



Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester,
Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Wednesday, 7 September 2016.

Present:

Robert Gould (Chairman)
Robin Cook, Deborah Croney and Jill Haynes.

Members Attending:

Andrew Cattaway, as Chairman of the Council under Standing Order 54
Daryl Turner, County Councillor for Marshwood Vale
Peter Wharf, County Councillor for Egdon Heath

Officers Attending:

Debbie Ward (Chief Executive), Harry Capron (Head of Adult Care), Jonathan Mair (Monitoring Officer), Jim McManus (Chief Accountant), Matthew Piles (Service Director - Economy), Sara Tough (Director for Children's Services) and Lee Gallagher (Democratic Services Manager).

For certain items, as appropriate:

Karen Andrews (Group Manager - Corporate Development) and Kate Tunks (Transport Planning Team Leader).

- (Notes:(1) In accordance with Rule 16(b) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules the decisions set out in these minutes will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five working days after the publication date.
Publication Date: **Tuesday, 13 September 2016.**
- (2) These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Cabinet to be held on **Wednesday, 28 September 2016.**)

Apologies for Absence

116 Apologies for absence were received from Peter Finney, Colin Jamieson, Rebecca Knox, Richard Bates (Chief Financial Officer), Mike Harries (Director for Environment and the Economy), Helen Coombes (Interim Director for Adult and Community Services) and Nicky Cleave (Assistant Director for Public Health). Jim McManus (Chief Accountant) attended for Richard Bates, Matthew Piles (Service Director – Economy) attended for Mike Harries, and Harry Capron (Head of Adult Care) attended for Helen Coombes.

Code of Conduct

117 There were no declarations by members of disclosable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

Minutes

118 The minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2016 were confirmed and signed.

Cllr Haynes expressed dissatisfaction that a comment she had made and had asked to be minuted in relation to minute 106 (Syrian Refugee Crisis – Dorset Response) in relation to hate crime and xenophobia not being tolerated in Dorset had not been included in the minutes. She asked that in future any specific requests for comments to be recorded should be reflected in minutes.

Public Participation119 Public Speaking

There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting in accordance with the County Council's Petition Scheme.

Cabinet Forward Plan

120 The Cabinet considered the draft Forward Plan, which identified key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet on or after the next meeting.

It was felt that the content of the Plan had improved in recent months with more items, detail and accountability and provided a clear steer to the public, members and committees regarding what was scheduled to be considered by the Cabinet.

Panels and Boards

121 The Cabinet considered the following minutes from panels and boards.

Tricuro Executive Shareholder Group - 24 June 2016

121a Noted

Budget Strategy Task and Finish Group - 14 July 2016

121b The Leader presented the minutes of the Budget Strategy Task and Finish Group and summarised the work undertaken by the Group in the build up to the autumn budget setting process. He highlighted the importance of the Group as a forum for engagement with members and to look in detail at significant financial pressures including the localisation of business rates, savings within the Forward Together Programme, and the Dorset Waste Partnership.

It was noted that not many suggestions had been forthcoming from members for further savings. However, the Cabinet felt that engagement must continue to keep members informed and to provide the opportunity for further suggestions to be made.

The Cabinet recognised that savings suggested by staff outside of the major projects in the Forward Together Programme were applied by managers through service development and did not await approval through bureaucratic process which kept up momentum within the Programme.

Noted**Dorset Police and Crime Panel - 10 June 2016**

121c Noted

Forward Together Update

122 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Organisational Development and Transformation on the progress of the Forward Together Programme and a common theme based on intervention and outcomes. The report also provided an overview of £7M savings progressed to date, and £3M of savings still required within the current financial year.

Members discussed the progress of the Children's Services, Adult and Community Services and Social Bond workstreams. Detailed summaries of progress in Children's Services (Children's Care and Protection Teams, plans for a pan-Dorset

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, partnership zones) and Adult and Community Services (Accord review, multi-agency working, and Sustainability and Transformation Plans) were provided. Given the amount of work being undertaken in each area, it was confirmed that the Forward Together Programme was reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it was fit for purpose.

In relation to working with agencies and with partners, it was suggested that Cabinet members met outside of the meeting to consider how to show the progress and ambition of joint working and engagement with organisations publicly as it had a significant impact on the shape of services for the future.

Resolved

1. That the progress of the Forward Together Programme be noted.
2. That an informal meeting of Cabinet members be held to consider joint working and engagement with organisations.

Reason for decisions

To ensure the Forward Together programme was fully implemented to secure both the organisational benefits and financial savings necessary to deliver a balanced budget.

Post Ofsted Progress

- 123 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing and Children's Safeguarding on the outcomes of the Dorset's Ofsted inspection which took place in February and March 2016, together with an Action Plan.

Cllr Croney, as the Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills, introduced the report and explained the actions that had been taken since the inspection from the clearly defined list of objectives, which included the provision of a joint case management system with Adult and Community Services, workshops for members and officers, introduction of outcomes based accountability for the Corporate Parenting Board, and a workshop and engagement with Dorset Kidz. The Director for Children's Services highlighted that all recommendations of the inspection were already areas identified within existing plans for improvement and included in the Forward Together for Children's Services programme. It was also noted that Ofsted would continue to monitor progress against the actions, but were happy with progress so far.

