

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE – 6 JANUARY 2009

SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING – 24 FEBRUARY 2009

(To be read in conjunction with the Agenda for the Meeting)

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|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| * Cllr Richard Gates (Chairman)  | * Cllr Ms Denise Le Gal  |
| * Cllr Mike Band (Vice-Chairman) | * Cllr Bryn Morgan       |
| * Cllr Mrs Carole Cockburn       | * Cllr John Sandy        |
| Cllr Mrs Carole King             | * Cllr Roger Steel       |
| * Cllr Robert Knowles            | * Cllr Adam Taylor-Smith |

\* Present

Cllr Alan Lovell was in attendance for Agenda Item 7

Cllr Vic Duckett attended and spoke on Agenda Items 7.3, 7.4, 9, 13 and 14 (Minute Nos. 156.3, 156.4, 159, 163 and 164 refer)

Cllr Mrs Diane James attended and spoke on Agenda Items 7.1, 7.6 and 9 (Minute Nos. 156.1, 158 and 159 refer)

Cllr Ken Reed spoke on Agenda Item 7.6 (Minute No. 158)

152. MINUTES (Agenda Item 2)

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 December 2008 and of the Special Meeting held on 15 December 2008 were confirmed and signed.

153. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 3)

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Mrs King.

154. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 4)

There were no interests raised under this heading.

**PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

155. VARIABLE INTEREST MORTGAGES - VARIATION OF MORTGAGE INTEREST RATE (Agenda Item 8; Appendix C)

155.1 The Executive considered a report seeking approval to the 'local average rate' and confirming the rate of interest chargeable on variable interest rate mortgages granted by the Council.

155.2 The Executive agreed that

- a. any changes of mortgage interest rate should remain in place until 30 September 2009 when they are further reviewed;
- b. the 'local average rate' be implemented with immediate effect, until reviewed at 30 September 2009, be declared at 4.48%p.a.;

Executive 97  
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- c. the rate of interest chargeable on mortgages under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958 (Section 43) be 4.48% p.a. with immediate effect until review at 30 September 2009; and
- d. the rate of interest chargeable on mortgages under the Housing Act 1985 (Schedule 16) be 5.07% p.a. with immediate effect to 30 September 2009.

155.3 The Executive also agreed that given the non-discretionary status of these changes, it would be beneficial to delegate the function to the Deputy Chief Executive in future.

155.4 The Executive accordingly

**RECOMMENDS that**

- 42. variations to mortgage interest rates be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive and the scheme of delegation amended accordingly.**

Background Papers (DCEx)

There are no background papers (as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) relating to this report.

**Part II – Matters Reported in Detail for the Information of the Council**

156. FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2009/2010 - 2012/2013 (Agenda Item 7; Appendix B)

156.1 General Fund Revenue Budget 2009/10 (Agenda Item 7.1; Appendix B.1)

RESOLVED that

1. the Overview and Scrutiny Committees be asked to give consideration to the detailed General Fund Budget papers for 2009/2010 and identify spending priorities and any areas for savings;
2. consideration be given to the list of variations at Annexe 2 to the report;
3. consideration be given to the list of Budget reductions, as suggested by the Star Chamber, at Annexe 3 to the report, which will be discussed by the Overview and Scrutiny and Licensing Committees; and
4. final consideration be given to the General Fund Budget for 2009/2010 at its meeting on 3 February 2009.

156.2 General Fund Capital Programme 2009/10 (Agenda Item 7.2; Appendix B.2)

RESOLVED that consideration be given to the draft Capital Programme for General Fund services and the proposed prioritisation be supported as a basis for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in January.

156.3 Housing Revenue Account Revenue Budget 2009/10 (Agenda Item 7.3; Appendix B.3)

RESOLVED that

1. the Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked to consider the detailed HRA budget papers for 2009-10 and identify spending priorities within the landlord service and to consider whether a revenue contribution (RCCO) should be added to the rent increase to pay for additional decent homes work and therefore what level of rent increase the Committee would consider to be appropriate; and
2. final consideration be given to the HRA budget for 2009/2010 at its meeting on 3 February 2009.

