

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 19TH JANUARY 2011 AT 3.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors R. Hollingworth (Chairman), G. N. Denaro (Vice-Chairman), Dr. D. W. P. Booth JP, Mrs. J. Dyer M.B.E., Mrs. M. A. Sherrey JP, R. D. Smith, M. J. A. Webb and P. J. Whittaker

Observers: Councillor C. R. Scurrall

Officers: Mr. K. Dicks, Ms. S. Hanley, Ms. J. Pickering, Mr. J. Staniland, Mrs. C. Felton, Ms. R. Bamford, Mr. M. Dunphy and Ms. R. Cole

118/10 **APOLOGIES**

No apologies for absence were received.

119/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

120/10 **DRAFT CORE STRATEGY 2**

The Cabinet considered a report on the Draft Core Strategy 2. It was reported that the Draft Core Strategy set out for public consultation the vision, objectives and key policies which would guide the development of the District up to 2026.

The Portfolio Holder referred to the procedure which the Core Strategy had been subject to in order to reach this stage and to the further public consultation which it was intended would now take place. The Cabinet felt it was important that all Members of the Council played a part in publicising the Strategy and the importance in encouraging the public to participate in the consultation process.

Members also paid tribute to the work of officers within the Strategic Planning Section which had resulted in what Members felt was a clear and "reader friendly" document.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that the Draft Core Strategy 2 be approved for the purposes of public consultation;
- (b) that the public consultation period be from 21st January to 4th March 2011; and

- (c) that delegated authority be approved to enable the Strategic Planning Manager in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to make any further essential revisions to the draft prior to its publication.

121/10 **TOWN CENTRE DRAFT AREA ACTION PLAN**

The Cabinet considered a report on the Town Centre Draft Area Action Plan. It was reported that the Area Action Plan set out for the purposes of public consultation a set of planning policies to guide regeneration activities in the Town Centre.

Members paid tribute to the work of officers involved in the production of the Draft Area Action Plan. It was reported that as with the Core Strategy, there would be a detailed programme of public consultation, including the temporary use of premises within the Town Centre to publicise the Plan and to seek views from the public.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that the Bromsgrove Town Centre Area Action Plan be approved for the purposes of public consultation;
- (b) that the public consultation period be from 21st January to 4th March 2011;
- (c) that delegated authority be approved to enable the Strategic Planning Manager in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to make any further essential revisions prior to the draft prior to its publication.

122/10 **CONSULTATION ON LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN**

The Cabinet considered a draft response to Worcestershire Local Transport Plan No.3 as set out in the appendix to the report.

Members generally supported the proposed response to the Local Transport Plan No.3 however it was felt that the response should be strengthened to reinforce the following matters:

- a request for full consultation by the County Council with the District Council prior to decisions being taken which would impact adversely on the District;
- further reference to the impact loss of services would have on employment particularly within rural areas;
- a request for more support for improvements to the transport infrastructure in Bromsgrove, including the redevelopment of Bromsgrove Railway Station;
- a serious concern regarding the lack of transport links between rural areas and the local hospitals.

RESOLVED that subject to the inclusion of the points referred to above, the response to the Worcestershire Local Transport Plan 3 be approved.

123/10 **BROMSGROVE LEISURE CENTRE OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

It was reported that this item had been withdrawn and would now be dealt with as part of the consideration of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

124/10 **THE MARKETING OF BROMSGROVE**

The Cabinet considered a report on proposals to promote Bromsgrove by way of the creation of a Bromsgrove “identity” and “product” as part of the economic development of the district and the regeneration of the Town Centre.

It was reported that the associated marketing campaign, including the creation of a “shop window” web site and investment prospectus, would promote Bromsgrove to investors, developers and retailers together with visitors and shoppers.

RECOMMENDED that the sum of £20,000 be allocated from balances in 2010/2011 to fund the production of a marketing campaign to promote Bromsgrove Town Centre and the wider district.

125/10 **REVIEW OF LICKEY END PARISH COUNCIL - USE OF FUNDS**

The Cabinet considered a report on the position relating to the assets of Lickey End Parish Council following the dissolution of the Parish Council. The Parish had forwarded its remaining funds of £5,545 to the District Council and these were now being held in a suspense account.

