Minutes of a meeting held on 11 October 2010
in the Collingwood Room, Civic Offices, Fareham

Present:  Councillor S D T Woodward - Policy, Strategy and Finance
          (Executive Leader)
          Councillor A Mandry - Public Protection (Deputy Leader)
          Councillor L Keeble - Performance and Improvement
          Councillor K D Evans - Streetscene
          Councillor Mrs C L A Hockley - Community
          Councillor D C S Swanbrow - Strategic Planning and Environment

Also in attendance: Councillors Miss S M Bell (for minute 2(4) Mrs P M Bryant,
                    Chairman of the Community Policy Development and Review
                    Panel, T M Cartwright, Chairman of the Scrutiny Board, P J
                    Davies, Chairman of the Housing Tenancy Board (for minute
                    4(7)), Mrs M E Ellerton, Chairman of the Performance and
                    Improvement Policy Development and Review Panel, J S
                    Forrest, (for minutes 2(1) and 2(2)), Miss T G Harper,
                    Chairman of the Streetscene Policy Development and Review
                    Panel, Mrs K Mandry, Chairman of the Public Protection Policy
                    Development and Review Panel (for minutes 2(1) and 2(2)), R
                    H Price JP, Leader of the Opposition (for minutes 2(4), 4(40,
                    4(5), 4(10), 4(14) and 4(15)) and N J Walker, Chairman of the
                    Planning Committee (for minute 2(4)).
1. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 6 September 2010 (x-100906-m refers) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

2. **DEPUTATIONS**

(1) The Executive received a deputation from Mr Steven Fulcher, who addressed members on Item 6(2) - Reference from the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel relating to a petition, seeking traffic management at Cuckoo Lane, Stubbington, and was thanked accordingly.

(2) The Executive received a deputation from Mr Roger Fisher who addressed members on Item 6(2) - Reference from the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel relating to a petition, seeking traffic management at Cuckoo Lane, Stubbington, and was thanked accordingly.

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillors J S Forrest and Mrs K Mandry addressed the meeting for this item.

RESOLVED that:-

(i) the references of the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel be supported and a letter be sent to Hampshire County Council, outlining the Borough Council's strong support for traffic calming measures at Cuckoo Lane, Stubbington; and

(ii) the officers carry out a review of green play areas with a view to providing barriers to stop children running into the road.

(3) The Executive received a deputation from Mr Neville Carter who addressed members on Item 6(2) - Reference from the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel, relating to a petition, seeking traffic calming measures at Hook Village, Warsash, and was thanked accordingly.

The Executive Leader suggested an amendment to reference (b) from the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel, by adding "in conjunction with the Executive member for Public Protection" after the word "officers".

RESOLVED that the references of the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel be strongly supported, subject to reference (b) being amended to include "in conjunction with the Executive member for Public Protection" after the word "officers".

(4) The Executive received a deputation from Sarah Moss, who addressed members on Item 7(4) - Portchester Community Centre, and was thanked accordingly.

The Executive Leader advised that he had been under extreme pressure
from Councillor Walker and Councillor Bell to secure funding to build a new community centre in Portchester. As a result, he had held further discussions with the Leader of Hampshire County Council, to try and secure additional funding. The Executive Leader read out a letter from the Leader of Hampshire County Council, which confirmed the County Council’s pledge of £1 million towards the cost of building a new community centre and the offer of an additional £1m as an interest free loan to Fareham Borough Council in order to fund the cost of the new development. The Executive Leader thanked Councillor Walker and Councillor Bell for their determination in bringing this matter forward and looked forward to construction of the new community centre starting on site in 2011.

The Executive Leader also confirmed that it would now be possible to build a replacement community centre at the existing site and that it would not be necessary to sell any part of the Portchester Precinct car park for development to fund the project.

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillors Miss S M Bell, N J Walker and R H Price JP, addressed the meeting for this item.

Councillor Miss S M Bell declared a person interest in this item as a member on the Board of Trustees of Portchester Community Centre. She remained in the meeting during the discussion thereon.

Portchester Community Centre - Proposals for a new short term lease - Decision No. 2010/11-84

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the Council serves notice on Portchester Community Association terminating the current lease with effect from 30 April 2011;

(b) the Council offers Portchester Community Association a short term lease (outside of the Landlord and Tenant Act) for up to two years; and

(c) the short term lease be conditional on Portchester Community Association completing essential health and safety works (as set out in Appendix B to the report) by 6 March 2011, to the satisfaction of the Head of Building Services, prior to the lease being granted.

