

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

CABINET

Wednesday, 13th July, 2011

The decisions contained within these minutes may not be implemented until the expiry of the 5 working day call-in period which will run from 15th to 21st Jul. These minutes are draft until confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting.

Present:

Councillor Paul Crossley
Councillor Nathan Hartley

Leader of the Council
Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children and Youth
Cabinet Member for Community Resources
Cabinet Member for Wellbeing
Cabinet Member for Homes and Planning
Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development
Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
Cabinet Member for Transport

Councillor David Bellotti
Councillor Simon Allen
Councillor Tim Ball
Councillor Cherry Beath
Councillor David Dixon
Councillor Roger Symonds

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair was taken by Councillor Paul Crossley, Leader of the Council.
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair drew attention to the evacuation procedure as set out in the Agenda.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Councillor David Dixon declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in Item 14, Price of Primary School Meals, as a parent of children who sometimes eat school meals.

Councillor Cherry Beath declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in item 15, Voluntary Organisation Grants for Museums and Heritage, by virtue of being a past Chair of the Standing Committee of the Charter Trustees of The City of Bath.

5 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was none.

6 QUESTIONS FROM PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS

There were 18 questions from the following people: Councillors: Steve Hedges, Nigel Roberts, Will Sandry, Francine Haerberling, Tim Warren (3), Tony Clarke (2), Vic Pritchard, Sarah Bevan, Patrick Anketell-Jones (2), Charles Gerrish (2), Members of the Public: Rae Harris, Nigel Fenwick, Ian Barclay.

[Copies of the questions and response, including supplementary questions and responses if any, have been placed on the Minute book as Appendix 1 and are available on the Council's website.]

Add QA sheet here

7 STATEMENTS, DEPUTATIONS OR PETITIONS FROM PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS

There were 11 registered statements, some of which were made at the relevant agenda item.

Lin Patterson (Save Our 6/7 Buses Campaign) made a statement *[a copy of which is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 3 and is available on the Council's website]* relating to item 22 on the Agenda, in which she thanked the Cabinet for the allocation of £85K to increase the frequency of the 6/7 Bus Service (Agenda Report 22) but pointed out that the frequencies stated in the report were incorrect.

The Chair referred the statement to Councillor Symonds, and to the Cabinet for consideration at the item.

David Redgewell made a statement relating to items 12 and 17 on the agenda, in which he welcomed some aspects of the proposals but appealing to the Cabinet to consider the need for much improved bus and rail services in the area and to ensure effective independent scrutiny of decisions taken at the regional level.

Councillor Paul Crossley asked David Redgewell if he was aware that the LEP scrutiny panel had been set up and was now operational. David acknowledged this.

The Chair referred the statement to Cabinet for their consideration at item 17.

Amanda Leon (Radstock Action Group) made a statement *[a copy of which is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 4 and is available on the Council's website]* appealing to the Cabinet to reconsider the proposals for the redesign of the roads around Radstock Town Centre.

Councillor Cherry Beath thanked Amanda for her statement and asked whether she was aware that in order to bring forward the regeneration plans wanted by Radstock, it was necessary to introduce a new road system. Amanda noted this but said that the proposals would lead to degeneration, not to regeneration in Radstock. She felt that Frome Road should be straightened.

Councillor Tim Ball asked Amanda whether she was aware that Radstock Town Council was no longer opposing the scheme. Amanda replied that the Town Council had not withdrawn its objections to the scheme, only to an extension of the time allowed for objections to be made.

Councillors Paul Crossley and Cherry Beath agreed to visit Radstock to explore the points made by the speaker.

Pamela Galloway made a statement on behalf of the Warm Water Inclusive Swimming Network, in which she asked the Cabinet to note the support for warm

water swimming evident from the Recreation Ground Trust consultation, from the previous Administration and from the Overview and Scrutiny Panes.

The Chair referred the statement to Councillor David Dixon for his attention.

8 CONSIDERATION OF SINGLE MEMBER ITEMS REQUISITIONED TO CABINET

There were none.

9 CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS REFERRED BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BODIES

There were none.

10 SINGLE MEMBER CABINET DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE PREVIOUS CABINET MEETING

The Cabinet agreed to note the report.

