members' approval was sought for the new Corporate Plan 2012-2015 and onward referral to full Council on 5th March 2012 for ratification. The Ambitions, Priorities and Projects were appended to the report, and the draft Corporate Plan summary had been circulated to Cabinet and Liaison Members and deposited in the Members' Room.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The Council is committed to ensuring it clearly identifies those priorities that will be of greatest benefit to the people of Bassetlaw and concentrates effort on delivering those within the identified timeframe of 2012-2015 through the Corporate Plan.

It is important to identify key Ambitions so that the Priorities are focussed and the Plan itself can be developed with actions worked up and resources allocated.

The risk in not having a relevant and up-to-date Corporate Plan is that the Council fails to robustly demonstrate its ability to direct effort and allocate resources in accordance with the needs and aspirations of Bassetlaw residents.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Ambitions, Priorities and Projects, as appended to the report, be approved to form part of the new Corporate Plan 2012-2015 together with endorsement of officers being assigned responsibility for their delivery.
2. The draft Corporate Plan summary be approved and the final document be referred to full Council on 5th March 2012 for ratification.

(b) Proposed Equality Objectives (Key Decision No 318)

Members' approval was sought on the proposed equality objectives for the Authority which were appended to the report. These have arisen from the Equality Act 2010 which has introduced new duties on public bodies including local authorities. These consist of general and specific duties, and replace former duties for race, gender and disability. Information must be published annually, measurable equality objectives must be adopted and published by 6th April 2012, and these must be reviewed every four years.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Cabinet can choose between supporting, not supporting or amending the proposed objectives but has a statutory duty to produce and publish its equality objectives for the next four years. Given the Council's commitment to these issues within the Corporate Plan, it is proposed that Cabinet supports the recommendations.

RESOLVED that:

1. The proposed equality objectives, as appended to the report, be approved.
2. The Equality Objectives be reviewed annually.
3. The proposals to recognise the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) History Month and IDAHO (International Day Against Homophobia) Day be approved.

134. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – FINANCE AND PROPERTY – COUNCILLOR J EVANS

(a) Budget Monitoring and Capital Programme Update Report to 31st December 2011 (Key Decision No 299)

Members were updated on: the spending position for the period 1st April to 31st December 2011 for the Council's General Fund, Housing Revenue and Capital Programme, and any significant variances from the approved budgets; the proposed resourcing of the Capital Programme and the level of Council capital resources available, including capital receipts; regeneration projects and sites that are not monitored through the Council's Capital Programme; Treasury Management budget issues; and the regular quarterly performance against the approved Treasury Management Prudential Indicators for the period ending 31st December 2011.

Members' approval was sought for new additions, variations and reprofiling to the existing Capital Programme.

2011/12 has been a difficult financial year so far, and officers have spent much time determining how to bring the projected overspends outlined at Quarter 1 back on track. However, some of these solutions are in the longer term and will not have an impact until the next financial year. Consequently, it is highly likely that an overspend will occur during 2011/12. This is not to say that Bassetlaw is any different from other councils who are experiencing similar difficulties with income as the economic climate remains stagnant and public sector spending is retrenched.

Elected Members asked questions/raised issues on: Worksop market; Langold Country Park; and funding for rural broadband.

(The Chief Executive joined the meeting at this point.)

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The budget monitoring section of the report provides managers' forecasts and is for information only. There are always some risks that the actual outturn variance could be substantially different from that currently shown (mainly due to the volatility of income), but the report sets out officers' projections and, as such, the financial risk that may occur by 31st March 2012.

The Council has responsibility for delivering its Capital Programme on time and not doing so could undermine the achievement of its objectives. The Property and Regeneration Group will continue to monitor future programmes on a monthly basis.

There may be changes to the way the Capital Programme is financed as officers review the most appropriate methodology as part of the closedown process for 2011/12.

RESOLVED that:

1. Thanks be recorded to Finance officers and budget holders for their work in bringing the projected overspends "back on track".
2. The position with regard to Revenue and Capital budget monitoring be noted.

