

CABINET4 AUGUST 2010Present:-41.. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Watling.

42. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MENTIONED MINUTES

The minutes of the public meeting of the Cabinet held on 7 July 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

43. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE LEADER

(1) Roy Coulter and Roger Stewart

The Executive Leader reported that this was the first meeting of the Cabinet since Roy Coulter, Deputy Chief Executive and Roger Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive had retired. He paid tribute to their service to the Council and extended his best wishes to them both for long and happy retirements.

Cabinet Reshuffle

The Executive Leader welcomed Councillor N W Turner to this his first meeting of the Cabinet since he had been appointed as Technical Services Portfolio Holder.

The Executive Leader also reported that he had appointed Councillor Candy as the Community, Partnerships and Renewal Portfolio Holder and that he had appointed Councillor G V Guglielmi as the Planning Portfolio Holder.

44. CABINET MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

The former Technical Services Portfolio Holder (Councillor G U Guglielmi) reported on a meeting in connection with the draft connection with the draft Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan which he had attended with the Environment Agency on 20 July 2010.

As a result of the consultation on the Plan a number of proposals had been changed including that the area around the Holland Haven Sewage Treatment Works would be protected for the next 100 years.

45. GRANTS TO THEATRES

It was reported that at the meeting of the Council held on 1 July 2010 the following motion had been moved by Councillor Payne and seconded by Councillor P J Oxley and, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.4, stood referred to the Cabinet for consideration and report:-

“That this Council immediately releases from the relevant agreed budget for this year £50,000 to the Westcliff Theatre, Clacton and £20,000 to the Electric Palace, Harwich. And that the theatres in Manningtree and Frinton are approached to see if the remaining £10,000 can be utilised to aid them in improving the arts in their towns.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Lines attended the meeting and explained the motion on behalf of Councillor Payne.

To ensure that this matter is properly considered:-

It was moved by Councillor Halliday, seconded by Councillor Candy and:-

RESOLVED - That the proprietors of the Theatres referred to in the motion be requested to identify the extent to which the grants proposed in the motion can demonstrably contribute to the achievement of the Council's corporate priorities and that a report setting out their responses be brought before Cabinet when the Council's medium term financial position is clear so that the motion can be considered in the context of the Council's overall financial position.

46. REDEVELOPMENT OF FRINTON AND WALTON SWIMMING POOL, DOVERCOURT SWIMMING POOL AND HARWICH SPORTS HALL

It was reported that at the meeting of the Council held on 1 July 2010 the following motion had been moved by Councillor D Oxley and seconded by Councillor P J Oxley and, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.4, stood referred to the Cabinet for consideration and report:-

"In accordance with the budget meeting in February 2010 this Council instructs officers to immediately proceed with the redevelopment of Frinton and Walton Swimming Pool, Dovercourt Swimming Pool and Harwich Sports Hall without delay."

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Lines attended the meeting and explained the motion on behalf of Councillor D Oxley.

To ensure that this matter is properly considered:-

It was moved by Councillor Halliday, seconded by Councillor S S Mayzes and:-

RESOLVED - That a report be prepared setting out the business cases for the proposed redevelopments including the extent to which they would contribute to the achievement of the Council's corporate priorities and that the report be brought before Cabinet when the

Council's medium term financial position is clear so that the motion can be considered in the context of the Council's overall financial position.

47. FREE SWIMMING PROGRAMME

It was reported that at the meeting of the Council held on 1 July 2010 the following motion had been moved by Councillor P J Oxley and seconded by Councillor Calver and, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.4, stood referred to the Cabinet for consideration and report:-

"Council regrets the decision by the Government to abandon Free Swimming for the under 16's and over 60's from today (1st July). Council instructs officers to maintain the free swimming programme with funding from the Service Improvement Budget."

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Lines attended the meeting and explained the motion on behalf of Councillor P J Oxley.

To ensure that this matter is properly considered:-

It was moved by Councillor Halliday, seconded by Councillor S S Mayzes and:-

RESOLVED - That a report be prepared setting out the extent to which the continuation of free swimming for 16s and under and 60s and over can demonstrably contribute to the achievement of the Council's corporate priorities and that the report be brought before Cabinet when the Council's medium term financial position is clear so that the motion can be considered in the context of the Council's overall financial position.