11 EVERY DISABLED CHILD MATTERS

Councillor John Bull made an *ad hoc* statement reminding the Cabinet that the proposals before them were the result of an original initiative from the Labour Group. He was pleased to see progress and thanked officers for their commitment to the issue.

Councillor Francine Haeberling made an *ad hoc* statement welcoming the continuation of what the previous Administration had set in motion.

Councillor Nathan Hartley, in proposing the motion, acknowledged the hard work of ex-Councillor David Spiers and of Councillor Chris Watt for their hard work in reaching this point. He explained that the Charter would work to the benefit of disabled children.

Councillor David Bellotti seconded the motion because it had been a longstanding aim of his to see this adopted. He paid tribute to the hard work done by officers and members to date. He particularly drew attention to Objective 12, which expressed a determination to ensure a smooth transition to adult service provision for disabled young people preparing for adulthood.

On a motion from Councillor Nathan Hartley, seconded by Councillor David Bellotti, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

- (1) To ADOPT the Every Disabled Child Matters Charter on behalf of the Council;
- (2) To AUTHORISE the Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children and Youth to sign the Charter on behalf of the Council.

12 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME REVIEW

Caroline Kay (Chief Executive, Bath Preservation Trust) made a statement [*a copy of which is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 5 and is available on the Council's*

website] welcoming the revised LDS but making some observations, in particular about the need for the specific mention of a building heights strategy.

The Chair referred the statement to Cabinet for their consideration.

David Dunlop (The Bath Society and London Road Residents Association) made a statement in which he reminded the Cabinet that government advice PVS25 requires the Council to address flood risk. On the grounds of flood risk, and for other reasons, he questioned the viability of the proposed Bathampton Park and Ride site, which included a lowering of the site so that it would be more likely to flood.

Councillor Paul Crossley asked David Dunlop by how much the site was to have been lowered under the proposals. David replied that the original proposals showed the site being lowered by 8.8 metres.

Councillor Tim Ball asked David Dunlop how many lorry loads of soil this would be. David replied that it would not be difficult to remove the soil because it could be disposed of at the gasworks site – but the project would bring no discernable improvement to congestion on the London Road.

The Chair referred the statement to Cabinet for their consideration.

Councillor John Bull made an *ad hoc* statement in which he drew attention to paragraph 5.4(e) where the Inspector had expressed concern that the affordable housing needs were not adequately addressed by the original proposals.

Councillor Paul Crossley asked Councillor Bull whether he would agree that it was essential for the Council to insist on 35% affordable housing provision. Councillor Bull readily agreed.

Councillor Les Kew made an *ad hoc* statement in which he expressed the concern that actions being taken by the Cabinet might put the Core Strategy at risk. He felt that Cabinet must address the need for economic growth and a transport network to sustain it.

Councillor Paul Crossley asked whether Councillor Kew would agree that it was essential to get flood protection measures in place to protect western Riverside. Councillor Kew agreed.

Councillor Roger Symonds asked whether Councillor Kew's concern extended to Bathampton Meadows. Councillor Kew agreed that it did.

Councillor Tim Ball, in proposing the motion, emphasised the need to find a way forward which the Inspector could agree with. He felt that this would be achieved by the document being presented for adoption.

Councillor Roger Symonds seconded the motion. He pointed out that the original growth assumption of the Regional Spatial Strategy had been 3% per annum but the new realities of 1.8% growth demanded a less ambitious Local Development Scheme, and that this also applied to the realities of the less ambitious Bath Transport Package. He emphasised that the proposals met all the prescribed criteria listed in paragraph 5.2 of the report.

On a motion from Councillor Tim Ball, seconded by Councillor Roger Symonds, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

- (1) To ADOPT the revised Local Development Scheme 2011 to 2014 for B&NES;
- (2) To RESCHEDULE the Core Strategy examination hearings to enable consideration of the issues raised by the Inspector in his letter dated 3rd June 2011.

13 HOUSING RENEWAL POLICY REVIEW

Councillor Vic Pritchard made an *ad hoc* statement welcoming the policy. He drew attention to the proposal to allow exceptional circumstances awards to be determined by an officer under delegated powers but said that he felt these decisions should be made by the Cabinet member.