3. The 'new approvals' to the 2011/12 Capital Programme, totalling £0.634m, as detailed in paragraph 3.14 and Appendix 3 of the report, be approved.
4. The 'other variations' to the 2011/12 Capital programme, totalling £(0.028m), as detailed in paragraph 3.14 and Appendix 3 of the report, be approved.
5. The 'reprofiling' to the 2011/12 Capital Programme, totalling £(3.119m), as detailed in paragraph 3.14 and Appendix 3 of the report, be approved.
6. The proposed resourcing of the Capital Programme and the level of capital receipts currently available to fund any further capital expenditure, as detailed in paragraphs 3.20 and 3.22 of the report, be noted.
7. The update on the Langold Lake key regeneration project, as detailed in paragraph 3.24 of the report, be noted.
8. The quarterly update on performance against the approved Treasury Management Prudential Indicators for the period ending 31st December 2011, as detailed in Appendix 6 of the report, be noted.
9. The expected impact on the capital and treasury plans of the Housing Revenue Account reform measures be noted, and the revised Prudential Indicators for 2011/12 be approved.
10. The weekly investment balances made throughout the third quarter of the financial year, in conjunction with the Security, Liquidity and Yield benchmarking data for the Council, as detailed in Appendix 7 of the report, be noted.

(The following six reports were taken as one item as they were all incorporated into the Draft Budget Book 2012/13.)

(b) General Fund Budget 2012/13 (Key Decision No 300)

Members' approval was sought for the General Fund Budget proposals for 2012/13 and onward referral to full Council on 5th March 2012.

The report detailed: 2011/12 Budget pressures; General Fund Revenue reserves and balances; capital financing charges; Formula Grant Settlement 2012/13; specific grants; inflation and other budget provisions; Council Tax; business support and consultation; Collection Fund surplus; and the 2012/13 Work Programme.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The Council is required to set a balanced Budget but may otherwise vary its spending and taxation proposals below the excessive capping trigger. For the 2012/13 Revenue Budget, the following decisions are available to Members:

- (i) Change the level of service spending or income projections.
- (ii) Revise the level of any reserves to support the Revenue Budget.
- (iii) Change the planned level of increase in Council Tax for 2012/13 but any increase above 0% will mean the forfeit of the Council Tax Freeze Grant.
- (iv) Revise the General Fund Capital Programme and its associated funding strategy.

RESOLVED that the following be recommended to full Council on 5th March 2012:

1. The Budget for 2012/13 and future years, together with the associated comments from the Audit and Performance Scrutiny Committee on 7th February 2012, be approved.
2. A Council Tax increase of 0% for 2012/13 be approved to keep it at the same level as 2009/10.
3. No reserves be used to fund the 2012/13 Budget, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, and £0.125m be returned to the Job Evaluation Reserve.
4. The declaration of a £0.4m surplus on the Collection Fund for 2012/13, as summarised in paragraph 3.28 and detailed in Appendix 3 of the report, be noted.

5. Delegated authority be given to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Property to address any issues arising from the Business Ratepayers meeting in February 2012.
6. Delegated authority be given to the Director of Resources to deal with amendments to the Budget for any changes to Drainage Board and Parish/Town Council precepts. (These will not affect the level of Bassetlaw's Council Tax.)

(c) General Fund Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2016/17 (Key Decision No 301)

Members' approval was sought for the General Fund Capital Programme for 2012/13 to 2016/17, and onward referral to full Council on 5th March 2012.

The report detailed: schemes approved from 2011/12; resources to be generated in 2012/13; new schemes 2012/13 to 2016/17; 2012/13 overview; and Capital prioritisation process.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Members can decide what schemes to include or exclude. Any schemes which include external finance will have implications for those organisations.

RESOLVED that the following be recommended to full Council on 5th March 2012 :

1. The Capital Programme for 2012/13 for £7.238m, as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report, be approved.
2. The indicative Capital Programme for 2013/14 to 2016/17 of £4.625m, as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report, be approved, subject to the delivery of the necessary capital receipts.
3. Regular updates are provided to Cabinet throughout 2012/13 as and when specific capital receipts are made, so that the Council does not overextend its commitments.

(d) Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15 (Key Decision No 303)

Members' approval was sought for the: Treasury Management Strategy; Borrowing Strategy; Annual Investment Strategy; Minimum Revenue Provision Statement; and Prudential Indicators, updated in accordance with latest guidance, and onward referral to full Council on 5th March 2012.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The only option is to accept the recommendations and adopt the Treasury Management Strategy, Borrowing Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Statement, and to approve the Prudential Indicators.

To not approve these policies would contravene the requirements of both legislation and good practice. In addition, the Audit Commission may pass comment in their Annual Audit Letter.

RESOLVED that the following be recommended to full Council on 5th March 2012:

1. The Treasury Management Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15, incorporating the Borrowing Strategy and the Annual Investment Strategy, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.
2. The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report, which sets out the Council's Policy on the MRP, be approved.
3. The Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2012/13 to 2014/15, as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report, be approved.

4. The Authorised Limit Prudential Indicator, as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report, be approved.

(e) Capital Investment Strategy 2012/13 to 2016/17 (Key Decision No 304)

Members' approval was sought for the Capital Investment Strategy, which was appended to the report, and onward referral to full Council on 5th March 2012.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The Capital Investment Strategy is a key document that sets out how capital resources will be deployed to meet the priorities of the Council.

RESOLVED that the Capital Investment Strategy 2012/13, as appended to the report, be approved and recommended to full Council on 5th March 2012.

(f) Property Asset Management Plan 2012/13 to 2016/17 (Key Decision No 305)

Members' approval was sought for the Property Asset Management Plan, which was appended to the report, and onward referral to full Council on 5th March 2012.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The Asset Management Plan is a key document that sets out how the Council effectively manages its assets to support the efficient delivery of its priorities and objectives.

RESOLVED that the Asset Management Plan 2012/13 to 2016/17, as appended to the report, be approved and recommended to full Council on 5th March 2012.

Other Decisions

135. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – FINANCE AND PROPERTY – COUNCILLOR J EVANS

(a) Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves 2012/13

The report detailed: financial controls; robustness of estimates, including General Fund Revenue expenditure and income, General Fund provisions and reserves, Housing Revenue, Capital Programme and funding, and the Statement of Accounts; and adequacy of reserves.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The Head of Finance and Property's judgement of the residual risks of there being variances (over or under spending) from the Budget, after taking account of the measures discussed in paragraph 3.3 of the report, were listed at paragraph 5.2 of the report.

Having considered these risks, the conclusion of the Section 151 Officer is that the Council be advised that overall: the estimates are sufficiently robust; and the levels of reserves and balances forecasted to be held at 31st March 2013 are adequate; to allow the Council to set the Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax for 2012/13.

RESOLVED that the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves 2012/13 be approved and recommended to full Council on 5th March 2012.

136. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – POLICY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
– COUNCILLOR G A N OXBY

(a) Forward Plan – February to May 2012

Members were presented with the Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the coming four months.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The report is for noting.

RESOLVED that the Forward Plan for the period February to May 2012 be approved.

(b) Early Retirement Policy and Procedure

Members' approval was sought for a revised Early Retirement Policy and Procedure, which had been appended to the report for Cabinet and Liaison Members and deposited in the Members' Room. The draft Policy and Procedure had been endorsed by the Joint Employee Council at its meeting on 20th December 2011.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Option One - To approve the revised Early Retirement Policy and Procedure will ensure the Council manages all early retirements efficiently and effectively, ensuring fairness, consistency and compliance with current related regulatory requirements.

Option Two - To suggest amendments to the proposed Policy and Procedure.

RESOLVED that the revised Early Retirement Policy and Procedure, as appended to the report, be approved.

137. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – COMMUNITY PROSPERITY –
COUNCILLOR D R PRESSLEY

(a) Car Park Strategic Review

Members were updated on the current situation of the Council's car parks, usage and charging, and Members' approval was sought for a proposed changed fee structure, which was appended to the report.

The report detailed: fees and charges; local comparison; income; proposals for Priorswell car park; cinema concessions; and details of the consultation exercise which runs from 29th January to 24th February 2011, the questions for which were appended to the report.

