

## CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held on 18 October 2005 at 10.00 am at County Hall, Lewes.

---

38. PRESENT - Councillor Jones (Chairman)  
Councillors Bentley, Glazier, Lock, Reid, Simmons, Mrs Stroude and B Tidy

The following members spoke on the items indicated:

Councillor Birch	-	item 45
Councillor Field	-	items 45, 47 and 48
Councillor Mrs Healy	-	item 48
Councillor Lacey	-	item 49
Councillor Livings	-	item 49
Councillor Martin	-	items 42, 47 and 51
Councillor Murphy	-	item 49
Councillor Ost	-	item 49
Councillor Radford-Kirby	-	item 52
Councillor Scott	-	items 44 and 48
Councillor Tutt	-	items 42, 43 and 48
Councillor Webb	-	items 47 and 48
Councillor Whetstone	-	items 51 and 52

## 39 MINUTES

39.1 RESOLVED – to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2005 as a correct record.

## 40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

40.1 Councillor Field declared a personal prejudicial interest in item 5 as her husband was a business manager at Frewen College, Northiam, to which the Council sends some of its special educational needs agency placements.

40.2 Councillor Field declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in item 11 as a Trustee of Action in Rural Sussex.

40.3 Councillor Healy declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in item 10 as a Trustee of Age Concern Eastbourne

40.4 Councillor Ost declared a personal non prejudicial interest in item 12 as a Director of the Newhaven Community Development Agency

40.5 Councillor Simmons declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in item 14 as the Chairman of the Heathfield Partnership Trust Limited.

40.6 Councillor Webb declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in item 11 as a relief worker in the mental health sector.

41. REPORTS

41.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

42 BUDGET MONITORING 2005/06

42.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources.

42.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED - to note the report and the gradually increasing pressures and risks.

Reason

42.3 Management action is being taken to address area of concern.

43 RECONCILING POLICY AND RESOURCES

43.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

43.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the report.

Reason

43.3 To achieve the development of a sound medium term financial strategy.

44 FUTURE OF PRIMARY EDUCATION IN RYE

44.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Children's Services

44.2 On the motion of Councillor Simmons (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to note the summary of risks associated with the development of a new 1.5 form entry community primary school on part of the playing field of Thomas Peacocke Community College; and

(2) to authorise the publication of Statutory Notices to close Tilling Green Infant School and the Freda Gardham Primary School with effect from 31 August 2008 and open a new school, with a current working title of Rye Primary, with effect from 1 September 2008

Reason

44.3 There remain significant risks but the proposal offers the most effective approach to secure sustainable high quality education in modern, fit for purpose buildings that offer benefit to the whole community. Publication of Statutory Notices before the end of November results in it being unnecessary to commence the entire consultation process again.

45 POST 16 EDUCATION PROVISION IN HASTINGS AND ROTHER

45.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Children's Services

45.2 On the motion of Councillor Glazier (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to agree to delegate to the Director of Children's Services, following consultation with

the Lead Member for Children's and Adults' Services, to agree a formal County Council response to any modified proposals for Post 16 Provision in Hastings and Rother submitted by the Learning and Skills Council to the Secretary of State for Education and Skills by 31 October 2005.

Reason

45.3 The County Council as a statutory consultee must decide whether to offer its support to any revised proposal put forward by the Learning and Skills Council on 31 October 2005. This decision will be based on a view of whether a modified proposal is likely to raise standards at 16+, meets the 14 – 19 curriculum requirements, enjoys support of schools and is affordable and achievable. Given the short timescales and intense activity involved in scoping, costing and seeking views of stakeholders it is unlikely that any revised proposal will be finalised until the last week in October.