Councillor Tim Ball, in proposing the motion, thanked Councillor Pritchard for his support and noted his comment. He said that the policy would come back to Cabinet in one year and that would allow an opportunity for the arrangements to be reconsidered.

Councillor Roger Symonds seconded the motion.

Councillor Simon Allen welcomed the policy and said that it would enable people to remain healthy, independent and safe in their own homes for as long as possible.

On a motion from Councillor Tim Ball, seconded by Councillor Roger Symonds, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

(1) To ADOPT the Home Health and Safety Policy 2011 as the Council's Housing Renewal Policy;

(2) To AGREE that the budget allocations detailed within the policy are applied in conjunction with the policy;

(3) To AGREE that the policy is reviewed in 1 year.

14 PRICE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL MEALS

Councillor Nathan Hartley, in proposing the motion, emphasised the financial pressures on parents at this difficult time and said that the Cabinet wished to alleviate this wherever possible. Despite a recommendation from the Schools Forum that the price should increase by 5p per child per day, the Cabinet had expressed its wish to keep the price the same for another year by funding the shortfall out of contingency. This would cost £31K in a full year.

Councillor Tim Ball seconded the motion. He was delighted for parents and particularly felt this would help large families.

Councillor David Dixon welcomed the proposals, particularly since some families depended on a decent school meal each day.

Councillor David Bellotti asked Councillor Hartley if he would obtain research findings on attainment and attention spans of children who had eaten a good meal at lunch time.

On a motion from Councillor Nathan Hartley, seconded by Councillor Tim Ball, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

(1) To AGREE that the price of a school meal for a pupil in the Council's primary schools will not increase from 1 September 2011 and will stay at £2.00 per meal.

15 VOLUNTARY SECTOR MUSEUMS AND HERITAGE GRANTS 2011-2012

Councillor Cherry Beath, in proposing the motion, said that the previous administration had put in place a very good set of criteria for judging applications. She drew attention to Annex B, Item 10 (Radstock Museum) and said that the funds of up to £4000 were being withheld until such a time as the museum had identified the costs of training for staff, trustees and volunteers following its reorganisation.

Councillor Roger Symonds seconded the motion.

On a motion from Councillor Cherry Beath, seconded by Councillor Roger Symonds, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

(1) To AWARD the following grants for 2011-2012 and for officers to subsequently make a grant of up to £4,000 under delegated authority to Radstock Museum.

Applications received	Request £	Purpose	Recommendation £
Bath & NE Somerset Museums Group	5,000	Co-operative events programme [retained and funded direct by the Service]	5,000
Bath Postal Museum	3,022	Visual display equipment	2,400
Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution	2,000	Exhibition and meeting room plinths	0
Beckford Tower Trust	2,000	'Beckford's Ride' project	2,000
Building of Bath Collection	2,000	World Heritage events programme	1,000
Holburne Museum	4,474	Interpretation project for families and the visually impaired	3,415
Mayor's Honorary Guides	5,000	Walking tours of Bath for residents and visitors	5,000
Museum of Bath at Work	4,000	Two community exhibitions	3,500
No.1 Royal Crescent	1,600	Education and interpretation programme	1,000
Radstock Museum	5,000	Appointment of temporary staff and training for volunteers and trustees	4,000
Somerset & Dorset Railway Heritage Trust	4,000	Purchase of a road-rail vehicle	0
Total:	38,096		27,315

16 VISITOR ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY

Leslie Redwood (Co-Chairman, Bath Independent Guest Houses Association), made a statement [a copy of which is attached as Appendix 6 to these minutes and is

available on the Council's website] in which he emphasised that a violent explosion in growth in visitor accommodation would only have short term benefits for developers and shareholders outside of Bath, and would be to the long term detriment of the city. So he welcomed the proposed policy, which he said had very wide support across the city.

David Greenwood (ex Chairman, Bath Independent Guest Houses Association), made a statement [*a copy of which is attached as Appendix 7 to these minutes and is available on the Council's website*] in which he asked the Cabinet to adopt the Visitor Accommodation Strategy into the local planning guidelines, thus guiding developers and planners with an evidence based framework which he felt would highlight the opportunities for balanced growth.

Councillor Eleanor Jackson observed that the survey was focussed almost entirely on the city of Bath. She felt that the tourist economy of north east Somerset deserved equal attention.

