

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE CABINET

Wednesday, 13th April 2005 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors D. C. Norton (Executive Leader), Mrs. M. M. T. Taylor (Deputy Executive Leader), B. L. Fuller C.B.E., Q.F.S.M., Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths, R. Hollingworth and P. J. Whittaker.

Observers: Councillors P. M. McDonald, N. Psirides J.P., and C. J. K. Wilson

209/04 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Cabinet held on 16th March 2005 were submitted.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes be approved and confirmed.

210/04 **MEMBER DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

The Minutes of the Member Development Working Group held on 4th April 2005 were submitted. It was noted that in relation to Minute 22/04 further consideration was to be given to addressing the methodology of providing secure internet connections and not to the principle of such provision which had already been agreed.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes be approved and adopted.

211/04 **MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10**

(a) Cleanliness of the District

Councillors P. M. McDonald and C. J. K. Wilson spoke in support of the motion that the leaders of the political groups meet to best utilise the identified underspend to restore Bromsgrove's previous standard of cleanliness. During the discussion it was noted that the Interim Head of Depot Services was currently preparing a report on a range of issues with regard to the cleanliness of the District and related matters. It was suggested that Members contact the Officer direct with any specific concerns regarding particular areas of the District. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: that in view of the work currently being undertaken to produce a comprehensive report on this issue, no action be taken in respect of a meeting of political group leaders.

212/04 **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2005/06**

Having considered the Administrative Services Business Plan for 2005/06, it was

RESOLVED: that the Business Plan be approved.

213/04 **AUDIT AND POLICY BUSINESS PLAN 2005/06**

Having considered the Audit and Policy Business Plan for 2005/06, it was

RESOLVED: that the Business Plan be approved.

214/04

LEGAL SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2005/06

Having considered the Legal Services Business Plan for 2005/06, it was

RESOLVED: that the Business Plan be approved.

215/04

PERSONNEL SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2005/06

Having considered the Personnel Services Business Plan for 2005/06, it was

RESOLVED: that the Business Plan be approved.

216/04

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ENGINEERING BUSINESS PLAN 2005/06

Having considered the Community Safety and Engineering Business Plan for 2005/06, it was

RESOLVED: that the Business Plan be approved.

217/04

PROTECTION OF EMPLOYEE PAY DURING REDUNDANCY REDEPLOYMENT

Consideration was given to the review of the Council's policy on the protection of employee pay during redundancy redeployment, and it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the reduction of the period during which employee pay is protected during redundancy redeployment from 3 years to 12 months be approved; and
- (b) that the establishment of a Policy and Procedure Consultation Group be noted.

218/04

2005/2008 STRATEGIC AUDIT PLAN - YEAR ONE

Consideration was given to the first year of the 2005/2008 Strategic Audit Plan. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: that the first year of the 2005/2008 Strategic Audit Plan be approved and that the Plan be reviewed after 12 months.

219/04

SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRESS REPORT AND DRAFT FIVE YEAR STRATEGY

Following consideration of the report, it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the latest position regarding the service reviews and financial position in 2004/2005 and 2005/2006 be noted;
- (b) that action to challenge the likely significant reduction in the Supporting People funding for Worcestershire in 2006/2007 be approved; and
- (c) that the Five Year Strategy be approved.

220/04

FEASIBILITY STUDY OF DECIMINALISED PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Consideration was given to the report on the possibility of adopting Decriminalised Parking Enforcement and the advantages of undertaking a feasibility study. Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) that a feasibility study of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement be undertaken by RTA Associates Limited; and
- (b) that the cost of £4,775 be funded by way of a virement from the Excess Charge Revenue Budget.

221/04

STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING ADVICE POLICY

Consideration was given to the amendment of the Policy previously adopted to reflect the inclusion of the appropriate Parish Council in the list of Consultees on requests for naming streets and buildings.

RESOLVED: that the amended Policy on Street Naming and Numbering be approved.

222/04

ARTS STRATEGY

Consideration was given to the Draft Arts Strategy and it was

RESOLVED: that the Draft Arts Strategy be approved for consultation purposes.

223/04

CORPORATE PLAN

Following consideration of the results of consultation of the draft Corporate Plan, it was

RECOMMENDED: that, subject to the revisions set out at points 1-7 of the report, the Corporate Plan as amended be approved.

224/04

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

RESOLVED: that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the Meeting during the consideration of the item of business the subject of the following Minute on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of "Exempt Information" as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act, the relevant paragraph of that part being as set out below:-

Minute No.
225/04

Paragraph
1

225/04

PROPOSED CHANGES TO MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Consideration was given to the report on the proposed changes to the Management Structure. The Chief Executive Officer amended figures in paragraph 6.2 with regard to the estimated cost of the proposed management structure for 2005/06 to £624,000 (£753,000 including on costs). In addition, it was noted that the amount set aside in the Council's budget for contingencies referred to in paragraph 6.5 should read £150,000.

It was also noted that at this stage the areas of responsibility allocated in the report to the service management posts and the post of Assistant Chief Executive were indicative and did not necessarily reflect the final position in view of the consultation process currently taking place. Following discussion, it was

- (1) **RESOLVED:**
 - (a) that the reshaping of the senior management structure of the organisation be approved;
 - (b) that the establishment of the two new posts of Assistant Chief Executive and Head of Financial Services be approved;

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- (c) that the assessment centre process as described in section 7 of the report be noted;
 - (d) that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, in agreement with the Leader of the Council, the Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Corporate Director (Resources) to -
 - (i) agree any changes arising out of the consultation to be undertaken with senior staff and their Trade Union representatives; and
 - (ii) agree the funding of the assessment centre process, at the most cost effective price determined by the market at the time and to identify the most appropriate source of that funding.
- (2) **RECOMMENDED:**
- (a) that the release of £2,000,000 of capital receipts to comprise £1,250,000 to facilitate the restructure and £750,000 to fund additional activities to support improvement, be approved; and
 - (b) that the resulting reduction of £65,000 in investment income be met from the budget set aside for contingencies.

The Meeting closed at 7.20 p.m.

Chairman