

CABINET9 MARCH 2011Present:-

Councillor Stock (Chairman)
 Councillor Candy
 Councillor G V Guglielmi
 Councillor Halliday
 Councillor Hughes
 Councillor S S Mayzes
 Councillor McWilliams
 Councillor N W Turner
 Councillor Watling (except item 138(3))

Portfolio:-

Executive Leader
 Community, Partnerships and Renewal
 Planning
 Finance
 Benefits and Revenues
 Leisure
 Environment
 Technical Services
 Corporate Governance and Resources

Also Present:- Councillor Talbot (except items 145-147).

In Attendance:- Chief Executive, Acting Strategic Director (DA), Head of Financial Services, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer, Assistant Head of Legal Services (Democratic Services).

(Noon – 1.20 p.m.)

135. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Henderson.

136. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 16 February 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to resolution (c) of minute 127 being amended to read "That a report be submitted to Cabinet detailing the history of the Brighton Road site including what decisions have been made and when".

137. EXECUTIVE LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS(1) International Conference

The Executive Leader (Councillor Stock) was pleased to announce that jointly with Essex County Council and the Council of Europe this Council would be holding an international conference to discuss issues facing seaside towns and ports. That would include discussions about the new local enterprise partnerships and EU funding opportunities. The Executive Leader stated that there had been an excellent response from those wishing to attend and contribute, including representatives from the Russian Federation and northern ports, the Director General of Local Government from Malta, representatives from the Union of Marmara in Turkey and the President of the Council of Europe who was also keen to come along if possible with senior officials.

The Executive Leader reported that this was another great opportunity for Tendring to be very firmly put on the International map by developing awareness of the opportunities to invest in Tendring and share experiences of seaside towns and issues. It was also important that the Council looked at how they could best exploit opportunities for European funding.

Members were of the view that it would be advantageous if the Conference discussed the implications of the cost of oil on seaside towns.

(2) Property Assets

The Executive Leader announced that a draft memorandum of understanding had been developed between this Council and Essex County Council to ensure a closer working relationship in respect of property assets.

138. CABINET MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) Budget Cuts

The Finance Portfolio Holder (Councillor Halliday) reported that he had challenged Members and the public to find any cuts that had been made to frontline services in the Council's budget. He reported that there had been no response to that challenge. A member of the Cabinet stated that the parish council in her ward had identified that Tendring Matters had been cut but that it had not been missed.

(2) Provision of Services

The Finance Portfolio Holder reported that as part of the budget process some budgets had been removed with the intention that services would continue to be provided in other ways. He was pleased to report that the weather station service was being run by Gunfleet Sailing Club at no cost to the Council.

(3) Beach Huts at The Walings, Frinton-on-Sea

Councillor Watling declared a prejudicial interest in the subject matter of this item and left the meeting.

The Finance Portfolio Holder reported that the current administration did not believe that the beach hut owners at The Walings were responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the structure on which their huts stood. He reported that the previous administration had levied a fee on all of the beach hut owners at The Walings in connection with repairs to the structure and that all the beach hut owners who had paid that fee would have it refunded.

(4) Clacton Air Show

The Leisure Portfolio Holder (Councillor S S Mayzes) reported on the Air Show forum which had taken place on 1 March.

139. PROPOSALS IN THE DRAFT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OFF ST JOHNS ROAD, CLACTON-ON-SEA

It was reported that at the meeting of the Council held on 8 February 2011 a question pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 14 had been put to the Executive Leader by Mr G Adams of 26 Smythe Close, Clacton-on-Sea and had been answered and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.9 had been referred to the Cabinet.

The question submitted by Mr Adams and the answer given by the Executive Leader were set out in full in item A.1 of the Reference from Council.

Mr Adams attended the meeting and addressed Members in respect of his question. The Executive Leader stressed that the Council would continue to try and improve publicity and public awareness of such matters. Mr Adams was thanked for his attendance.

Having considered the question submitted by Mr Adams, the answer given by the Executive Leader and the further information provided by Mr Adams:-

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

RESOLVED – (a) That a report on the Localism Bill, including the community infrastructure levy, be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet notwithstanding that a broader briefing on the Bill will need to follow when more detail is available.

(b) That a report be submitted to a future meeting detailing advice received in respect of development at Frating.