#### 46 AGE WELL PROJECT

46.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care

46.2 On the motion of Councillor Bentley (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to note the background and reasons for the inclusion of the key elements of the Age Well Project;

(2) to delegate responsibility for key decisions in respect of the Age Well Project jointly to the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources and the Director of Adult Social Care up to and including submission of the Outline Business Case to the Department of Health;

(3) to consider and agree the introduction of a new Major Capital Investment Programme Board with governance and management arrangements as set out in the Programme Initiation Document (Appendix 2 of the report); and

(4) to agree the criteria for potential projects to be included in a Major Capital Investment Programme

Reason

46.3 The Age Well Project is based on and addresses the outcomes of the review of residential homes. The Major Capital Investment Programme Board will enable the Council to work with its partners in planning for future requirements of its growing elderly population.

#### 47 OLDER PEOPLE'S INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY

47.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care

47.2 On the motion of Councillor Bentley (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to agree to the County Council becoming a formal partner agency to the Older People's Involvement Strategy; and

(2) to approve the County Council Action Plan

Reason

47.3 To agree the Involvement Strategy and action plan in order that this work can progress.

48 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT FOR EAST SUSSEX

48.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Policy Management and Communications

48.2 On the motion of Councillor Tidy (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to agree the draft Local Area Agreement submission (appendix 2 of the report) and to note the next steps in the negotiation process.

Reason

48.3 To approve the draft submission to the Government Office for the South East and to note the negotiation process between now and the end of the year.

49 NEWHAVEN 10 YEAR MASTERPLAN

49.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Policy Management and Communications

49.2 On the motion of Councillor Jones (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to agree the priorities detailed in the Newhaven Masterplan (appendix 1 of the report)

Reason

49.3 The Masterplan is a key tool in the work to explore external funding opportunities for the regeneration of Newhaven.

50 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN FINANCIAL PLANNING GUIDELINES

50.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment

50.2 On the motion of Councillor Lock (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to welcome the Department for Transport's proposal for a formula based approach to Integrated Transport Block funding;

(2) to request phasing in of the formula based approach over a period of three years;

(3) to accept the Department for Transport's proposed changes to the highway maintenance funding formula; and

(4) to accept the Department for Transport's draft guidance on Delivery Reports for Local Transport Plan 1, including its preferred format.

Reason

50.3 The draft Financial Planning Guidelines introduce a more objective, formula based funding regime than that operating currently, while maintaining incentives for local authorities to improve their performance in the local transport field.

## 51 E-GOVERNMENT ACCESS INITIATIVES

51.1 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Corporate Resources and the Director of Policy Management and Communications

51.2 On the motion of Councillor Tidy (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the report

Reason

51.3 To note the progress made regarding the E-Government Access Initiatives as part of the wider 'customer focus' agenda.

## 52 FAIR TRADE

52.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

52.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to note the report;

(2) to approve the approach being taken to the provision of Fairtrade product lines in ESCCape and Smarty's;

(3) to approve the use of Fairtrade tea and coffee in flasks provided for meetings by the Catering Service;

(4) to endorse the Council working with its supplier to extend its range of Fairtrade product lines to meet the Council's needs; and

(5) to approve the promotion of the Fairtrade Mark through an article in the next edition of 'Your County', with other publicity as appropriate from time to time to raise awareness in East Sussex.

Reason

52.3 To agree the measures being taken to raise awareness of Fairtrade and the approach being taken to have at meetings and in staff areas Fairtrade beverages and other products as appropriate.

## 53 ADULT SOCIAL CARE SOCIAL SERVICES COMPLAINTS

53.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care

53.2 On the motion of Councillor Bentley (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the complaints procedure annual review report for 2004/05

Reason

53.3 The Complaints Procedure Directions 1990 state that the Council should monitor the operation of the complaints procedure. The complaints procedure must be presented to an appropriate committee.

54 CHILDREN'S SERVICES (SOCIAL CARE) COMPLAINTS

54.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Children's Services

54.2 On the motion of Councillor Mrs Stroude (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the complaints procedure annual review report for 2004/05.

Reason

54.3 The Complaints Procedure Directions 1990 state that the Council should monitor the operation of the complaints procedure. The complaints procedure must be presented to an appropriate committee.

55 ITEMS TO REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

55.1 The Cabinet agreed that items 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 should be reported to the County Council.

*[Note: The items being reported to the County Council refer to minute numbers 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52]*