Councillor Les Kew observed that even though the strategy had not been official policy, it had for a long time been taken into consideration when applications had been considered by the Planning Committee.

Mary Lynch (Chair, Bath Tourism Plus), made an *ad hoc* statement reminding the Cabinet of the need to reconcile all of the tensions so as to make Bath very attractive for business. She felt that the proposed strategy would provide a consistent message.

Councillor Tim Ball, in proposing the motion, reminded Councillor Eleanor Jackson that the strategy was a B&NES wide strategy. He felt that there was room in the area for a mix of different kinds of hotel. He shared the regret expressed by others that the strategy had not been adopted a number of years before when it had been prepared.

Councillor Roger Symonds seconded the motion. He emphasised the need for a clear vision for the future and stressed the need to avoid an inappropriate level of stag and hen parties. He was keen to see small hotels in the Radstock area succeed.

On a motion from Councillor Tim Ball, seconded by Councillor Roger Symonds, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

- (1) To PUBLISH the Visitor Accommodation Strategy for consultation; and
- (2) To ASK the Divisional Director Tourism Leisure and Culture to arrange that the results of the public consultation, along with any suggested amendments arising, are reported to a future Cabinet meeting, with options for adoption as Council Policy.

17 BATH TRANSPORT PACKAGE

Peter Davis made a statement [*a copy of which is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 8 and is available on the Council's website*] welcoming the removal from the Package of the Rapid Transport and the A4 P&R proposals.

Major Tony Crombie (The Bath Society) made a statement welcoming the removal of Bathampton Meadows Park and Ride from the proposals.

Councillor John Bull made an *ad hoc* statement welcoming the removal of the rapid transport proposals and the Bathampton Park and Ride proposals. However, he was bemused that the total Council contribution had not reduced.

Councillor Tim Warren made an *ad hoc* statement pointing out that there had been no new alternatives put forward by Cabinet. He felt that the new scheme lacked substance.

David Dunlop made an *ad hoc* statement emphasising that a Park and Ride in Batheaston would not reduce congestion on the London Road because “suppressed demand” would take up the slack. He encouraged the Cabinet to consider rail options.

Councillor Roger Symonds, in proposing the motion, referred to the amended recommendations which he wished to move [*copies of which had been placed in the public gallery and are attached to these Minutes as Appendix 2*]. The update document also contained details of the Financial Implications of the new proposals. He said that the previous plans had not attracted government funding and so it had been necessary to put together a realistic bid for government funding in the short time since the local elections. Only 6 weeks still remained before the final submission had to be made to government. He agreed with others that the bus provision should be much better, and promised to improve the Council’s relationship with First Bus so as to have greater influence in their commercial decisions. He also emphasised that there was tremendous demand for rail transport but to capitalise on this it would be essential for trains to stop at stations such as Keynsham.

Councillor Symonds referred to clauses 2.15 to 2.21 of the amended recommendations and said that officers would work with the Cabinet to look at these in the time remaining until September when the application would be finalised.

Councillor Paul Crossley seconded the motion. He said that the previous administration’s policy had been designed when money was no object but the new financial realities meant that it was necessary to give careful consideration to priorities and value for money.

Councillor David Bellotti said that it was important to pause for thought about the financial implications. £7M had already been spent by the previous administration and it was essential to get some value for that money. He acknowledged the point made by Councillor Bull about the Council’s contribution being the same, for a smaller package, but said that made it all the more important to get good value. It still remained to persuade the Minister to fund the scheme.

On a motion from Councillor Roger Symonds, seconded by Councillor Paul Crossley, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

(1) To AGREE and RECOMMEND to Council that the following elements of the BTP should not be included in the Best & Final Bid to DfT:

- The Bus Rapid Transit Segregated Route.
- The A36 Lower Bristol Road Bus Lane.
- The A4 London Road Lambridge Bus Lane.
- New A4 Eastern P&R (1400 spaces), plus bus lane priority on the A4/A46 slip road.
- And in addition reduce the size of the P&R expansion at Newbridge.