3. MINUTES / REFERENCES

(1) Minutes of the LDF Steering Group:

The Executive received the minutes of the meeting of the Local Development Framework (LDF) Steering Group held on 9 September 2010.

The Executive was advised that since the LDF Steering Group minutes had been published, an additional meeting date of 1 November 2010, had
been added to the Steering Group's work programme.

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the minutes of the meeting of the Local Development Framework Steering Group held on 9 September 2010 (ldf-100909-m) be received; and

(b) the revised work programme be confirmed.

(2) References from Policy Development and Review Panels

The Executive received comments from the Policy Development and Review Panels on a number of matters and took account of those comments in determining the matters at minutes 4(5), 4(9) and 4(11) below. Decisions on other matters were taken as follows:-

Community Policy Development and Review Panel - 8 September 2010:

(i) Homelessness and Housing Options Strategy 2010-2013 - Decision No. 2010/11-85

The Executive considered a matter referred from the meeting of the Community Review Panel held on 8 September 2010 (minute 5(b) (i) and (ii) refers – x-100908-m01) and was advised that a report on this matter would be presented to the November meeting of the Executive.

RESOLVED that the Community Policy Development and Review Panel's comments be taken into account when the Homelessness and Housing Options Strategy is considered by the Executive at its meeting in November 2010.

(ii) Response to a Petition for a Play Area at Hollybrook Gardens - Decision No. 2010/11-86

The Executive considered a matter referred from the meeting of the Community Policy Development and Review Panel held on 8 September 2010 (minute 8 refers – x-100908-m02).

The Executive was advised that this matter was referred to in Item 7(1) of the agenda (minute 4(1) below refers).

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the proposal to reinstate the play area that was once located at Hollybrook Gardens, Locks Heath be endorsed; and

(b) the reinstatement of Hollybrook Gardens play area be added to the Council's existing capital programme for play area refurbishment for 2011/12, utilising developer contributions.
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Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel - 14 September 2010:

(i) Petition - Cuckoo Lane, Stubbington - Decision No. 2010/11-87

The Executive considered a matter referred from the meeting of the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel held on 14 September 2010 (minute 6(i) refers – x-100908-m03).

The Executive Leader suggested that reference (b) from the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel be amended by adding the words "in conjunction with the Executive member for Public Protection" after the word "requested".

RESOLVED that the references from the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel be supported as follows:-

(i) Hampshire County Council be requested to undertake the necessary investigations into the issues raised and that the concerns highlighted by residents should be endorsed and notified to the County Council; and

(b) the officers be requested, in conjunction with the Executive member for Public Protection, to arrange for the Crofton Community Action Team (CAT) mobile speed limit reminder device to be deployed in the area and any information obtained as a result fed to the County investigation.

(ii) Petition - Hook Village, Warsash - Decision No. 2010/11-88

The Executive considered a matter referred from the meeting of the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel held on 14 September 2010 (minute 6(ii) refers – x-100908-m04).

RESOLVED that the references from the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel be supported as follows:-

(a) the Executive be requested to support the petition and to request Hampshire County Council to carry out the necessary investigations; and

(b) the officers be requested, in conjunction with the Executive member for Public Protection, to arrange for the Western Wards Community Action Team (CAT) mobile speed limit reminder device to be deployed in the area and any information obtained as a result fed into the County Council's investigation.

(iii) Annual Health and Safety Performance 2009/10:

The Executive considered a matter referred from the meeting of the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel held on 14 September 2010 and took account of those comments in determining
the matter at minute 4(5) below.

(3) Minutes of the Housing Tenancy Board:

(a) Minutes – 20 September 2010

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the minutes of the meeting of the Housing Tenancy Board held on 20 September 2010 (ht-100920-m) be received; and

(b) the work programme be confirmed.

(4) References from Scrutiny Board:

(i) Finance Strategy:

The Executive considered a matter referred from the meeting of the Scrutiny Board held on 30 September 2010 and took account of those comments in determining the matter at minute 4(9) below.

(ii) Review of the Council’s Corporate Vision and Priorities - Draft for Consultation:

The Executive considered a matter referred from the meeting of the Scrutiny Board held on 30 September 2010 and took account of those comments in determining the matter at minute 4(11) below.

4. EXECUTIVE MATTERS FOR DECISION IN PUBLIC

The Executive considered the following matters for decision and resolved as indicated, in the Notices of Executive Decisions referred to and as set out below:-

Community

(1) Open Spaces Improvement Programme (Key Decision) - Decision No. 2010/11-89

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the amalgamation of contributions, allocated to the different open space types, into two categories for Outdoor Sport and for Play Space and Other Recreational Provision and for the associated contributions to be apportioned to the five respective Community Action Team areas, be agreed;

(b) the Play Space and Other Recreational Space five year improvement programme, as contained in Appendix C to the report, be approved; and
(c) the Outdoor Sports Facilities five year improvement programme, as contained in Appendix D to the report, be approved.