Resolved

That the progress made since the Ofsted report be supported.

Reason for Decision

There was a requirement for an action plan post Ofsted inspections to implement the recommendations from the report.

Poole Local Plan Review - Issues and Options Consultation August 2016

- 124 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth in relation to a consultation on the Local Plan Review by the Borough of Poole which would look to guide development until 2033. The response from the County Council related specifically to the potential impact on transport, education and mineral extraction. It was also noted that local members had been consulted on the review.

Members welcomed the joint working approach with the Borough of Poole so that the cumulative impact on all local councils could be considered in the Local Plan as much of the development could affect services in Dorset, and they also welcomed the new Strategic Planning Forum as a helpful means of authorities being able to liaise over planning related matters.

Cllr Cook, as the local member for Minster, highlighted the impact on the Wimborne

area as the East Dorset Core Strategy provided for 1200 new homes in the area, and there were also plans in northern Poole for housing development, all of which would have a significant impact on transport and education and required a joint strategic approach.

The Cabinet supported the need for master planning to be used as a tool to engage with all partners (including developers) to achieve positive outcomes and take account of the cumulative effect across communities and would allay a number of common concerns raised by communities and residents regarding proposed developments at an early stage. In relation to Highways England, it was reported that officers were fully engaged with the agency, and that the work undertaken linked with the aims of the Local Enterprise Partnership which would seek to ensure an integrated masterplan. Members acknowledged that updates on progress with Highways England could be requested outside of the meeting.

Cllr Wharf addressed the meeting as the local member for Egdon Heath and the Chairman of the Planning Committee at Purbeck District Council. He expressed concern that any unmet need in the border towns of Poole depended on Dorset towns and Upton was a particular area that was depended upon. He also expressed reservations about the masterplan process and urged representation from all areas to be involved as there may be differing views depending on the needs of localities.

Resolved

1. That the review of the Poole Core Strategy be noted.
2. That, subject to comments outlined in the minute above, the report as the response to Poole Council's consultation be ratified.
3. That delegated authority be granted to the Service Director - Economy, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth, the determination of the final wording of the response.

Reason for Decisions

To ensure that the interests of the County Council as set out in the Corporate Plan (in particular the aim to enable economic growth) were reflected in the Local Plan.

Partial Review of Purbeck Local Plan & Purbeck and North Dorset Community Infrastructure Levy - Consultations August 2016

125 The Cabinet considered a report by the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth in relation to consultations on the Partial Review of the Purbeck Local Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy arrangements for both Purbeck and North Dorset. The response from the County Council related specifically to the potential impact on transport, education and mineral extraction. It was also noted that local members had been consulted on the review.

It was recognised that in relation to the Partial Review of the Purbeck Local Plan, the Wool bypass had been identified as no longer deliverable and the funding raised by Purbeck District Council as part of mitigation measures could potentially be used to fund transport infrastructure improvements in the area, but this was a decision for the District Council. Improvements were needed given planned development of 1000 houses and links with the enterprise zone in the local area. Cllr Wharf, as the local member for Egdon Heath, Chairman of the Planning Committee and Partial Review Group at Purbeck District Council, indicated that the Parish Council's view regarding the bypass had changed recently due to the impact of signal changes made by Network Rail at the rail crossing and that the local council needed to be fully informed of the County Council's view that it was undeliverable. Officers confirmed that there had been close working with the local council, that the evolution of the local plan would include engagement with communities to ensure that they could highlight outcomes that they wished to be included which would feed into the strategic way forward to 2033, and that a strategic review was underway regarding the rail route

which would seek improvements for the crossing.

Cllr Wharf commended the close working of officers across councils but asked for more information regarding the impact of developments on transport routes as there was rarely an objection from the County Council in relation to this issue. He asked for general information about the limits of traffic usage that would raise objection in planning terms.

In respect of the Community Infrastructure Levy arrangements for North Dorset, members discussed the impact of a lower levy for the area, especially in the light of proposals regarding unitary authorities and that there may be a need at some point to equalise the levies across the whole of Dorset. Cllr Croney, as the former Leader of North Dorset District Council and Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills, clarified the need for the levy to link to infrastructure need and not to become a barrier to development.

Members highlighted the need for a joined up strategic planning approach, and master planning as it was much easier to deal with issues and identify improvements on a larger scale, but local communities had to be engaged in the process.

Resolved

1. That the consultations from Purbeck and North Dorset District Councils on the Core Strategy and CIL reviews be noted.
2. That, subject to any comments made in the minute above, Appendix A and B as the County Council's response to the consultations be ratified.
3. That delegated authority be granted to the Service Director - Economy, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Growth, to agree the final wording of the response.
4. That the longstanding proposal for a bypass for Wool be formally abandoned on the basis that alternative transport solutions will be developed to mitigate delays at the Railway crossing commensurate with development.

Reason for Decisions

To ensure that the interests of the County Council as set out in the Corporate Plan (in particular the aim to enable economic growth) were reflected in the Partial Review of the Purbeck Local Plan.

Questions from County Councillors

126 No questions were received from members under Standing Order 20(2).

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 11.05 am