(2) To AGREE that as a result the BTP would comprise of the following elements:

- Upgrades to bus stop infrastructure on 9 service routes, including real time passenger information.
- Expansion of Odd Down P&R by 250 spaces, of Lansdown P&R by 390 spaces and of Newbridge P&R by 250 spaces on the proposed site or a suitable alternative.
- Variable Message signs on the main approaches to Bath, and within the city centre.
- City centre works: High Street improvements and timed access restrictions (currently ongoing).
- Works to support BWR including a bus rapid transit system serving the site.

(3) To AGREE as a result of the above to formally withdraw the CPOs agreed at its meeting on 3rd September 2008 and subsequently served to allow for the implementation of the BTP.

(4) To AGREE and RECOMMEND to Full Council that the Council contribution towards the BTP would be no more £17.8m as set out in the updated Financial Implications. The schemes costs as recommended in this report have been reduced from £58.8m to £34.3m.

(5) To AGREE and RECOMMEND to Full Council that the final submission to DfT be approved by the Strategic Director Service Delivery and Chief Executive in consultation with the portfolio holder, the S151 officer and monitoring officer, and with a report back to Cabinet only if necessary notably if there is a material change in the financial costs or scope of the scheme which go beyond the parameters set out in this report.

(6) To RECOMMEND to Full Council additional borrowing of £3M to fully finance the costs of the Council contribution of up to £17.8M with an additional annual revenue cost of approximately £190K which will need to be included in revenue budgets for future years following completion of the scheme.

(7) To NOTE the revenue reversion risk as set out in the report and the potential need to fund the costs of project work on aspects of the scheme which are no longer going ahead from reserves with the appropriate financing to be dealt with in a later report to Cabinet and Council as appropriate and if the need arises.

(8) To AGREE and RECOMMEND to Full Council to instruct officers to:

- work on alternatives to Bathampton Meadows P&R, possibly involving rail, as part of our future Transport Strategy
- work with the Highways Agency to improve signage on the A46 to direct more traffic to an extended Lansdown Park and Ride
- talk to Wiltshire Council about measures to remove some of the through traffic along the London Road and other cross border transport issues
- evaluate measures to remove HGVs from London Road - this 10% of traffic creates 40% of the pollution
- examine how we can obtain substantial "modal shift" from the private car to rail in recognition of potential for rail expansion with the electrification of the GWR and the awarding of an extended rail franchise

- evaluate options to address the problems caused by a lack of affordable home to school transport
- consider measures to make the whole area much more cycle friendly - we have already secured Govt funding through the Regional Sustainable Transport Fund to link Batheaston to NCR 4 on the canal towpath, thereby taking many cyclists off the London Road and encouraging others to get out of their cars and cycle into Bath.

18 WEST OF ENGLAND PARTNERSHIP TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS TO A LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Paul Crossley, in proposing the motion, reported that the Cabinet was talking to the Local Enterprise Partnership to see if they could help to set up business forums in Keynsham and Bath.

Councillor David Bellotti seconded the motion.

On a motion from Councillor Paul Crossley, seconded by Councillor David Bellotti, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

- (1) To AGREE that Bath & North East Somerset shall become a member of the “West of England Local Enterprise Partnership Limited” being a Company Limited by Guarantee;
- (2) To APPOINT the Leader of the Council as the Council’s Director of the above company;
- (3) To AUTHORISE the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to conclude all necessary documentation, including signing the Articles of Association, and to take all necessary steps to effect these objectives.

19 FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF BATH CITY LIAISON FORUM

David Dunlop (London Road Residents Association) made an *ad hoc* statement in which he pointed out that the lack of support for some meetings was caused by late notice for meetings. He appealed to the Cabinet to plan and advertise dates well in advance to maximise involvement.

David Redgewell underlined what David Dunlop had said and observed that the Council was still not reaching the hard-to-reach groups.

Councillor Paul Crossley introduced the report and proposed the recommendations. He agreed that it would be essential to move towards planned, scheduled meetings and that the involvement must extend beyond residents associations. He called for more task and finish ideas to make the forum more successful.

Councillor David Dixon seconded the motion and pointed out that the Street Cleansing Equipment decision, which had been signed off that very day, had arisen out of the task and finish group from the forum.

Councillor Roger Symonds wished to emphasise that what was needed was the involvement of interest groups such as Women’s Institute, Townswomen’s Guild etc.

