

**7 MAY 2008**

**NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Wednesday, 7 May 2008.

- p Cllr M J Kendal (Chairman)
- p Cllr B Rickman (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:**

- p G C Beck
- p Mrs J L Cleary
- p E J Heron

**Councillors:**

- e Mrs M D Holding
- p C R Treleaven
- p C A Wise

**In Attendance:**

**Councillors:**

Ms L C Ford  
D Harrison  
Mrs A J Hoare  
Mrs M E Lewis  
Mrs A E McEvoy  
Sqn Ldr B M F Pemberton  
L R Puttock

**Councillors:**

Mrs M J Robinson  
Mrs A M Rostand  
Mrs B Smith  
Mrs S I Snowden  
A J Swain  
J G Ward

**Also In Attendance:**

Mrs P White and Mrs A Murphy, Tenants' Representatives.

**Officers Attending:**

D Yates, R Jackson, J Mascal, Ms J Bateman and Miss G O'Rourke and for part of the meeting G Bettle and D Brown.

**110. MINUTES.**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 April 2008, having been circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Arising from the Minutes:

**FORMER ROYAL NAVY ARMAMENTS DEPOT, MARCHWOOD – COMPLETION OF FLOOD DEFENCES AND PUBLIC FOOTPATH**

Following the Cabinet's decision on 2 April 2008 the Planning and Transportation Portfolio Holder confirmed that all of the necessary consents for the completion of the flood defence works had been put in place and the contractor had confirmed the reported costs were still valid.

The Portfolio Holder was also pleased to report that Marchwood Yacht Club had agreed to the terms of a legal agreement which would allow the scheme to go ahead. The flood defences that would be provided in the scheme would protect residential properties, as well as the Yacht Club itself, whilst enabling public access around the sea wall in a manner which would not restrict the launching of craft down the existing slipway.

Subject to the receipt of the validated legal paperwork the contract would be let and the works would start on the site in about one month's time. This would allow the implementation of one of the key priorities of the Marchwood Community Plan.

**111. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No declarations of interest were made by members in connection with any agenda item.

**112. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

No issues were raised during the public participation period.

**113. OPERATING OUR VEHICLES – FINAL DRAFT IMPROVEMENT PLAN (REPORT A).**

The Cabinet considered an Improvement Plan developed following the green fleet review of the Council's transport fleet, employee and member travel.

Members were pleased to note that the Employee side fully supported the need to reduce the Council's carbon footprint and the principle of working to minimise the impact the Council's municipal fleet and other business mileage had on the environment. They indicated they would be keen to work closely with managers in the implementation of any fleet management system and would be pleased to accept the offer of being part of the implementation project team. As part of this project, a clear statement would need to be agreed that clarified the system purpose and use by management. The Cabinet agreed that once the fleet management system was implemented a review be undertaken after 6 months to ensure that any employee concerns could be considered.

In response to a question the Cabinet agreed that it was important that sufficient finance was available to enable the Improvement Plan to be fully implemented. The business case had been prepared on a self financing basis but each area would be

considered individually and supported if appropriate. A small incentive scheme had been built into the process to reward employees in the 'yellow fleet' project when they achieved 'green goals' and members agreed that the Environment Panel be asked to look at options for extending this to all employees.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Improvement Plan for the Green Audit theme 1 'Operating Our Vehicles' be agreed.

**114. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2007/08 AND KEY TARGETS 2008/09 (REPORT B).**

The Cabinet considered the Council's key achievements for 2007/08 and proposed key targets for 2008/09. The key targets had, in the main, been identified through the high priority areas within service improvement plans and were in line with the aims in 'Leading our Forest Communities' the new corporate plan.

In response to a question it was noted that the Council was working through the Equality Standards framework and that equality impact assessments would be applied to the decision making process whenever appropriate.

In discussing the detail of the report members noted that Health and Well Being partnerships were being set up at county and district levels to build on joint working on public health.

The Chairman confirmed that, in response to feedback and in consultation with the Planning and Transportation Portfolio Holder, Lymington town would not now be a pilot area for on-street parking charges. Discussion would however be undertaken with the Chamber of Commerce and other local representatives to consider ways of improving transport throughput in the town.

Members noted that it was hoped to bring a report to the next meeting of the Cabinet reviewing the discretionary element of the Concessionary Fares travel scheme with a view to extending the benefits further for people with disabilities.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the assessment of performance against the 2007/08 targets as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report B to the Cabinet be noted;
- (b) That the proposed SMART targets for 2008/09 as detailed in Appendix 2 to Report B to the Cabinet be agreed; and
- (c) That it be agreed that the overall set of proposed targets for 2008/09, mapped against the new corporate plan, Leading our Forest Communities, provides a reasonable balance across all the key issues for the coming year, and that no further key issues need to be included in the performance plan, 'Performance Matters'.

**115. PROPOSED DELEGATION OF POWER TO MILFORD-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL TO DESIGNATE A NATURE RESERVE (REPORT C).**

The Leisure, Culture and Youth Matters Portfolio Holder was pleased to support the proposal to delegate power to Milford-on-Sea parish council to enable them to establish three areas of land in their ownership as local nature reserves.

**RESOLVED:**

That, upon receipt by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services of an indemnity as detailed in paragraph 2.4 of Report C to the Cabinet, the Parish Council be delegated power under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 to designate the areas shown shaded on the plan at Appendix 1 to Report C as local nature reserves pursuant to Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (as amended).

**116. DELEGATION OF POWERS TO OFFICERS.**

The Cabinet considered revised delegations of powers to officers.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the following officers be authorised to issue formal cautions in respect of offences committed under the 'Planning Acts' (the latter having the same definition as in the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 as amended) subject to the Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Solicitors or employed Barristers being satisfied that offences have taken place:-

- Head of Planning & Transportation
- Development Control Manager
- Senior Planning Officer (Enforcement)
- Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Solicitors or employed Barristers.

- (b) That the following officers be authorised to issue discontinuance notices under the Town & Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007 but only where the compensation provisions set out in S.223 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 do not apply, following consultation with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services.

- Head of Planning & Transportation
- Development Control Manager
- Senior Planning Officer (Enforcement)

CHAIRMAN