

Cherwell District Council

Executive

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive held at Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA, on 12 July 2010 at 6.30 pm

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

Councillor Ken Atack
Councillor Norman Bolster
Councillor Colin Clarke
Councillor Michael Gibbard
Councillor Nigel Morris
Councillor D M Pickford

Apologies for absence: Councillor James Macnamara
Councillor Nicholas Turner
Councillor Nick Cotter

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
Liz Howlett, Head of Legal & Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer
Martin Henry, Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer
David Marriott, Head of Regeneration & Estates
Tony Brummell, Head of Building Control & Engineering Services

32 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

33 Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

There were no petitions or requests to address the meeting.

34 Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

35 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2010, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the amendment that the declarations listed should relate to agenda item 10 Eco-Town Arrangements – Local Authority Funding Arrangements.

36 **The Case for Considering Close Joint Working between Cherwell District and South Northamptonshire Councils**

The Leader of the Council submitted a report to agree to establish a Joint Member Working Party to examine the business case for sharing senior management structures between Cherwell District Council (CDC) and South Northamptonshire Council (SNC), recognising that this may well lead to joint teams for service delivery in the future.

Resolved

- (1) That a Joint Member Working Party be established to examine the business case to create a shared senior management structure between Cherwell District Council and South Northamptonshire Council with a view to reporting its findings to the Executive and then to a special meeting of full Council on 3 November 2010.
- (2) That the Terms of Reference for this Joint Member Working Party (attached as Annex 1 to the minutes as set out in the minute book) be approved.
- (3) That Councillors Wood, Reynolds, Macnamara, Atack and Cotter be nominated to the Joint Member Working Party with Councillors Turner and Williamson as substitutes.

Reasons

Both CDC and SNC face significant medium term financial deficits, as well as short term financial challenges. These need to be addressed, but at the same time, both Councils want to protect valued front-line services for as long as possible. They also want to retain the capacity to serve their respective Districts over and above the normal work of District Councils, as both already do. Many District Councils have already put in place arrangements to share management teams, and have then moved on to consider sharing specific services and/or procuring jointly from others while remaining separate and sovereign organisations and securing savings.

Options

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|-------------------|--|
| Option One | Not to proceed to appoint Members to the Joint Member Working Party. |
| Option Two | Establish the Joint Member Working Party |

37 **Kidlington Pedestrianisation Scheme and Traffic Regulation Order**

The Head of Regeneration and Estates submitted a report to confirm the Council's approval for the release of the capital funds for the feasibility work on proposed changes to Kidlington's High Street via an improved Traffic Regulation Order.

Resolved

- (1) That a supplementary capital bid of £25,000 to finance the feasibility work on proposed changes to Kidlington's High Street via an improved Traffic Regulation Order be approved.

Reasons

The Kidlington Pedestrianisation capital bid (value £25,000) was referred to scrutiny for further consideration by Council in February 2010. The bid was rejected as part of the 2010/11 budget process due to the overall financial constraints facing the Council. However the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Communication had indicated that a supplementary estimate could be made if the scrutiny review considers that it is justified. The review was considered on the 22 June 2010 by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and recommended approval to the Executive.

Options

Option One Approve the capital bid for the scheme to move forward

Option Two Reject the bid. However this will result in the postponement of any further work on the scheme and a failure to meet Service Plan targets.

The meeting ended at 6.44 pm

Chairman:

Date: