

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE – 2 SEPTEMBER 2008

SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING – 21 OCTOBER 2008

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

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| * Cllr R J Gates (Chairman) | * Cllr Ms D Le Gal |
| * Cllr M H W Band (Vice-Chairman) | * Cllr B J Morgan |
| * Cllr Mrs C Cockburn | * Cllr J R Sandy |
| * Cllr Mrs C A King | * Cllr R J Steel |
| * Cllr R A Knowles | * Cllr A E B Taylor-Smith |

* Present

Cllrs P B Isherwood and K T Reed were also in attendance

The Chairman welcomed the new Head of Planning, Matthew Evans to his first Executive meeting.

71. MINUTES (Agenda Item 2)

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive held on 8 July 2008 were confirmed and signed.

72. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 4)

Cllr R J Steel declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 8 relating to an application for rate relief as a former client of the business applying for relief.

At the appropriate point in the meeting, Cllr B J Morgan declared a possible personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 17 on a staffing issue and withdrew from the meeting at 8.33 p.m. before it was discussed.

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

There were no matters falling within this category.

PARTS II AND III - MATTERS OF REPORT

Background Papers

The background papers relating to the following items in Parts II and III are as specified in the agenda for the meeting of the Executive.

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

There were no matters falling within this category.

Part III – Brief Summaries of Other Matters Dealt With

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

RESOLVED that the forward programme of key decisions for Waverley Borough Council be noted.

74. BUDGET MONITORING - JULY 2008 (Agenda Item 7; Appendix B)

The Portfolio Holder for Finance congratulated officers on their ability to find savings and informed the Executive that as a result, there was now an opportunity to bid for new capital projects in this financial year.

RESOLVED that

1. the virement of £5,500 from the staffing budget to the Safer Waverley Partnership budget be approved; and
2. the current monitoring position for the General Fund Revenue Account, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme be noted.

75. NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES – APPLICATION FOR RATE RELIEF
(Agenda Item 8; Appendix C)

[This report contains exempt information by virtue of which the public is likely to be excluded during the item to which the report relates, as specified in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, viz:-

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).]

RESOLVED that no discretionary rate relief be granted.

76. DISCASS REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY FUNDING FOR 2008/2009 (Agenda Item 9; Appendix D)

RESOLVED that

1. the work done by officers and members to put DisCASS on a sounder basis for the future be welcomed;
2. DisCASS be wished success for the future in supporting and advocating the needs of a key segment of Waverley's community; and
3. a supplementary estimate of £5,000 be agreed to provide emergency funding to assist DisCASS, to be conditional on the DisCASS board agreeing to implement changes recommended by Waverley's representative, Cllr Hubble, to place the organisation on a sounder financial footing for the future.

77. OMBUDSMAN INVESTIGATIONS INTO COMPLAINTS MADE ABOUT WAVERLEY'S SERVICES IN 2007/2008 (Agenda Item 10; Appendix E)

RESOLVED that the efforts made by officers to further improve the average time taken to respond to the Ombudsman's initial enquiries be welcomed but the Executive reaffirm that it looked for the improvement to continue to the point where the 28 days target response time was being met soon.

78. COMPLAINTS HANDLING IN WAVERLEY IN 2007/2008 (Agenda Item 11; Appendix F)

The Chief Executive recognised the benefits of keeping councillors informed about in the complaints process and agreed to use her discretion to draw issues to the attention of appropriate portfolio holders or ward councillors depending on the issue at hand. The Executive also asked officers to seek more detailed feedback from complainants to enable more detailed analysis to be carried out in future.

RESOLVED that

1. the work undertaken by officers in developing a new Lotus Notes database for complaints handling, with a view to increasing the number of complaints logged across the Council and improving the analysis of the causes of complaints, customer satisfaction and lessons learnt be endorsed; and
2. the Executive's view be recorded that achieving the target response time remains a very important corporate priority.

79. CENTRAL OFFICES – BOILER REPLACEMENT – CALL-IN BY CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Agenda Item 12; Appendix G)

The Executive considered the views of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee who had called in the Executive decision for scrutiny and

RESOLVED that the previous decisions of the Executive be reaffirmed, to:-

1. install five solar panels; and
2. apply for planning permission for the proposed photovoltaic panels and, subject to this, to report further seeking approval to proceed.

80. FREE SWIMMING PROGRAMME (Agenda Item 13; Appendix H)

RESOLVED that

1. the 'Free Swimming' programme for the over 60s be supported and the Chief Executive be authorised to confirm participation in the over 60s initiative;

2. the Chief Executive be authorised to express an interest in the Free Swimming Programme for the under 16s by 15 September 2008;
3. the Chief Executive be authorised to negotiate and agree a contract variation with DC Leisure for Free Swimming for the over 60s on a cost neutral revenue basis;
4. officers be instructed to negotiate with DC Leisure to enable free swimming for the under 16s and report back to the October meeting of the Executive; and
5. officers be authorised to submit proposals to the Government capital modernisation programme from the Council's approved capital improvement programme.

81. ACTION TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING (Agenda Item 15)

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Chief Executive since the last meeting in respect of the Holloway Hill MUGA and Tennis Development and the appointment of a substitute representative to the Parking and Traffic regulation outside London Adjudication Joint Committee be noted.

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

At 7.41 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 items 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 these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information (as defined by Section 100I of the Act) of the description specified in the following paragraph of the revised Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act, namely:-

Minute 83

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 (Paragraph 6)

Minute 84

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) (Paragraph 3).

83. UNDERSHAW (Agenda Item 14; Appendix I)

RESOLVED that

1. the effectiveness of the Urgent Works Notice be noted;
2. the fact that the owner has failed to fully repair the property, or sell/let to someone prepared to use and repair it be noted, in the knowledge that negotiations with potential purchasers continue; and
3. actions set out in the (Exempt) Annexe to these minutes be agreed.

84. STAFFING MATTER (Agenda Item 17; (Exempt) Appendix J)

RESOLVED that the actions set out in the (Exempt) Annexe to these minutes be agreed.

The meeting commenced at 6.45 p.m. and concluded at 8.35 p.m.

Chairman