As reported at the previous meeting it was noted that the Parish Council had requested that the funds be donated to the Help for Heroes Charity. It was confirmed that whilst the District Council was obliged to consider the wishes of the Parish Council it was not required to abide by them.

Following a detailed discussion on the request from the Parish Council during which Members fully acknowledged the value of the excellent work undertaken by the Charity it was

RESOLVED that as the funds remaining following the dissolution of Lickey End Parish Council are public money and in view of the current extremely difficult financial circumstances faced by the Council, including likely cuts to many service areas, the sum of £5,545 be transferred to balances.

126/10 **SHARED SERVICES BOARD**

The minutes of the meeting of the Shared Services Board held on 11th January 2011 (part) were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

127/10 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

RESOLVED that under Section 100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the items of business the subject of the following minutes on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of "Exempt Information" as defined in part 1 of schedule 12A to the Act, as amended, the relevant part being as set out below and that it is in the public interest to do so.

<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>
128/10	1 and 3
129/10	1 and 3

128/10 **SHARED SERVICES BOARD**

The confidential minutes of the Shared Services Board held on 9th December 2010 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

RECOMMENDED:

Human Resources and Organisational Development (HR and OD)– Business Case

that Human Resources and Organisational Development services for Bromsgrove District Council and Redditch Borough Council be delivered by a single shared HR and OD Team, hosted by Redditch Borough Council.

Policy, Performance and Partnerships (PPP) – Business Case

- (a) that Policy, Performance and Partnerships services be delivered by a single shared PPP Team, hosted by Bromsgrove District Council but, subject to further consideration of the location of staff; and
- (b) that Option 2 in the Business Case be approved, which delivers an annual saving of £77,000 to Redditch Borough Council and £11,000 to Bromsgrove District Council.

Building Control - North Worcestershire Based Shared Service – Business Case

- (a) that approval in principle be given to a Building Control Service for Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove District Council and Wyre Forest District Council, to be delivered by a single shared North Worcestershire Building Control Team, hosted by Bromsgrove District Council; and subject to prior consideration of a Business Case containing detailed financial information by the Shared Services Board; and
- (b) that an implementation plan be agreed between the three participating Councils with effect from such date as may be agreed; such matters to be included in the Business Case.

129/10 **SHARED SERVICES BOARD**

The confidential minutes of the meeting of the Shared Services Board held on 11th January 2011 were submitted.

RECOMMENDED:

North Worcestershire Economic Development Shared Service

- (a) that Bromsgrove District Council and Redditch Borough Council enter into arrangements to establish a new shared Economic and Regeneration Service across the North Worcestershire districts of Wyre Forest, Bromsgrove and Redditch, such service to be hosted on behalf of the three participating Councils by Wyre Forest District Council (the details of the proposed shared service being as set out in the implementation plan contained within the report);
- (b) that subject to such an agreement being concluded, relevant staff from Bromsgrove District Council and Redditch Borough Council be transferred to Wyre Forest District Council in accordance with the principles of TUPE, with effect from 1st June 2011;
- (c) that the financial arrangements for the new service, as set out in the Appendix attached to the report be approved in principle allowing the business case documentation to be presented to the full Council meetings for Bromsgrove District Council and Redditch Borough Council in January 2011 for final ratification and recommended to each authority as the basis for the new Economic Development and Regeneration Unit budget;
- (d) that authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Finance and Resources to undertake any necessary action relating to employee and union matters regarding the transfer of relevant employees to Wyre Forest District Council and, in consultation with the Executive Director of Planning and Regeneration, to make any residual staffing arrangements;
- (e) that authority be delegated to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Executive Director for Planning and Regeneration, to agree the terms of any necessary service level agreements for implementation of the shared Economic Development and Regeneration Unit and to conclude such agreements; and
- (f) that as part of the said legal agreement, all necessary Cabinet / Executive and full Council functions be delegated to enable Wyre Forest District Council to deliver a shared Economic Development and Regeneration Service within the terms contained in the said agreement.

The meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.

Chairman