(2) Broadlaw Walk (Key Decision) - Decision No. 2010/11-90

The Executive member for Community advised of changes to the recommendations in the report as follows:-

It was proposed to fund the £30,000 from the capital receipt from the Housing Capital Programme and £12,500 from revenue contributions to capital.

RESOLVED that:-

(a) a Local Lettings Plan be agreed for the first phase of 41 flats;
(b) the flats in Phase 2 be allocated to older people;
(c) matched Funding of £12,500 from revenue contributions to capital be agreed to extend the Community Development Worker until April 2012; and
(d) a capital grant of £30,000, from capital receipts from the Housing Capital Programme be used to fund enhanced energy efficiency works at 40 Crossfell Walk.

(3) Future use of Dibles Caravan Park for the Homeless - Decision No. 2010/11-91

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the terms of the Lease between the Council and Dibles Park Company Limited be changed to end the Council's right to use 5 caravans for the homeless;
(b) improvements be undertaken to the caravans to improve their marketability;
(c) 5 caravans be sold on the open market and any capital receipt to be transferred to the Housing Enabling Capital Programme.

Public Protection

(4) Emergency Planning (Key Decision) - Decision No. 2010/11-92

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price addressed the meeting for this item.

RESOLVED that the annual report be used as a record / update of the work that has been undertaken to enhance the Council's emergency response capability.
At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price addressed the meeting for this item.

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the work undertaken by the Council's managers in maintaining health and safety standards during 2009/10 be noted; and,
(b) the Council as an employer continues to achieve a standard of health and safety management within its activities that meets statutory requirements and demonstrates competence in health and safety management.

Strategic Planning and Environment

RESOLVED that:-

(a) Fareham College be used as the 2010 Christmas park and ride site;
(b) the shopper shuttle from Lysses car park to Ferneham Hall be reinstated during the Christmas period;
(c) officers investigate integrating the two services, as suggested in Option 2 of the Executive Briefing Paper;
(d) a contract be set up with First Bus, or an alternative operator, for the services, which may be combined in some way;
(e) officers be authorised to confirm the provision of bus services for the 2010 Christmas park and ride and shopper shuttle; and
(f) the Director of Strategic Planning and Environment, in consultation with the Executive member for Strategic Planning and Environment, be authorised to determine any other detailed arrangements for the operation of the service.

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor P J Davies addressed the meeting for this item and suggested that the Council's response to the Emerging Transport Strategy, as set out in paragraphs 5-29 of the Executive Briefing Paper, should also seek the following additions and/or amendments to the Strategy issued for consultation by Hampshire County Council, which was appended as Appendix A to the Executive report:-
(a) Page 10 - add reference under Smarter Choices to the provision of electric charging points for electric bicycles;

(b) Page 10 6th bullet point - add reference to the provision of real-time passenger information in homes;

(c) Page 11 - Under paragraph 5.2 Manage - add that the district centre should be designed to prioritise access to shopping facilities by bus users;

(d) Page 13 Bus Rapid Transport - include specific reference to the importance of the provision of a high quality public transport interchange between rail and BRT at Fareham railway station;

(e) Page 13 Bus Rapid Transport - add to final paragraph that all aspects of the BRT infrastructure should be modern and well-designed including CCTV, seats, lighting;

(f) Page 13 Bus Rapid Transport - add reference to the need to provide facilities for blind and partially sighted users; and

(g) That the suggested additional text to the section in the Strategy on Rail Connection, as set out in paragraph 21 of the Executive Briefing Paper, be amended to refer to the need for the feasibility work to examine all options for the provision of a rail connection.

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the Emerging Transport Strategy for the SDA, produced by HCC/TfSH be noted;

(b) the proposed consultation responses in the commentary section of the report be agreed;

(c) authority be delegated to the Director of Strategic Planning and Environment, in consultation with the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Environment, to finalise the response to HCC/TfSH, incorporating the suggested additions and / or amendments as set out above; and

(d) the response be sent as a matter of urgency to HCC/TfSH, prior to the end of the call-in period, due to the prescribed consultation period.

