

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 9th September 2010

PRESENT: Councillors: Simon Allen, Sharon Ball, Tim Ball, Colin Barrett, Cherry Beath, David Bellotti, Sarah Bevan, Loraine Morgan-Brinkhurst, Marie Longstaff, John Bull, Bryan Chalker, Anthony Clarke, Victor Clarke, Nicholas Coombes, Chris Cray, Paul Crossley, Sally Davis, Douglas Deacon, Ian Dewey, Terry Gazzard, Charles Gerrish, Ian Gilchrist, Francine Haerberling, Alan Hale, Malcolm Hanney, Nathan Hartley, David Hawkins, Steve Hedges, Lynda Hedges, Adrian Inker, Eleanor Jackson, Malcolm Lees, Richard Maybury, Barry Macrae, Shaun McGall, Marian McNeir, Carol Paradise, Vic Pritchard, Caroline Roberts, Brian Simmons, David Speirs, Shirley Steel, Martin Veal, Tim Warren, Chris Watt, Brian Webber, Brook Whelan, John Whittock, Stephen Willcox and Gordon Wood

Apologies for absence: Councillors Rob Appleyard, Gabriel Batt, Neil Butters, Gerry Curran, Colin Darracott, David Dixon, Armand Edwards, Peter Edwards, Andrew Furse, Les Kew, Bryan Organ, Nigel Roberts, Dine Romero, Will Sandry and Roger Symonds

19 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chairman drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out on the Agenda.

20 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on Thursday 13th May 2010 and the special meeting held on 22nd July 2010 be each confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Malcolm Hanney declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in the Corporate Audit Committee Annual Report (minute 24) as Chair of Bath and North East Somerset NHS Trust.

22 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OR FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chairman:

- (1) Welcomed Councillor Simon Allen elected to represent the Radstock Ward at a by-election on 22nd July 2010 who was attending the Full Council Meeting for the first time.
- (2) Invited all Councillors to attend the Annual Civic Service to be held on Sunday 10th October at 3pm at St John's Parish Church, Peasedown St John followed by refreshments to be provided by the vicar and congregation of the church.
- (3) Informed Councillors that, in the absence of the Vice-Chairman, she had invited the Past Chairman Councillor Bryan Chalker to assist her with the speaker's list for the meeting.

- (4) .Referred to the agenda item timings agreed with the Group Leaders and asked for the co-operation of all Councillors to keep contributions to debate brief and relevant and not to repeat what had already been said.
- (5) Indicated that she proposed to waive Council Rule 37 so as not to permit Councillors seconding motions or amendments being able to reserve their right to speak until later in the debate, but to require all seconders, if they wished to speak, to do so when they seconded the motion or amendment. The Council indicated its agreement.
- (6) Reminded all Councillors that the next meeting of the Council would be held on Tuesday 16th November 2010 (not Thursday 18th November as previously scheduled).
- (7) Informed Council that she she did not propose to announce a comfort break unless the meeting continued beyond 9pm.

23 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR(PERSON)

There were no items of urgent business for this meeting.

24 PETITIONS, STATEMENTS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were four statements from members of the public as indicated below. Copies of the statements provided by the speakers which were circulated at the meeting are held on file in the minute book and published on the Council's website with these draft minutes.

(A) Mr David Martin made a statement in support of a petition signed by 87 local residents urging the Council to establish suitable traffic management measures preferably including a pedestrian crossing on the A36 Warminster Road, Bath to enable parents and children to cross the road safely to Bathwick St Mary Primary School in Darlington Road.

Mr Martin was thanked for his statement which along with the petition was referred for consideration and response to the Cabinet Member for Customer Services.

(B) Mrs Claire White made a statement in support of the above petition and she also urged the Council to establish suitable traffic management measures including a permanent pedestrian crossing and clear signage on the A36 Warminster Road, Bath to enable parents and children to cross the road safely to Bathwick St Mary Primary School. In response to a question from Councillor Eleanor Jackson, Mrs White said that there was not a 20mph speed limit on that stretch of road and she believed that there ought to be one at school opening and closing times but she also wished Councillors to know that the speed of the traffic was a problem for pedestrians crossing the road at any time of the day.

Mrs White was thanked for her statement which was referred for consideration and response to the Cabinet Member for Customer Services.