48. REVIEW OF THE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Cabinet had before them a report which included the comments of the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee following its consideration of the item "Review of the Citizens Advice Bureau".

Having considered the comments of the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee and to ensure that proper arrangements are in place between the Council and the Citizens Advice Bureau:-

It was moved by Councillor Halliday, seconded by Councillor Candy and:-

RESOLVED - That Cabinet request the Corporate Management Committee to scrutinise the existing Service Level Agreement (SLA), and the further SLA when the Council receive it, to ensure the local Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) is delivering against the Council's priorities and is able to do so given the possibility that future funding could be greatly reduced from the Council and to test that delivery of any service by the CAB commissioned by the Council gives value for money.

49. INITIAL FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2011/12

The Cabinet gave consideration to the Initial Financial Forecast and Initial Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and beyond.

Having considered the report submitted and the financial position facing the Council:-

It was moved by Councillor Halliday, seconded by Councillor G V Guglielmi and:-

RESOLVED - (a) That the Cabinet agree the initial forecast for 2011/12 and beyond and the actions inherent in achieving this forecast and specifically agree:-

(i) The Priority 1 cost pressures to be included within the initial forecast (as shown in Appendix 'B' to item A.5 of the Report of the Management Board).

(ii) The list of Priority 2 cost pressures (which are at the highest risk of actually occurring) and lower priority items, identified in Appendix 'C' to the aforementioned report, to be excluded from the forecast.

(iii) The Heads of Service proposed managed response to the non-funding of cost pressures as shown in Appendix 'C' aforesaid.

(b) That a further report be made to Cabinet in December 2010.

(c) That the Corporate Management Committee be consulted on these initial proposals, recognising that any increase in the level of cost pressures or other budgetary demands (other than those included in the forecast) would require matching measures to ensure that the funding gap was not increased.

(d) That the Risk Strategy be reviewed and updated in the light of the severe economic environment.

50. CORPORATE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2010/11

Members considered a report which provided an overview of the Council's budgetary position as at the end of June 2010.

Having considered the information submitted:-

It was moved by Councillor Halliday, seconded by Councillor G V Guglielmi and:-

RESOLVED - (a) That the financial position as at the end of June 2010 be noted.

(b) That the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee be requested to investigate the Council's recovery of unpaid Council Tax and NNDR to see whether the amount of that debt can be reduced.

51. INVESTMENT IN MAINTENANCE OF ROADS IN JAYWICK

Members considered a report which contained the comments of the Service Development and Delivery Committee following its consideration of the item "To examine the social and economic benefits of spending £1 million on roads, street lights and drainage in the Brooklands and Grasslands area of Jaywick and the effects on the wider population of the District from the asset sales needed to undertake such works and the cost of addressing the needs of other such unadopted roads across the District and how funding improvements could be prioritised, District wide, if at all."

The report also contained the response from Essex County Council regarding the request to match the £1 million for improvements towards roads, lighting and pavements.

Having considered the information submitted and to ensure that this matter is properly considered:-

It was moved by Councillor Halliday, seconded by Councillor Stock and:-

RESOLVED - That the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee be requested to invite the Jaywick Strategic Leadership Group (JSLG), now part of the Coastal Renaissance Board and Essex County Council (ECC) to a meeting to discuss the strategy for Jaywick,

in particular the housing issues that are clearly a joint priority of ECC, this Council and the JSLG and how funds can be raised and are best spent without reliance on asset sales.

52. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE IN JUNE 2016

The Committee noted that the date for its next meeting was Thursday 23 June 2016 commencing at 7.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, in the Council Offices, Thorpe Road, Weeley.

It was reported that items currently scheduled for that meeting included:

- 1) Annual Report of the Head of Internal Audit and Annual Review of Effectiveness of System of Internal Control
- 2) Internal Audit Regular Monitoring Report
- 3) Annual Governance Statement (including review of the Council's Code of Corporate Governance)
- 4) Corporate Risk Register (six monthly review)
- 5) Table of Outstanding Issues (including update against External Audit Recommendations)

The Chairman thanked the Officers and also Chris Hewitt and Kevin Suter for all the help, advice and assistance that they had given him and the Committee. He also thanked the Members of the Committee for their input and commitment to the work of the Committee.

Chairman