

Cherwell District Council

Executive

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA, on 16 November 2009 at 6.30 pm

Present: Councillor Barry Wood (Chairman)
Councillor G A Reynolds (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Ken Atack
Councillor Norman Bolster
Councillor Michael Gibbard
Councillor James Macnamara
Councillor Nigel Morris
Councillor Nicholas Turner

Apologies for absence: Councillor Kieron Mallon □ Councillor D M Pickford

Officers: Mary Harpley, Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service
Ian Davies, Strategic Director - Environment and Community
John Hoad, Strategic Director - Planning, Housing and Economy
Mike Carroll, Head of Improvement
Karen Curtin, Head of Finance
David Marriott, Head of Economic Developments & Estates
Phil O'Dell, Chief Finance Officer
Claire Taylor, Community Planning Manager
Pam Wilkinson, Principal Solicitor
Jo Smith, Communications Manager
Alexa Coates, Senior Democratic and Scrutiny Officer

67 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

68 **Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting**

There were no petitions or requests to address the meeting.

69 **Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

70 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2009 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

71 **A New Cherwell Sustainable Community Strategy**

The Chief Executive submitted a report which proposed changes to the draft Cherwell Sustainable Community Strategy following formal public consultation and confirmation of the Council's representatives on the Local Strategic Partnership.

Resolved

- (1) That the results of the formal consultation on the draft Sustainable Community Strategy are noted and the changes resulting from the consultation be agreed.
- (2) That authority to agree further amendments to the strategy in line with council policy be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
- (3) That the: Leader, Portfolio Holder for Communications and the Chief Executive be agreed as the Council's representatives on the Local Strategic Partnership.

Reasons – The draft sustainable community strategy outlines the key strategic priorities, opportunities and challenges for the district. The strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis and it will be actioned through a five year delivery plan which all local partners will be asked to contribute to. Performance will be reported on a quarterly basis.

Options

Option One

1. To note the results of the formal consultation on the draft Sustainable Community Strategy and to agree the changes resulting from the consultation.
2. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council to agree further amendments to the strategy in line with council policy as the Local Strategic Partnership signs off the final draft on 19th November 2009.
3. To agree the proposed District Council representatives to the Local Strategic Partnership.

Option Two

Identify issues or omissions which the Local Strategic

Partnership should reconsider for inclusion in the Strategy.

72

The Horton General Hospital and the Work of the Better Healthcare Programme for Banbury and the Surrounding Areas

The Strategic Director Environment and Community submitted a report which considered the progress made on developing future services for the Horton General Hospital through the Better Healthcare Programme for Banbury and surrounding areas.

Resolved

- (4) That the significant progress made by the Better Healthcare Programme for Banbury and the surrounding areas be noted.
- (5) That the current approach of the Better Healthcare Programme Board to implement consultant delivered obstetric and paediatric services, greater integration of emergency and GP out of hours work, specific initiatives to support the sustainability of general surgery and trauma and using the services provided at the Horton General Hospital for research and academic purposes, be endorsed.
- (6) That the Executive thank all those who have participated in the Better Healthcare Programme for Banbury and surrounding areas.

Options

Option One

The Council continues to support the PCT in assessing and arriving at sustainable and safe services for the Horton in the future.

Option Two

The Council could choose to do nothing and leave the PCT unsupported in this exercise. This clearly has not been Council policy to date and is not proposed in future.

73

Performance Management Framework 2009/10 Second Quarter Performance Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report which explained the Council's performance for the period 1 July to 30 September 2009 as measured through the Performance Management Framework. The corporate scorecard is central to the framework and covers seven areas of performance: Local Area Assessment, the Community Plan, Corporate Plan Promises, Priority Service Indicators, Financial Performance, Human Resources and Customer Feedback.

Resolved

- 1) That the many achievements in relation to the Local Development Framework and Housing Services be noted
- 2) That Officers be requested to report in the third quarter on items with low performance such as the Markets contract and planning appeal decisions.
- 3) That the responses to issues identified in the previous quarterly report be noted.

Reasons - This report presents the Council's performance against its corporate scorecard for the second quarter of 2009/10. It includes an overview of our successes, areas for improvement and emerging issues to be considered.

Option One

1. To note the many achievements referred to in paragraph 1.3.
2. To request that officers report in the third quarter on the items identified in paragraph 1.4 where performance was below target or there are emerging issues.
3. To agree the responses identified to issues raised in the last quarterly performance report in paragraph 2.1 or to request additional action or information.

Option Two

To identify any additional issues for further consideration or review.

2009/10 Projected Revenue & Capital Outturn at 30 September 2009

The Head of Finance submitted a report summarising the Council's Revenues and Capital performance for the first six months of the 2009/10 financial year and projections for the full 2009/10 period. The performance and projections are measured by the budget monitoring function and reported via the Performance Management Framework which informs the 2009/10 budget process.

Resolved

- 1) That the projected revenues and capital position at September 2009 be noted.
- 2) That the changes to the 2009/10 capital programme as set out below be approved:

- Slip £2,281k of projects into 2010/11 capital programme and review as part of the 2010/11 budget process
- Slip forward £13k of budget from the 2010/11 profiles to meet expenditure to be incurred in 2010/11.
- Release £173k of expenditure from the capital budget as a result of savings identified on a number of schemes and use £82k for a supplementary estimate for the 2 schemes detailed in 2.11.

3) That the Q2 performance against 2009/10 investment strategy be noted.

Reasons - This report illustrates the Council's performance against the 2009/10 Revenue and Capital Budget and includes details of Treasury Performance as at Qtr 2 – September 2009

Option One	To review current performance levels and consider any actions arising.
Option Two	To approve or reject the recommendations above or request that Officers provide additional information.

75 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Resolved

That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

76 **Value For Money Review of Human Resources**

The Chief Executive and the Head of Improvement submitted a joint report which considered the findings of the Value for Money (VFM) Review of Human Resources. The review formed part of the Value for Money programme of reviews, which aimed to cover all services within the council and improve the value of services offered to residents of Cherwell.

Resolved

That the recommendations set out in the exempt minutes be agreed.

77 **Bicester Town Centre Development**

The Head of Economic Development and Estates submitted a report which updated members on the progress of the proposed redevelopment scheme,

and sought approval for the revised arrangements proposed to deliver this project.

Resolved

That the proposed financial arrangements set out in the exempt appendix be agreed in principle subject to the review of the accounting treatment of the transactions detailed in the exempt annex by the Head of Finance and the Chief Executive in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Organisational Development and the Leader.

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm

Chairman:

Date: