

CABINET

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 11th January 2011 at Worksop Town Hall

Present: Councillor M W Quigley (Chair),
Councillors K H Isard, M G Pugsley, K Sutton, C Wanless and T E Yates.

Liaison Members: Councillors H Burton, G A N Oxby and G J Wynne.

Officers: D Armiger, S Brown, C Forster, J Hamilton, M Hill, D Hunter, M Ladyman,
S Pearson, N Taylor and R Theakstone.

Standards Members: None.

113. QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC

Council Procedure Rules were suspended for fifteen minutes to allow questions from the public; there were three members of the public present accompanied by Councillor I J Campbell.

As a resident of Retford's Young Person's Supported Housing Scheme in Cobwell Road, Retford, concerned by Nottinghamshire County Council's proposed cuts to the Supporting People grant, what will Bassetlaw District Council be doing to protect supported housing schemes?

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Housing replied that Nottinghamshire County Council is still conducting its consultation exercise which does not conclude until 13th January, after which it will determine which spending cuts are to be made. Once the full details of the cuts are known and made public, the District Council will then be able to assess its own position.

114. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Miss M Stokes.

115. 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.

116. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH DECEMBER 2010

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2010 be approved.

117. MINUTES FOR ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

RESOLVED that the Minutes for Action and Implementation be received.

118. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

RESOLVED that the Outstanding Minutes List be received.

SECTION A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PUBLIC

Key Decisions

119. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – COMMUNITY PROSPERITY –
COUNCILLOR K H ISARD

(a) Bassetlaw's Local Development Framework: Update (Key Decision No 237)

Members' approval was sought for the submission of the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State in preparation for an Examination in Public into its 'soundness and legality'. Work will begin shortly on the second LDF document, the Site Allocations Document.

(An additional section detailing the Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations, which had been omitted from the original report, was tabled at the meeting.)

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Cabinet can choose to endorse the submission of the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State and give the Portfolio Holder for Community Prosperity the delegated authority to approve minor changes to the document that may be required in the lead up to its submission. This will ensure that the Council is able to adopt a formal planning policy framework that will direct the future development of the District.

Cabinet can choose to reject the submission proposals. The risk of this option is that the new development proposals come forward in an unplanned and non-strategic manner and that the local community fails to benefit as it should from growth and regeneration proposals.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Core Strategy be endorsed and approved and submitted to the Secretary of State.
2. The Portfolio Holder for Community Prosperity be given delegated authority to approve minor changes (eg typographical errors or textual clarifications) to the document that may be required in the lead up to its submission.

120. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING –
COUNCILLOR M G PUGSLEY

(a) Zero Tolerance Policy Towards Environmental Crime (Key Decision No 279)

Members' approval was sought for a Zero Tolerance approach to environmental crime in order to fulfil the requirements of the Corporate Plan. The new Policy, which sets out the broad approach to be adopted, was appended to the report. Individual procedural documents will then be prepared to provide practical guidance and consistency for enforcement officers.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The Policy need not be approved but enforcement against environmental crime would continue, officers would lack strategic direction and enforcement may not be as rigorous or consistent.

If approved, the Policy will add strategic direction to a zero tolerance policy and demonstrate corporate commitment to a rigorous approach to environmental crime.

RESOLVED that the Zero Tolerance Policy, as appended to the report, be approved.

121. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – REVENUES AND CUSTOMER SERVICES – COUNCILLOR C WANLESS

(a) Children and Young People's Issues (Key Decision No 275)

Members were presented with an update on actions being taken to progress the Council's response on Children and Young People's Issues. Current key activities include: Child Poverty Act 2010; Bassetlaw Youth Participation Advisor; Citizenship Programme; and Safeguarding arrangements.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendation

Although Cabinet could decide not to approve the recommendations, the Council has a statutory responsibility in terms of the Children's Act 2004.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Children and Young People's Action Plan be noted and supported and further updates be provided on a quarterly basis.
2. Where relevant, priorities from the Nottinghamshire Children and Young People's Plan be reflected in future Council objectives and an appropriate framework for monitoring the Council's contribution be developed for 2011/12.
3. The Council's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures be amended to reflect the introduction of 'Pathways to Provision' by Nottinghamshire County Council.

Other Decisions

122. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE – COUNCILLOR M W QUIGLEY

(a) Forward Plan – January 2011 to April 2011

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 January 2011 to April 2011 be approved, subject to the amendment to Key Decision No 246 – Medium Term Financial Plan, which will be presented to 10th February 2011 Cabinet.

(b) Revised Community Engagement Policy

Members' approval was sought for a revised Community Engagement Policy, which was appended to the report. The revised Policy outlines how the Council is committed to helping residents to become more active and have a greater say in how local services are developed and delivered.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Cabinet could recommend changes to the revised Community Engagement Policy.

RESOLVED that the revised Community Engagement Policy, as appended to the report, be approved.

(c) Council's Progress on Equality and Diversity Issues

(This item was wrongly listed under the Cabinet Member for Support Services on the Agenda.)

Members were advised on the outcome of further consultation on the revised Single Equality Scheme and provided with an update on equality and diversity matters.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

Cabinet has already endorsed the current approach towards equalities work in the Council.

RESOLVED that:

1. It be noted that the consultation around the Council's Single Equality Scheme has endorsed the overall direction of the work on equality and diversity and that the focus on the identified priority areas be maintained.
2. Any significant implications arising from the approval of Public Sector Duties be reported to a future meeting of Cabinet.

123. REPORTING MINUTES

(a) Joint Employee Council – 21st September 2010

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Employee Council held on 21st September 2010 be received.

124. 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 Paragraph 2 and, therefore, in accordance with Section 100A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting:

Agenda Item No 13(a) – Bassetlaw Museum and Tourist Information Centres Service Review - Paragraph 2

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

125. REPORT(S) OF THE CABINET MEMBER – COMMUNITY PROSPERITY–
COUNCILLOR K H ISARD

(a) Bassetlaw Museum and Tourist Information Centres Service Review

Members' approval was sought for a review of staffing within the Bassetlaw Museum and the two Tourist Information Centres at Worksop and Retford and to start the Council's enabling process with staff and their representatives.

Options, Risks and Reasons for Recommendations

The proposed revisions to the staffing structure were set out in Appendix A of the report. If approved, officers will formally consult with staff and report back to Cabinet in due course.

RESOLVED that:

1. The review of staffing at Bassetlaw Museum and the Tourist Information Centres, as outlined within the report, be approved enabling the formal consultation process with staff and unions to commence.
2. A further report be submitted to Cabinet for final approval to the structure.

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

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