Councillor Tim Ball said that in order to involve the harder-to-reach communities, it would be essential to have concrete proposals to discuss so that the forum did not become merely a talking shop.

Councillor Crossley agreed to make the point about interest groups to the officers, so that it could be built in as the arrangements were developed.

On a motion from Councillor Paul Crossley, seconded by Councillor David Dixon, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

(1) To ADOPT the approach to the future development of the Bath City Liaison Forum as set out in the report;

(2) To ESTABLISH an Interim Steering Group with the membership as set out in the report;

(3) To REQUEST the Interim Steering Group to prepare detailed Terms of Reference, membership and working arrangements to be agreed by the Leader of Council and presented for approval to the first meeting of the revised Forum.

20 TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2010/11

Councillor Charles Gerrish in an *ad hoc* statement said that with world markets in such a state of flux, the Council must be very cautious in its financial management. He asked whether the debt figures included the Council's share of the ex-Avon debt.

Councillor David Bellotti proposed the motion. In response to Councillor Gerrish's question, he observed that under the previous administration the Council had borrowed £90M on top of the ex-Avon debt.

Councillor Paul Crossley seconded the motion.

On a motion from Councillor David Bellotti, seconded by Councillor Paul Crossley, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

(1) To NOTE the 2010/11 Treasury Management Annual Report to 31st March 2011, prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Code of Practice;

(2) To NOTE the 2010/11 actual Treasury Management Indicators.

21 REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN 2010/11

On a motion from Councillor David Bellotti, seconded by Councillor Paul Crossley, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

(1) To NOTE the provisional revenue budget outturn for 2010/11;

(2) To APPROVE the revenue carry forward proposals and write-off requests as exceptions to the Budget Management Scheme;

(3) To INCREASE the revenue Budget Contingency by £65k;

(4) To APPROVE the revenue virements for 2010/11 and 2011/12;

(5) To NOTE the resulting reserves position and that unearmarked reserves remain at the target level of £10.5m;

- (6) To NOTE the provisional outturn of the 2010/11 capital programme and the funding laid out in the table in Appendix 1 Paragraph 1.24 of the report;
- (7) To APPROVE the capital rephasing and write-off of net underspends;
- (8) To APPROVE the capital programme 2011/12 items;
- (9) To NOTE the adjustments to the 2010/11 to 2015/16 capital programme and the final capital programme for 2010/11.

22 REVENUE BUDGET CONTINGENCY 2011/12 - ALLOCATION OF FUNDING

Councillor Charles Gerrish made an *ad hoc* statement pointing out that the allocation of £2500 to locally important buildings list SPD appeared to conflict with the response given by Councillor Tim Ball to question 19. The Chair referred this statement to Councillor Tim Ball to respond during the debate.

Councillor Eleanor Jackson in an *ad hoc* statement referred to the allocation of £50K for redundant toilets and asked whether the 3 locations included Radstock Victoria Square.

Councillor David Bellotti, in proposing the motion, pointed out that this item had been added to the agenda under the Council's General Urgency (Rule 15), so it had not appeared in the Executive forward Plan and it would not be subject to Call-in. He expressed his sadness that the Council appeared to leave redundant toilets in mothballs to disintegrate slowly and he assured Councillor Jackson that the Radstock toilet would be included in the list of those to be secured and maintained.

Councillor Bellotti pointed out the funding which had been allocated for the internet café in Paulton and said he was particularly pleased about this.

Councillor David Dixon seconded the motion.

Councillor Roger Symonds responded to the comments made earlier about the regularity of the 6/7 bus service and agreed that the wording had been confusing. He acknowledged that funding had still to be found for subsequent years. He was delighted to welcome the Frome/Radstock rail link feasibility study.

Councillor Tim Ball responded to Councillor Charles Gerrish's observation about the important buildings SPD by saying that it was the intention to complete the SPD but that the urgency of the MOD site work had prevented officer time from being spent on it.

Councillor Nathan Hartley expressed his delight at the allocation of £20K for Peasedown Youth Arts Room.

On a motion from Councillor David Bellotti, seconded by Councillor David Dixon, it was

RESOLVED (unanimously):

- (1) To NOTE the report.

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm

Chair _____

Date Confirmed and Signed _____

Prepared by Democratic Services