

The Executive – 21 September 2011

Minutes of the meeting of **The Executive** held on **21 September 2011** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr T G Cutmore
Vice Chairman: Cllr K H Hudson

Cllr K J Gordon	Cllr M Maddocks
Cllr Mrs G A Lucas-Gill	Cllr C G Seagers
Cllr Mrs J E McPherson	Cllr M J Steptoe

OFFICERS PRESENT

P Warren	-	Chief Executive
A Bugeja	-	Head of Legal, Estates and Member Services
Y Woodward	-	Head of Finance
J Bourne	-	Head of Community Services
D Connor	-	Commercial Regulation and Licensing Manager
M Howlett	-	Principal Environmental Health Officer
J Bostock	-	Member Services Manager

Also present:

K Jones	-	Consultant, Green Alchemy Ltd (present for the Travel Plan item)
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211 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

212 PERFORMANCE REPORT TO MEMBERS ON KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE PERIOD APRIL TO JUNE 2011

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Finance on progress against the key performance indicators for the first quarter of 2011/12.

It was confirmed that the key targets for the year identified on page 6.3 of the report would be adjusted to reflect the latest position.

Members noted that the Review Committee was considering performance associated with disabled facility grants works. Activity would include analysis of the situation for each grant and consultation with other agencies involved. It was also noted that the County Council was reviewing its occupational therapy service and that the Papworth Trust had replaced Springboard Housing Association in providing home improvement agency services.

Reference was made to the effect of an isolated spate of vandalism in the Hockley area on crime level statistics. Reference was also made to the negligible nature of the number of missed bins as a percentage of overall bin collections.

It was noted that the Civic Suite was included in energy consumption measurements and that there is to be a re-launch of the 'Shop at My Local' scheme.

Resolved

That the progress against key performance indicators for the first quarter of 2011/12 be received subject to noting that:-

- The key targets for the year identified on page 6.3 of the report will be adjusted to reflect the latest position.
- The Review Committee is considering performance associated with disabled facility grants works.
- Crime level statistics have been affected by an isolated spate of vandalism over a period in the Hockley Area.
- As a percentage of overall collections the number of missed bins is negligible (currently 0.03%)
- There is to be a re-launch of the 'Shop at my Local' scheme. (HF)

213 PERFORMANCE REPORT TO MEMBERS ON KEY PROJECTS FOR THE PERIOD APRIL TO JUNE 2011

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Finance on progress against key projects for the first quarter of 2011/12.

It was confirmed that the key targets for the year identified on page 7.3 of the report would be adjusted to reflect the latest position.

Resolved

That the progress against key projects for the first quarter of 2011/12 be received subject to noting that the key targets for the year identified on page 7.3 of the report will be adjusted to reflect the latest position. (HF)

214 VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS 2012/13

Members considered the report of the Chief Executive on a procedure for allocating the voluntary sector grants fund for 2012/13.

It was noted that the associated Advisory Group would comprise the Leader of the Council, the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources, the Leader of the main opposition party and three additional members.

Resolved

- (1) That, subject to noting that the Advisory Group will comprise the Leader of the Council, the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources,

the Leader of the main opposition Party and three additional Members, the procedure set out in the report for allocating the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund be put in place on the basis that it is fair, transparent and compliant with the new Best Value Statutory Guidance.

- (2) That, applications be open to all voluntary groups operating in the District except for the Citizens Advice Bureau and the Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Service who will receive top sliced funding from the same pot based on the previous year's performance in relation to their Service Level Agreements.
- (3) That the specified timeline outlined in the report, which is in line with Best Value Guidance, be followed. (CE)

215 TRAVEL PLAN 2011

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Environmental Services on adopting a Travel Plan 2011.

It was noted that the efficiency of refuse vehicles was an aspect of contract considerations.

Resolved

That the Travel Plan 2011, as appended to the report, be adopted and implemented. (HES)

216 DRAFT AGEING POPULATION STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Members considered the report of the Chief Executive on approving the final version of the Ageing Population Strategy and Action Plan.

Resolved

- (1) That the final version of the Ageing Population Strategy and Action Plan, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.
- (2) That the proposed actions, as set out in appendix 2 of the report, be taken forward. (CE)

217 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN RAYLEIGH TOWN CENTRE

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Environmental Services on approving, in principle, the proposal for an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Rayleigh town centre.

Responding to questions, officers advised that:-

- Repair works undertaken on adjacent roads would not have been substantial enough to influence annual average readings.

- There is close liaison with colleagues in Castle Point Borough Council on findings.
- The proposed Core Strategy includes a policy of no new development within any AQMA.
- Where traffic flows are identified as an issue they can be considered by County Highways.
- AQMA activity within the District was not untypical of that undertaken by other Local Authorities.

Resolved

- (1) That the proposal for an Air Quality Management Area in Rayleigh town centre, in line with the Council's statutory Local Air Quality Management duties, be approved in principle.
- (2) That the Head of Environmental Services be authorised to undertake a public consultation exercise on the extent of the proposed Air Quality Management Area. (HES)

218 OPEN PUBLIC SERVICES WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION

Members considered the report of the Chief Executive on responding to a Government consultation paper in relation to a policy framework for opening up public services for delivery by individuals and neighbourhoods.

Resolved

That the response to the consultation, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, be submitted to the Cabinet Office. (CE)

219 LOCALISING SUPPORT FOR COUNCIL TAX

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Community Services on responding to a Government consultation paper relating to localising support for council tax.

Resolved

That the officer comments on the potential impact of the Government's plans to localise support for Council Tax from April 2013, as outlined in the report, be taken into account by the Portfolio Holder for Council Tax Collection, Benefits and Strategic Housing Functions in responding to the consultation by the deadline date of 14 October 2011. (HCS)

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

220 GREAT WAKERING SPORTS CENTRE UPDATE

The Executive received the exempt report of the Head of Community Services on the current situation with regard to the future of Great Waking Sports Centre.

It was noted that the interested party identified in the report should be in a position to clarify its intentions by the end of the following week. Members would be kept informed.

During discussion it was noted that the County Council had been in contact with officers on the possibility of match funding from the District in relation to proposals for leisure facilities at a primary school site. Further detail on this would be ascertained at a meeting the following week. It was observed that, pending further detail, it would be appropriate to be mindful of the proportionality associated with any match funding proposals.

Resolved

That the content of the exempt report on the situation with regard to the future of Great Waking Sports Centre be noted. (HES)

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Chairman

Date

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