

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2016/17
Decision No.
1853

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 December 2016

Portfolio

Subject: Minutes / References from Other Committees

Report of:

Strategy/Policy:

**Corporate
Objectives:**

Purpose:

Each year the views of the taxi trade are sought in respect of whether they wish the Council to consider an increase to the taxi tariff. The last time the trade indicated they wanted a tariff increase was in 2008, and the matter was considered by the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee at that time and an increase was granted.

In May this year a letter was sent to the taxi trade, which sought their view on whether they wished to have an increase to the taxi tariff. No individual responses were received from the trade. The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association (HCPHA) contacted us on 2nd June with results of a vote they had taken where a majority had declined an increase but 2 other changes were put forward.

Options Considered:

The Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee considered a report by the Head of Environmental Health on the review of Hackney Carriage Fares.

The Committee received a deputation from Mr P Rogerson, representing the Fareham Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Association.

AGREED that the Committee recommends that the Executive approves the following changes:-

- 1) that the fee for 'Passengers picked up at Fareham Station' be increased from 60p to £1; and
- 2) that the statement 'For each dog (except assistance dogs) 10p' be replaced with the wording: 'Assistance dogs must be carried free of charge unless the driver has a current exemption in place'.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves:

- (a) that the fee for 'Passengers picked up at Fareham Station' be increased from 60p to £1; and
- (b) that the statement 'For each dog (except assistance dogs) 10p' be replaced with the wording: 'Assistance dogs must be carried free of charge unless the driver has a current exemption in place'.

Reason:

To consider if a change to Hackney Carriage Fares is appropriate.

Confirmed as a true record: Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 5 December 2016

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2016/17
Decision No.
1854

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 December 2016

Portfolio	Streetscene
Subject:	Grounds Maintenance Agency Agreement
Report of:	Director of Operations
Strategy/Policy:	Protecting and enhancing the environment
Corporate Objectives:	A Safe and Healthy Place to Live and Work

Purpose:

To seek approval for an increase in the Grounds Maintenance Service annual revenue budget in order to maintain the Council's current standards of publicly owned soft landscaped areas across the Borough.

A Highway grass, shrub and hedge maintenance agency agreement between Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council has been in operation since 2004.

The agreement has allowed Fareham Borough Council to maintain a uniform standard of maintenance to soft landscaped areas across the Borough's publicly adopted open space areas, irrespective of authority ownership.

Under the current agreement a range of formulae are used to calculate the fees paid to Fareham Borough Council for grounds maintenance work based on the costs incurred by the Council in undertaking the maintenance of the adopted highway areas.

In the financial year 2016-17, the revenue funding received by Fareham Borough Council from the County for undertaking this agency work is £164,500. The cost to Fareham Borough Council for actually undertaking the work is £263,500 and therefore, the shortfall of £99,000 is made up by Fareham Borough Council to ensure an acceptable standard of maintenance is carried out to the Highway grass areas.

As part of a wide ranging efficiency plan, the existing agency agreement was terminated with 12 months' notice given by Hampshire County Council in March 2016 with a view to agreeing new arrangements for the 2017/18 financial year.

There is an option for Fareham to hand back the maintenance of the Borough's Highway areas to the County Council so that it can be included in the new contractual arrangements. However, the specification is considerably reduced from the current standard provided by Fareham Borough Council's Grounds Maintenance team and it is anticipated that the majority of residents would not support this proposal that would result in a significant deterioration in the aesthetic appearance of the Borough.

The Council has an option to retain the existing work arrangements. However, Hampshire County Council is proposing to reduce the amount of funding for any new agency agreement with Fareham Borough Council by approximately 9%. This proposal will reduce the County Council funding to an anticipated £150,000 per annum.

In addition to the reduced income, the new agreement is likely to impose additional demands on the Council to cover the cost of operational items such as traffic management and introduce the possibility of night time working for motorway junction operations. The cost of these additional demands is estimated to be approximately £5,000 per annum.

In order to continue the agency agreement in its current form, Fareham Borough Council would need to increase the current subsidy of £99,000 to £119,000. An increase of approximately £20,000 per annum.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price, JP addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves the increase in annual revenue budget required to allow grounds maintenance standards to be maintained at the current level across the Borough.

Reason:

To continue to meet the Council's vision of Fareham being a prosperous, safe and attractive place to be and to deliver a good quality, value for money local service for the residents and visitors of Fareham.

Confirmed as a true record: Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 5 December 2016

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2016/17
Decision No.
1855

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 December 2016

Portfolio	Public Protection
Subject:	Traffic Management
Report of:	Director of Operations
Strategy/Policy:	
Corporate Objectives:	A Safe and Healthy Place to Live and Work

Purpose:

To seek approval to terminate the partnership agreement with Hampshire County Council for the management and implementation of traffic regulation orders (TROs) within the Borough.

Since March 2009, Fareham Borough Council has undertaken traffic management responsibilities on behalf of Hampshire County Council through a formal agency agreement under the Traffic Management Act.

These responsibilities involve the implementation of traffic regulation orders (TROs), which aim to improve road safety, minimise congestion and promote the efficient use of the highway network within Fareham.

Approximately twelve TROs are implemented each year and the costs are mainly funded by Hampshire County Council. Fareham Borough Council currently receives £88,700 a year from the County Council, towards employment costs, line marking, legal fees and advertising costs. Taking into account all other costs associated with delivering this service, (not including internal recharges), the Borough Council currently subsidises the cost of delivering this County Council service by an additional £6,000 per annum. A breakdown of the figures can be found at Appendix A.

As part of a wide ranging efficiency plan, Hampshire County Council has proposed significant changes to the amount of funding it will provide to Fareham Borough Council to deliver this County Council service in the future. This will reduce the County Council funding element by up to 60%, which could result in Fareham Borough Council's subsidy increasing to approximately £59,200 per annum by 2018/19.

Given the scale of the potential reduction in County Council funding and the implications on Fareham Borough Council's budget, it is proposed to terminate the agency agreement with Hampshire County Council.

Options Considered:

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price, JP addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves the termination of the current traffic management agreement with Hampshire County Council; and
- (b) approves to continue funding the provision of deploying speed limit reminder signs with a budget of £8,000 per annum.

Reason:

The changes being proposed by Hampshire County Council are anticipated to result in Fareham Borough Council subsidising a County Council service by approximately £59,200 per annum, by 2018/19. This additional cost would make the delivery of the service prohibitive in the current financial environment.

Confirmed as a true record: Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 5 December 2016

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2016/17
Decision No.
1856

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 December 2016

Portfolio	Planning and Development
Subject:	Fareham Town Centre Post Office Proposed Relocation: Response to Consultation
Report of:	Director of Planning & Regulation
Strategy/Policy:	
Corporate Objectives:	Strong and Inclusive Communities

Purpose:

To seek approval to agree the following consultation response in relation to Fareham Town Centre Post Office proposed relocation.

On 26 October 2016 the Council received a consultation letter from Post Office Limited in relation to the Fareham Crown Post Office branch proposed move to new premises and branch modernisation. This report briefly outlines the nature of the proposal as detailed in the consultation letter and accompanying information sheet received. It highlights the issues that this proposal presents; including any matters of concern or where further information or clarification is requested.

Options Considered:

A copy of the response to the questions raised to the Post Office was tabled at the meeting.

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillors Mrs K K Trott and S Cunningham addressed the Executive on this item.

During a debate on this item, concerns were raised about the inadequacies of the response by the Post Office as it did not address the serious issues raised about the accessibility for the elderly, for mobile scooters, for pushchairs and prams and the unsuitability of the lift.

Concerns were also discussed regarding the lack of public awareness of the proposals and that the Post Office had not adequately advertised the consultation event held on 28 November which was poorly attended.

A suggestion was raised to potentially consider the ground floor of the Civic Offices as an alternative relocation site as it would provide the much needed ground floor accessibility.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees:

- (a) to note the contents of the tabled response to the questions raised with the Post Office Limited; and
- (b) that comments included in the attached Executive Briefing Paper are formally submitted to the consultation exercise being carried out by Post Office Limited, subject to the addition of the following points discussed by the Executive:
 - i. that the Post Office be thanked for their response;
 - ii. that the inadequacies of their response be pointed out;
 - iii. that concerns over the lack of advertising and users' awareness of the consultation event be raised;
 - iv. that the Executive, on behalf of the Council, strongly objects to the planned relocation as it is considered that the Post Office 'facility' should continue to be provided within an accessible ground floor location within the town centre; and
 - v. that the opportunity for the ground floor of the Civic Offices to provide an alternative location be explored in future discussions with the Post Office.

Reason:

To ensure that the Council's comments are agreed by the Executive before being formally submitted to Post Office Limited as part of their consultation exercise.

Confirmed as a true record: Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 5 December 2016

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2016/17
Decision No.
1857

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 December 2016

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Acquisition of Commercial Property at Daedalus
Report of:	Director of Finance & Resources
Strategy/Policy:	Asset Management Plan
Corporate Objectives:	Dynamic, Prudent and Progressive Council

Purpose:

To consider an opportunity for the Council to purchase and lease back Plot 15/16 Faraday Business Park, Daedalus on the terms as set out in the confidential Appendix A.

This report sets out terms for the potential purchase and lease back of a property at Solent Airport, Daedalus.

The Council's vision for Daedalus is for the site to become a premier location for aviation, aerospace engineering and advanced manufacturing businesses creating many skilled employment opportunities for local people, which is under-pinned by a vibrant and sustainable airfield. This potential purchase and lease back supports this vision as well as complementing the Council's existing commercial investments.

The confidential Appendix A sets out an analysis of the investment, financial information and heads of terms agreed with the owner to enable the Executive to decide if the investment property should be purchased.

The first phase of commercial development is now underway at Daedalus with the establishment of Faraday Business Park on the eastern side of the Solent Airport estate. When the Council acquired Daedalus in March 2015 the first building was under construction and this project has now been completed.

If the Council proceeds with the acquisition, it would do so with a pre-let agreement with a tenant to occupy the building, which has been built to their specification, providing an energy-efficient modern manufacturing facility with room for future expansion. The company is currently located in the borough and has been trading since 1952, providing precision engineering services to the aerospace, oil and gas industries. The company has good covenant strength as a prospective tenant of the estate.

Originally it was intended that the company would acquire a long leasehold interest in the building when completed, however the opportunity has arisen for the Council to acquire building and let on an occupational lease basis, providing an ongoing revenue stream rather than a capital receipt. The business plan for Daedalus relies on an ongoing rental income

from property to offset the ongoing running costs, and this property would contribute positively towards this objective.

Heads of Terms have been agreed in principle, which would allow UTP to occupy the building at the earliest opportunity and the Council to secure an important income stream for the Estate.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) agrees the Heads of Terms for the acquisition of the completed building and subsequent lease back, as set out in confidential appendix A; and
- (b) delegates authority to the Director of Finance and Resources, following consultation with the Executive Leader, to agree minor amendments to the terms as appropriate.

Reason:

To obtain the approval of the Executive for the Council to proceed to purchase and lease back Plot 15/16 Faraday Business Park, Daedalus

Confirmed as a true record: Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 5 December 2016

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2016/17
Decision No.
1858

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 December 2016

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Fareham Today Review
Report of:	Director of Finance & Resources
Strategy/Policy:	
Corporate Objectives:	

Purpose:

To set out the results of the recent Fareham Today review and seek approval for a number of changes to the production and distribution of the magazine.

A proposal to move to an online version of Fareham Today and to only produce printed copies on request was presented as part of the Efficiency Savings report at the 10 October meeting of the Executive.

The way people read and access news and local information has changed in recent years. Fareham Today has been published for a long time during which technology and the growth of the internet have advanced rapidly. Whilst circulations of print newspapers and magazines continue to decline, online magazines or newspapers have become immensely popular.

This shift towards reading news and magazines online calls into question whether the primarily print focused approach of Fareham Today is meeting the changing needs of our residents and makes best use of Council resources.

This report outlines the results of the review and outlines proposals to make the magazine more responsive to the changing needs of residents as well as result in considerable annual savings.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) notes the results of the review of Fareham Today;
- (b) agrees the proposal to move to an online version of the magazine;

- (c) agrees to distribute paper copies to people that request it, as well as to libraries and community centres;
- (d) agrees to produce a new ten page edition of the magazine every two months; and
- (e) agrees to the proposed arrangements for transition to the online magazine format.

Reason:

To make Fareham Today magazine more responsive to the changing needs of residents as well as resulting in savings.

Confirmed as a true record: Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 5 December 2016

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2016/17
Decision No.
1859

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 December 2016

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Daedalus Anniversary Events
Report of:	Director of Finance & Resources
Strategy/Policy:	
Corporate Objectives:	Strong and Inclusive Communities

Purpose:

To outline the opportunities to commemorate two important anniversaries at Daedalus over the next three years and to put forward proposals to mark them.

July 2017 is the 100th anniversary of the opening of Daedalus. This will be followed in June 2019 by the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

There is an opportunity to commemorate these historically significant anniversaries and to use both occasions to increase community awareness of the history of the airfield and attract new use by the flying community.

Options Considered:

The Executive Leader confirmed that Councillor T M Cartwright be appointed as the Chairman of the multi-agency group that will be established to co-ordinate anniversary commemorations.

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees:

- (a) a multi-agency working group be established, chaired by an Executive Member to coordinate both anniversary commemorations;
- (b) that Councillor T M Cartwright be appointed as the Chairman of the working group with immediate effect;
- (c) a special 100th anniversary 4 page pull out be included in the spring 2017 edition of Fareham Today;

- (d) an advertising and media campaign be undertaken promoting Daedalus and targeting the flying community;
- (e) a small public event be organised in association with the Lee Flying Association at Daedalus to commemorate the 100th anniversary; and
- (f) a larger community event takes place in 2019 to mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

Reason:

To provide a fitting community celebration to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the opening of Daedalus and the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

Confirmed as a true record: Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 5 December 2016

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2016/17
Decision No.
1860

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 5 December 2016

Portfolio	Policy & Resources
Subject:	Town Centre Development Opportunity
Report of:	Director of Finance & Resources
Strategy/Policy:	Asset Management Plan
Corporate Objectives:	Dynamic, Prudent and Progressive Council

Purpose:
As set out in the confidential report.

Options Considered:
As recommendation.

Decision:
RESOLVED that the Executive agrees the recommendations as set out in the confidential report.

Reason:
As set out in the confidential report.

Confirmed as a true record: Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)
Monday, 5 December 2016

