

The Executive – 9 December 2009

Minutes of the meeting of **The Executive** held on **9 December 2009** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr T G Cutmore
Vice Chairman: Cllr Mrs M J Webster

Cllr Mrs L A Butcher
Cllr Mrs T J Capon
Cllr K J Gordon

Cllr K H Hudson
Cllr M G B Starke
Cllr P F A Webster

OFFICERS PRESENT

P Warren - Chief Executive
J Honey - Corporate Director (Internal Services)
G Woolhouse - Corporate Director (External Services)
R Evans - Head of Environmental Services
J Bostock - Committee Services Manager

319 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

320 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs T J Capon declared a personal interest in the item on the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel by virtue of being a Child Care Allowance claimant.

321 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC TO AREA COMMITTEES

The Executive considered the report of the East Area Committee containing a recommendation that Area Committees have a similar facility to that available to Full Council whereby a question can be rejected if it is substantially the same as a question that has been put at a meeting in the past six months.

Members agreed that it would be appropriate for any decision on the application of such a facility to be made by the Area Committee Chairman, in consultation with the Lead Officer. It was observed that it would be useful for copies of previous minutes covering a six month period to be available at Area Committee meetings as they contain the detail of previous questions and answers.

Resolved

That the Chairman, in consultation with the Lead Officer, can reject a question that has been submitted by a member of the public to an Area Committee meeting if it is substantially the same as a question that has been put to a Committee meeting in the past six months. (HICS)

322 MID YEAR REPORT ON PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE PERIOD APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2009

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Finance, Audit and Performance Management on the Council's performance against performance indicators for the first half of 2009/10.

It was noted that the average number of staff identified in the first comment box was higher than the full-time equivalent number of posts by virtue of job share arrangements. It was also noted that the number of working days lost to sickness absence per employee was notably low and thanks were extended to all staff for their contribution to the work of the Council.

Resolved

That the progress against key performance indicators for the first half of 2009/10 be noted. (HFAPM)

323 STRATEGIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Executive considered the report of the Corporate Director (External Services) on progress being made on the implementation of the Council's Strategic Improvement Plan.

It was noted that, whilst there could be some useful expansion/changes to the legend page, the layout of the document was due to be refreshed in the New Year taking account of factors arising from Comprehensive Area Assessment.

Resolved

That the progress being made on the implementation of the Council's Strategic Improvement Plan be noted. (CD(ES))

324 CHERRY ORCHARD JUBILEE COUNTRY PARK ADVISORY GROUP

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Environmental Services on the recommendations of the Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park Advisory Group.

During discussion it was noted that:-

- Usage surveys involving sampling at specific times had demonstrated that the Park was seeing increased usage.
- Discussions were ongoing with regard to temporary car park and access possibilities on land to the east of Cherry Orchard Way.
- Activity was ongoing in respect of the introduction of brown directional signs for vehicular traffic.

Thanks were extended to Cllr K J Gordon for his contributions with regard to consultation on access possibilities.

Resolved

- (1) That capital provision of £120,000 is considered as part of the budget process for inclusion in the Medium Term Financial Strategy in respect of projects within the Cherry Orchard Country Park each year for the next three years.
- (2) That, subject to capital funding being agreed, the indicative programme of works for Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park over the next three years shall comprise:-

<u>2010/11</u>	<u>£000</u>
Grove Woods additional car parking	60
Permissive route for horses and pedestrians through New England Wood to Flemings Farm	45
Arboretum of fruit trees (year 1)	10

<u>2011/12</u>	<u>£000</u>
Service Building, staff and public facilities (Revenue costs of £9,500 p.a.)	140
Arboretum of fruit trees (year 2)	10

<u>2012/13</u>	<u>£000</u>
Construction of wetland	35
Burial of power lines	50
Arboretum of fruit trees (year 3)	10

- (3) That the temporary Woodlands Assistant post created in 2009 be continued, funded from capital, for a period of three years whilst works to create the infrastructure at the Park continue. The establishment of a permanent post to be considered once the Government has announced public spending plans for 2011/12 onwards.
- (4) That the earlier decision to take no action with regard to highway works and car park from Cherry Orchard Way is reaffirmed and that officers investigate opportunities to obtain a short term lease on land to the east of Cherry Orchard that could be used as a temporary car park.
- (5) That, in view of the proposal for a permissive route and bridleway, no further action is taken to restrict access for horses to New England Wood. (HES)

325 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REPORT

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Information and Customer Services on the remuneration scheme for 2010/11 proposed by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Recommended to Council that the Remuneration Scheme for 2010/11 proposed by the Independent Remuneration Panel be adopted. (HICS)

326 CAR PARK EXTENSION – RAWRETH RECREATION FIELD AND BRIDLE PATH EXTENSION – CLEMENTS HALL, HAWKWELL

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Legal and Technical Services on the Rawreth recreation field car park extension and the Clements Hall bridle path extension.

Members were pleased that the schemes had come forward and to note the considerable savings that would be achieved in the context of original budget provision. It would be appropriate for both these District Council projects to be the focus of news releases.

Resolved

That the Rawreth recreation field car park extension be approved at a cost of £7,800 and that the Clements Hall bridle path extension be approved at a cost of £15,200. (HLTS)

327 WYVERN COMMUNITY TRANSPORT TRUST – CHANGE OF APPOINTEE

The Executive considered the report of the Head of Information and Customer Services on the change of appointee to the Wyvern Community Transport Trust.

Recommended to Council that Councillor Mrs H L A Glynn be the Council's appointee to the Wyvern Community Transport Trust for the remainder of the municipal year. (HICS)

The meeting closed at 8.04 pm.

Chairman

Date

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