The recent Portas review of town centres suggested the use of controlled free parking initiatives to promote town centre shopping, and this has been used by the Council for several years in terms of free afternoon parking during December and the "buy two hours, get one hour free" initiative; and these schemes will continue. Free parking after 6.00pm, and free parking on Sundays and Bank Holidays will also continue.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

There is an intricate balance to maintain with regard to car park charges: to ensure that income is maximised; the Council's statutory duty with respect to enforcement is complied with; to attract shoppers and visitors; whilst maintaining a safe environment, particularly for Long Stay car park users i.e. town centre workers. Therefore, the options are:

- Option One – Do nothing.
- Option Two – Raise the charges by inflation.
- Option Three – Raise the charges in line with historical inflation figures.
- Option Four – Simplify the fee structure.
- Option Five – Introduce charging on an exception basis for Priorswell Road car park.
- Option Six – Introduce charging as per a Long Stay car park on Ebenezer Terrace.
- Option Seven – Encourage the purchase of season tickets and raise charges at below the inflationary level.

The overall effect of implementing the recommended options (4,5 & 6) is £167,000 which would cover the effects of income erosion, keep controlled free parking and pay for the cinema concessions. However, all the figures assume no behavioural change by motorists, and all the figures do not take account of VAT.

RESOLVED that:

1. The proposed charging structure for Short Stay and Long Stay car parking in Worksop and Retford, as detailed in paragraph 6.1 of the report, be approved.
2. The proposed charging structure for Priorswell Road car park, as detailed in paragraph 6.2 of the report be approved.
3. The inclusion of Ebenezer Terrace in the standard parking regime as a Long Stay car park be approved, and new ticket machines be procured, financed by the Capital Programme. Additional revenue for machine maintenance of £3,000 be approved.
4. Future revision of parking charges be aligned to the relative Consumer Price Index and included in the annual Fees and Charges revision report.
5. Season ticket charges be raised to £125 for three months, £225 for six months and £400 for 12 months, with a monthly Direct Debit facility available for annual season tickets, to encourage take-up.
6. The form of consultation, as appended to the report, be noted.

138. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE – COUNCILLOR J A LEIGH

(a) Proposals for Environment Services Delivery Model

Members' approval was sought to begin consultation on proposals to create a generic Environment Services post with the aim of increasing flexibility within the service, improving skills and progress opportunities for staff, and strengthening the Service overall.

The proposed generic Environment Services Operative post will replace the specific roles of: Refuse Loader; Street Cleaning Operative (drivers and non-drivers); and Grounds Maintenance Operative.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The Council has the option of either progressing or not progressing with a consultation exercise on the proposals. In the event that the proposal is not approved, the advantages set out in the report both in respect of increasing flexibility and capacity, and the opportunity for employee skills' development and progression, will not be realised.

RESOLVED that the proposals to begin consultation on the proposal to create a generic Environment Services Operative post be approved.

139. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – HOUSING – COUNCILLOR A RHODES

(a) Management of Properties owned by Registered Providers

Members were advised of the outcome of marketing undertaken by A1 Housing offering the possibility of a management service for housing associations and other registered providers with housing stock in the District.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Members may either note the report or request further action. Officers who have been involved in this project have reached the conclusion that there is little point in pursuing this initiative at the present time. It may, however, be worthwhile revisiting the issue at an appropriate juncture, as opportunities and challenges may arise through changes in organisational structures as time progresses.

RESOLVED that:

1. The report be noted.
2. A1 Housing officers undertake a follow-up exercise during 2013.

(b) Supported Housing Warden and Alarm Service

Members' approval was sought for the proposed level of charges to tenants for the Supported Housing Warden and Community Alarm Service following discussions with Nottinghamshire County Council's Supporting People Team.

The amount of Supporting People (SP) funding for 2012/13 (the final year of funding) will be in the region of £539,000. The condition attached to this grant is that a minimum of 1,040 service users continue to receive a subsidised support service. Approximately £125,000 of the SP grant will be needed to fund redundancy costs, and it is proposed to use the remaining grant of £414,000 to reduce the charges that were approved in October 2011. The SP commissioning team support this approach and has confirmed that the grant funding can be used this way.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Option One - To approve the proposal to introduce a lower charge of £1.50 from April 2012 for all tenants and private residents receiving the Supported Housing Warden and Community Alarm Service.

Option Two - An alternative would be to use the SP grant to fund a fully subsidised service for the required minimum of 1,040 services users and require the remaining to pay £2.95 per week. The risk associated with this option is the arbitrary decision that would need to be taken when deciding who receives the service for free and who would be charged. Some service users have higher needs than others so this could be used as a basis. However, it is impossible to say that a person's current needs will be the same in six or 12 months' time given the nature of this client group.