140. POSSIBLE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE VICINITY OF SLADBURYS LANE, HOLLAND-ON-SEA

It was reported that at the meeting of the Council held on 8 February 2011 a question pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 14 had been put to the Executive Leader by Mrs D Chaplin of 39 Sladburys Lane, Holland-on-Sea and had been answered and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.9 had been referred to the Cabinet.

The question submitted by Mrs Chaplin and the answer given by the Executive Leader were set out in full in item A.2 of the Reference from the Council.

Having regard to the question submitted by Mrs Chaplin, the answer given by the Executive Leader and the discussion in respect of the previous item the Cabinet did not consider that any further action was necessary.

141. ANNUAL TREASURY STRATEGY FOR 2011/12 (INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL AND TREASURY INDICATORS)

Members were aware that at their meeting held on 16 February 2011 (minute 130) they had approved the Annual Treasury Strategy for 2011/12 (including the Prudential and Treasury Indicators) for submission to the Corporate Management Committee.

It was reported that the Strategy submitted to the Corporate Management Committee included minor changes in the last paragraph of "Section 1 Background" of the Annual Treasury Strategy to reflect the latest position in respect of the financing of the Housing Revenue Account. The Treasury Strategy attached as Appendix 'A' to the Report of the Head of Financial Services included that amendment.

The Cabinet was also informed of the comment made by the Corporate Management Committee at its meeting on 28 February 2011.

Having considered the comment of the Corporate Management Committee:-

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

RESOLVED – That the comment of the Corporate Management Committee be noted.

RECOMMENDED – That the Annual Treasury Strategy for 2011/12 (including Prudential and Treasury Indicators) be approved.

142. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2011/2012 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Cabinet had before it a report which set out the proposed programme of meetings for the 2011/12 municipal year.

To enable this matter to be considered at the Annual Meeting of the Council:-

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

RESOLVED – That the draft programme of meetings for the Council, the Audit Committee, the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee, the Corporate Management Committee, the Council Tax Committee, the Planning Committee, the Service Development and Delivery Committee and the Standards Committee, as set out in the Appendix to item A.4 of the Report of the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer, be approved and be submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Council for formal approval.

143. DOVERCOURT SEAFRONT IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE AND PROPOSED NEW LEASE OF DOVERCOURT BOATING LAKE, LOW ROAD, DOVERCOURT

The Cabinet considered a report which updated Members on the ongoing Dovercourt seafront improvement works.

Members considered the principle of granting a new lease to operate the boat hire concession at Dovercourt boating lake and were also aware that following the exclusion of the public from the meeting they would consider the terms of such lease.

Having considered the information submitted:-

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

RESOLVED – That, subject to agreement of terms later in the meeting, a new lease of Dovercourt boating lake, Low Road, Dovercourt (as shown edged bold on the plan attached as Appendix 'A' to item A.5 to the Joint Report of the Head of Leisure Services and Acting Head of Corporate Performance) be granted for a period of 7 years from 1 April 2011, subject also to an agreed timeframe in which activities to the public will commence in line with the Council's leisure priorities.

144. PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Cabinet considered a proposed amendment to the Council's Constitution in relation to the setting of planning fees.

Having considered the information submitted:-

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

RECOMMENDED – That the proposed amendment to the Council's Constitution, as set out in item A.6 of the Report of the Interim Head of Planning Services, be agreed.

145. ESSEX INTEGRATED COUNTY STRATEGY

Members considered a report to enable them to formally endorse the Essex Integrated County Strategy.

Having considered the Strategy and accompanying report:-

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

RESOLVED – (a) That the Cabinet endorses the Greater Essex Integrated County Strategy and welcomes the Strategy's strong focus on renewable energy and in particular a wind port related development as one of the key opportunities for economic growth in Essex.

(b) That the further and significant expansion of Colchester at its edges to the North of the town and towards Stanway is welcomed but the expansion on the boundary with Tendring is not.

(c) That the regeneration and economic development landscape has changed dramatically during the period when the Strategy was being drafted, in particular through the emergence of the Essex, Kent and East Sussex Local Enterprise Partnership which provides an opportunity for a strong focus on the needs of coastal towns and ports as well as rural areas and that the County Council be requested to work with this Council's Officers to draw-up a joint action plan for the delivery of the Strategy's commitment to coastal towns in Tendring with a particular focus on the housing needs of Clacton and Jaywick.

(d) That Officers identify the actions necessary to seek to achieve Assisted Areas Status for Tendring when it is next reviewed and that the County Council is requested to continue to work closely with this Council to achieve it.

146. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – EXEMPT ITEM – EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.