(C) Ms Lin Patterson made a statement urging the Council to make sufficient funding available to enable the Cabinet Member for Customer Services to negotiate with First Group bus company to avoid the reductions being implemented to the 6 and 7 bus routes serving Fairfield Park and Larkhall, Bath.

Ms Patterson was thanked for her statement which was referred for consideration and response to the Cabinet Member for Customer Services.

(D) Mr David Redgewell made a statement on behalf of South West Transport Network about reductions in bus and rail services in the Greater Bristol and West Wiltshire area, passenger representation in decision-making and transportation planning in the new Local Enterprise Partnerships proposed by central government. In response to a question from Councillor Eleanor Jackson, Mr Redgewell said that the Government was proposing to change passenger transport representation to a more customer focused framework so he believed that the Council should re-establish the public transport users consultative group which had previously existed.

Mr Redgewell was thanked for his statement, the transport aspects of which were referred for consideration and response to the Cabinet Member for Customer Services and the local enterprise partnership aspects to the Leader of the Council.

25 YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2010 - 2011 (REPORT 8)

The Council considered a report on the annual Youth Justice Plan which outlined the work planned to prevent youth offending and re-offending in Bath and North East Somerset and noted that the report, following approval by the Council, would be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales.

On a motion from Councillor Chris Watt seconded by Councillor Vic Pritchard it was **RESOLVED** that the Council:

- (1) Agrees that the Youth Justice Plan fulfils the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- (2) Approves the Youth Justice Plan as part of the Council's Policy and Budget Framework.
- (3) Asks the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel once again to monitor progress on the Plan in 6 months' time and participate in the establishment of future priorities.

(Note: 1. The above resolution was carried unanimously with none of the Councillors present voting against or abstaining from voting.)

26 TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2009 - 2010 (REPORT 9)

The Council considered a report on the outturn performance on the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Plan for 2009/10 which, according to the 2009 edition of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services, the Council was required to consider mid-way through the following financial year.

On a motion from Councillor Malcolm Hanney seconded by Councillor Chris Cray it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (1) The 2009/10 Treasury Management Annual Report to 31st March 2010, prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Code of Practice, be noted.
- (2) The 2009/10 actual Treasury Management Indicators be noted.

(Note: 1. The above resolution was carried unanimously with none of the Councillors present voting against or abstaining from voting.)

27 YOUTH TRAVEL CARD (REPORT 10)

The Council considered a report on the outcome of the request it had made in September 2009 to examine the options to introduce a pilot scheme for concessionary travel for young people which concluded that, because of the current financial pressures, a scheme should not be progressed for the time being.

On a motion from Councillor Charles Gerrish seconded by Councillor Terry Gazzard it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) A youth travel concession scheme, as outlined in option 2 in the report, should be considered with full financial information during the Council's service and resource planning process for the 2011/12 budget.

*(Note: 1. The above resolution was carried by a majority with none of the Councillors present voting against and two Councillors abstaining from voting.
2. An amendment was moved by Councillor Nathan Hartley, which was accepted by Councillors Gerrish and Gazzard as the mover and seconder of the original motion, to insert the words in paragraph (2) above in place of the recommendation in the report not to progress a youth travel card scheme for the time being.)*

28 AVON PENSION FUND COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT (REPORT 11).

The Council considered a report on the work of the Avon Pension Fund Committee during the past twelve months together with an indication of its future work programme.

During the debate on this item Councillor Charles Gerrish requested the Pension Committee to consider investing in a local renewable energy scheme as a way of making a significant contribution to the local economy which would also be a good investment for the Pension Fund.

On a motion from Councillor Gordon Wood seconded by Councillor David Bellotti it was **RESOLVED** that the Council receives and notes the Annual Report of the Avon Pension Fund Committee.

29 CORPORATE AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT (Report 16).

The Council considered a report on work of the Corporate Audit Committee during the past twelve months.

On a motion from Councillor Tim Ball seconded by Councillor Brian Webber it was **RESOLVED** that the Council receives and notes the Annual Report of the Corporate Audit Committee.

30 PETITIONS, STATEMENTS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

There were six questions from Members of the Council as listed in the Appendix to these minutes. The questions asked and answers circulated at the meeting are held on file in the minute book and published on the Council's website.

The meeting ended at 7.35pm

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services