156.4 Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme 2009/10 and Social Housing Grant (Agenda Item 7.4; Appendix B.4)

RESOLVED that further consideration be given to the HRA capital budget 2009-10, the Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked for its comments on the proposals and final consideration be given to the HRA capital budget for 2009/2010 at its meeting on 3 February 2009.

156.5 Budget Monitoring - November 2008 (Agenda Item 7.5; Appendix B.5)

RESOLVED that the position as at 30 November be noted and to continue to monitor the budget closely during the remainder of 2008/09.

**Part III – Brief Summaries of Other Matters Dealt With**

157. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PROGRAMME (Agenda Item 6; Appendix A)

RESOLVED that the forward programme of key decisions for Waverley Borough Council be adopted, subject to the addition of the Thames Basin Heath SPA and Data Security for February 2009.

158. CRANLEIGH ARTS CENTRE - CAPITAL EXPENDITURE GRANT (Agenda Item 7.6; Appendix B.6)

RESOLVED that a grant of £10,325 be awarded to the Cranleigh Arts Centre in response to their application.

159. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES (Agenda Item 9; Appendix D)

159.1 The Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel, Mike Clark, was present at the meeting to present the findings of the Panel on the review of the Members' Allowances Scheme (a copy of which is attached as Annexe 1 for information).

159.2 The Executive thanked the Panel for compiling the report which was noted but not accepted and agreed to give further consideration to modifications to the current scheme proposed in the Panel's report relating to carer's allowances, subject to a further report to the Executive on 3 February.

159.3 The Executive was also minded to recommend to the Council that the existing scheme and the current practice of increasing members' allowances on an annual basis in line with the staff pay award be reaffirmed and that consideration should be given to convening an Independent Panel again in 2010.

***[As a further report would be presented to the Executive on 3 February 2009, which could include recommendations for changing the scheme, the recommendations contained within paragraph 159.3 will be dealt with via the minutes of that meeting.]***

160. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - CORE STRATEGY TOPIC PAPERS (Agenda Item 10; Appendix E)

RESOLVED that

1. the Core Strategy Topic Papers and the Settlement Hierarchy be approved as the basis for public consultation; and
2. the Head of Planning be authorised, in consultation with the Planning Portfolio Holder, to make any minor revisions to the formatting and content of the Topic Papers and the Settlement Hierarchy prior to the commencement of the proposed consultation.

161. NOTES OF THE PLANNING POLICY SIG (Agenda Item 11; Appendix F)

RESOLVED that the notes of the Planning Policy SIG be received.

162. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2009/2010 AND 2010/2011 (Agenda Item 12; Appendices G.1 and G.2)

RESOLVED that the draft Calendars of Meetings for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 be confirmed, attached as Annexe 2 for information.

163. PROPOSED OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENT - PROPOSED TRUST TO MANAGE THE BUNGALOW, SANDY HILL (Agenda Item 13)

RESOLVED that Cllr Bryn Morgan be appointed to the proposed Trust for the remainder of the current Council year.

164. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE - REVIEW INTO LEISURE PROVISION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (Agenda Item 14)

RESOLVED that an Environment and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee be established to undertake its in-depth review into leisure provision for young people.

165. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (Agenda Item 16)

At 9.00 p.m. it was

RESOLVED that pursuant to Procedure Rule 20 and in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during this item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information (as defined by Section 100I of the Act) of the description specified in paragraph 6 of the revised Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act, namely:-

“Information which reveals that the authority proposes

- (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
- (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.

166. UNDERSHAW - PROGRESS REPORT (Agenda Item 17; (Exempt) Appendix H)

RESOLVED that the recommendation contained within the report be agreed.

**The meeting commenced at 6.45 p.m. and concluded at 9.08 p.m.**

Chairman