Option Three – To approve the proposal to introduce a lower charge of £3.00 from April 2012 for all residents in sheltered schemes.

RESOLVED that:

1. A lower charge of £1.50 for all tenants and private residents receiving the Supported Housing Warden and Community Alarm Service be approved and introduced from April 2012.

2. A lower charge of £3.00 for all residents in sheltered schemes be approved and introduced from April 2012.

140. REPORTING MINUTES

- (a) Council's Health and Safety Committee – 4th October 2011

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Council's Health and Safety Committee held on 4th October 2011 be received.

- (b) Parish Councils Liaison Group – 12th October 2011

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Councils Liaison Group held on 12th October 2011 be received.

141. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and after considering the public interest test as set out by the officer in the body of the report, Members agreed that the following items of business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2, and therefore, in accordance with Section 100A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting:

Agenda Item No 15(a) – Community Prosperity Service Review - Paragraph 2

Agenda Item No 16(a) – Management Review of Environment Services – Paragraph 2

Agenda Item No 17(a) – Airey Housing, Common Lane, Harworth – Paragraphs 1 and 2

(One of the two Elected Members present remained in the meeting with the Chairman's permission.)

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

142. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – COMMUNITY PROSPERITY – COUNCILLOR D R PRESSLEY

- (a) Community Prosperity Service Review

Members' final approval was sought for the proposed staffing arrangements for the Community Prosperity Service which were considered by Cabinet in November 2011.

(The comments from UNISON, together with the response by the Head of Community Prosperity, had been inadvertently omitted from the Agenda and were tabled at the meeting.)

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Option One - To do nothing and maintain the status quo. However, the Service review has been based in part upon the need to provide a service that can continue to deliver a high level of service.

Option Two - To accept the proposals within the report.

RESOLVED that the changes to the Community Prosperity Service staffing structure, as outlined in the report, be approved.

143. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE – COUNCILLOR J A LEIGH

(a) Management Review of Environment Services

Members' approval was sought to commence consultation regarding the proposed changes to the existing Environment Services management structure.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Option One – To not support the proposals and not to make changes to the Environment Services management structure following the departure of the Environment Services Manager.

Option Two – To agree to the commencement of consultation on proposals in accordance with the Council's Organisational Change Policy, with a view to reporting the outcome of the consultation to a future Cabinet Meeting.

RESOLVED that:

1. The commencement of consultation on the proposals be approved, in accordance with the council's Organisational Change Policy, and the outcome of the consultation be reported to a future Cabinet Meeting.
2. The standard letter to the Environment Services Manager, sent by Human Resources to all retiring employees on behalf of the Council, to incorporate that his departure is a "sad loss" and Members recognise that he has been an exceptional member of staff and has contributed greatly towards the continuous improvement of Environment Services.

144. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – HOUSING – COUNCILLOR A RHODES

(a) Airey Housing, Common Lane, Harworth

Members' approval was sought for officers to progress discussions to enable options for delivering improvement work to the non-traditional housing stock on Common Lane, Harworth, after Cabinet approval was given in September 2011 to the principle of reviewing options for dealing with such non-traditional stock throughout the District.

Funding was obtained from the Homes and Communities Agency to undertake a research project to look at the options for addressing the issues on the Common Lane site. This funding was used to commission consultants to look at the viability aspects as well as interviewing the residents of the 18 properties on Common Lane.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

At this stage, initial discussions of options by the working group can take place without any commitment on behalf of the Council. This approach will provide a useful opportunity to explore ways of dealing with the site and to bring forward a solution that is beneficial to all parties.

RESOLVED that:

1. A working group be set up comprising the Cabinet Members for Housing and Finance & Property, along with other Ward Members, to consider and set out the preferable option for taking forward the regeneration of this site in a future report.
2. The owners of the two private properties be formally approached to discuss the sale of these properties. In the event that the properties can be acquired at values that are considered by the Council's Estate Manager to represent an appropriate market rate, delegated authority be given for the purchase to be agreed in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Housing and Finance & Property.

145. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

As there was no other business to be considered, the Chairman closed the meeting.