

**4 MARCH 2009**

**NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Wednesday, 4 March 2009.

p Cllr B Rickman (Chairman)  
p Cllr E J Heron (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:**

p G C Beck  
p Mrs D M Brooks  
p Mrs J L Cleary

**Councillors:**

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

**In Attendance:**

**Councillors:**

C J Harrison  
D Harrison  
Mrs M E Lewis  
L R Puttock  
Mrs A M Rostand

**Councillors:**

Mrs B Smith  
Mrs S I Snowden  
F P Vickers  
J G Ward

**Also In Attendance:**

Mrs P White and Mrs W Celea, Housing Policy and Report Focus Group Representatives.

**Officers Attending:**

D Yates, J Mascall, Ms J Bateman and Miss G O'Rourke and for part of the meeting C Read and R Powell.

**98. MINUTES.**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2009, having been circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**99. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

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

**100. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

No issues were raised during the public participation period.

**101. PROJECT INTEGRA ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2009 – 2014 (REPORT A).**

The Cabinet considered the Project Integra Annual Action Plan 2009 – 2014. The Plan was the mechanism by which the Project Integra Board carried out its work on behalf of the partnership and set out the costs of running the Board and the associated joint activities of the Partnership.

Members noted that, in the current economic climate, the price obtainable for recyclables was falling. This was an issue that Project Integra was addressing to ensure the use of sustainable markets that would provide the best possible prices.

The Environment Portfolio Holder was pleased to note that in 2007/08 the Council had exceeded their statutory recycling target and would continue to work to improve recycling rates in order to meet future increased statutory targets. The Portfolio Holder also drew members' attention to the fact that NFDC were the only local authority in Project Integra that still offered weekly collections for both waste and recyclables and yet were still rated as the third lowest in cost which was an excellent result.

The Cabinet agreed that the Council's good performance had been achieved through education and working with the customers which kept satisfaction rates high.

In response to a question members noted that it was currently felt that to provide a doorstep glass recycling collection would increase the Council's costs and carbon footprint, whilst not achieving a significant increase in the amount of glass collected. However, waste and recycling options were continually being reviewed and if it became economic to collect mixed glass in one vehicle, then that might be considered.

***RECOMMENDED:***

***That the Project Integra Annual Action Plan 2009-2014 be approved.***

**102. GREEN AUDIT DRAFT IMPROVEMENT PLANS (REPORT B).**

The Cabinet considered three further improvement plans arising from the Green Audit process relating to the way in which the Council operated its services; procured its goods and services and how it understood and planned for climate change.

The Environment Portfolio Holder said that he was very pleased with the work that the Green Audit Board were producing and for the helpful cross party working that was taking place. Members agreed that the format of the Board was very inclusive and gave a helpful basis for discussion and could be considered for other topic areas.

**RESOLVED:**

That the three improvement plans covering the way in which the Council operates its services; the way in which the Council procures its goods and services and the way in which the Council understands and plans for climate change as detailed in Report B to the Cabinet be approved.

**103. STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING SERVICE (REPORT C).**

The Cabinet considered updates to the criteria that formed the protocol to aid the administration of the street naming and numbering service together with changes to the delegation of powers to officers.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the revised delegation of powers to officers as set out in section 3 of Report C to the Cabinet be approved; and
- (b) That the criteria for the purpose of administering the Council's street naming and numbering statutory function, as set out in section 4 of Report C to the Cabinet be approved.

**104. HYTHE PROMENADE ENHANCEMENT SCHEME – FINAL CONTRACT PAYMENT (REPORT D).**

The Cabinet considered details of a final contract payment required for the Hythe Promenade Enhancement Scheme. The Scheme was opened in July 2006 and was highly commended in the Local Government News Street Design Awards in 2007 and won a Civic Trust Award in 2008.

The project was a partnership scheme with an approved total budget of £792,000 funded by contributions from Hampshire County Council (£492,000), New Forest District Council (£271,000), Hythe and Dibden Parish Council (£28,500) and local business (£500).

During the course of the project two claims were made by the contractor for additional payments, culminating in a single detailed claim being submitted in December 2007. The claims, which were for additional work above that originally contracted for, were complex and were professionally assessed, with the conclusion being that at least in part, the claims were justified. Members agreed that it was disappointing that the management of the contract had led to additional costs being incurred. Since the contract had been let new guidance on project management had been issued to all staff, and training was being organised for officers with responsibility for managing contracts of that nature to emphasise individual responsibilities and highlight lessons learned.

**RECOMMENDED:**

***That a supplementary estimate of £115,000 (of which HCC will contribute £67,500) be agreed in order to make a final contract payment for the Hythe Promenade enhancement works.***

**RESOLVED:**

That, in view of the requirement to make the outstanding payment by 13 March 2009, the Cabinet note that the Executive Director (Section 151 Officer) will, as a matter of urgency, and in accordance with Financial Regulation 2.4, arrange for the payment to be made by that date.

CHAIRMAN

(DEMOCRAT/CB040309/MINUTES.DOC)