Performance and Improvement

(8) Single Equality Strategy - Decision No. 2010/11-96

RESOLVED that the revised timetable for implementing the new Single Equality Strategy (2010-2013), as appended to the report, and the extension of the current strategy to 2011, be recommended to the Council for approval.
Policy, Strategy and Finance

(9) Annual Review of the Council's Finance Strategy (Key Decision) - Decision No. 2010/11-97

A revised page 19 of the report was circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Council’s finance strategy and the budget guidelines for 2011/12, as set out in the finance strategy document attached to the report and revised page 19 of the report circulated at the meeting, be approved.

(10) Financial Pressures Facing the Council (Key Decision) - Decision No. 2010/11-98

A letter from UNISON was circulated at the meeting.

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price addressed the meeting for this item.

The Executive was advised of an additional recommendation, that officers be authorised to investigate the feasibility of a shared Environmental Health service with Gosport Borough Council.

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the proposed reductions in the staffing budget for 2011/12, as set out in the report, be approved;

(b) the proposal to meet redundancy costs from existing establishment budgets and the spending reserve be approved;

(c) the deletion of the two Chief Officer posts identified in the report be supported and recommended to the Full Council;

(d) the direct reductions in service levels to the local community (i.e. no longer providing information and advice to local people on healthy living; and no longer carrying out the work on waste awareness as undertaken by the Waste and Recycling Officers) be approved;

(e) officers be authorised to investigate the feasibility of a shared legal service with Southampton City Council; and

(f) officers be authorised to investigate the feasibility of a shared Environmental Health service with Gosport Borough Council.

(11) Draft Vision and Objectives for 2011/17 (Key Decision) - Decision No. 2010/11-99

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price addressed the meeting for this item.
The Executive member for Performance and Improvement suggested that Community Action Fareham be added to the list of interested parties set out on page 2 of the report.

RESOLVED that the revised version of the corporate vision and objectives, attached at Appendix B to the report, be approved for consultation with interested parties, including Community Action Fareham, and be publicised accordingly.

(12) Local Strategic Partnership - Minutes - Decision No. 2010/11-100

RESOLVED that the (unconfirmed) minutes of the meeting of the Local Strategic Partnership held on 21 September 2010 be noted.

(13) PUSH Economic Development Strategy - Response to Consultation - Decision No. 2010/11-101

RESOLVED that:

(a) the draft emerging Economic Development Strategy and the six statements set out in Paragraph 1 of the Executive Briefing Paper be supported;

(b) the additional comments, as set out in Paragraph 20-24 of the Executive Briefing Paper be forwarded to PUSH; and

(c) collaboration with PUSH to facilitate discussions with delivery partners on the preparation of an implementation plan be agreed.

(14) Attendance at Meeting - Decision No. 2010/11-102

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price addressed the meeting for this item and requested that the Executive Leader advise all members of the outcome of discussions held at the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Executive Leader's attendance at a meeting with Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, in London, on 22 October 2010, be approved.

(15) Attendance at Dinner with a Minister - Decision No. 2010/11-103

RESOLVED that the Executive Leader's attendance at a dinner being held on 16 November 2010 in Central London, hosted by Bouygues UK, be approved.

5. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 the Public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting, as the Executive considers that it is not in the public interest to consider the matters in public on the grounds that they will involve the disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.
Private Session

6. EXECUTIVE MATTER FOR DECISION IN PRIVATE

The Executive considered the following matters for decision in private and resolved as indicated in the Notices of Executive Decisions referred to and as set out below:

Policy, Strategy and Finance

(16) Malthouse Lane, Fareham - Decision No. 2010/11-104

RESOLVED that approval be given for the acquisition of the Gospel Hall and adjoining land with the terms, if they can be agreed, being delegated to the Director of Finance in consultation with the Executive Leader.

(17) Award of Contract - Installation of Composite FD30s Doorsets to 142 Maisonettes (Key Decision) - Decision No. 2010/11-105

RESOLVED that the tender submitted by Anglian Building Products for this project, being the most technically and economically advantageous tender received, be accepted and a contract awarded.

(18) Kitchen and Bathroom Modernisations Contract (Key Decision) - Decision No. 2010/11-106

Councillor K D Evans declared a prejudicial interest in this item, as a close family member is an employee of MITIE Property Services (UK) Ltd. He left the meeting at 8:33pm and did not take part in any of the discussion or decision.

RESOLVED that the tender submitted by MITIE Property Services (UK) Ltd. for the Kitchen and Bathroom Modernisation Contract (KB027), being the most economically advantageous tender received, be accepted and a contract awarded.

(NOTE: All decisions are non-key decisions unless otherwise indicated)

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 8:35pm).