

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2008

Attendance:

The Mayor (Councillor Kimber) (P) (in the Chair);

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs Searle) (P);

Councillors Allen (P), Mrs Bailey (P), Ms Ballard (P), Beavis (P), Bradley (P), Burgess (P), Carr (P), Carter (P), Champion (P), Chegwyn (P), Mrs Cully (P), Cully (P), Dickson (P), Edgar (P), Edwards (P), Mrs Forder (P), Forder (P), Foster-Reed (P), Geddes (P), Gill (P), Hicks (P), Hook (P), Langdon (P), Mrs Mudie (P), Murphy (P), Philpott (P), Mrs Salter (P), Salter (P), Smith (P), Ward (P), Miss West (P) and Wright (P).

Also in attendance: Honorary Alderman O'Neill.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Honorary Aldermen Foster, Hayward, Lucas and Rushton.

MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 1 October 2008 be confirmed and signed subject to Councillor Chegwyn's declaration of interest being amended to a personal interest prior to the decision on the Stokes Bay Festival item.

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

(A) ENQUIRY BY DESIGN (EbD) – HASLAR HOSPITAL

The Mayor advised that Councillor Edgar wished to update the Council meeting on the above matter. He reported that the Enquiry by Design (EbD) was geared to the disposal of this large site and involved stake holders and agents; all parties that had expressed an interest in this disposal had met over a three day period. The Council in particular was looking for a workable partnership to move the site forward as this was a complex and difficult site. For the Enquiry by Design process Defence Estates had commissioned the Prince's Trust to carry it forward.

Councillor Edgar wished to thank all Councillors from all the Political Groups whom he felt had played a significant part in the process. He paid particular thanks to Councillors Mrs Cully, Carter, Forder and Mrs Forder.

The first day of the recent EbD had been initially negative and the Council had emphasised that in the Local Plan the Hospital site was down for Health and Community use. The tone of the first day was to stretch the Local Plan which the Council was clearly against, preferring if possible hospital usage.

The second day of the Enquiry was of concern to the Council's representatives and they expressed the view that the Council certainly did not want a concentration of housing on the site. The Council stood firm on this point of principle.

The third day of the Enquiry saw encouraging movement by the Prince's Trust and Defence Estates, they thankfully came around to the Council's way of thinking. Councillor Edgar wished to record his appreciation to Mr Mike Jeffery, Development Services Manager and Mr Rob Harper, Head of Conservation and Design for putting forward the policies of the Council to the letter. He believed team work had been a major factor for the Council in the EbD. The report of the EbD should be available in January 2009. When the report becomes available he would involve all Councillors in its consideration as this is an important document in deciding the future of the Haslar site. The Council clearly preferring to retain existing hospital use on this site, together with other forms of health and community use.

Councillors Forder and Mrs Cully endorsed the above presentation by Councillor Edgar.

QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 3.4

(A) Question No 1 standing in the name of Councillor Mrs Forder on the progress being made in appointing the new Director of Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts was answered by the Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board.

(B) Question No 2 standing in the name of Councillor Hicks on what progress had been made regarding plans for an extended events programme for the Borough over the coming year was answered by the Chairman of the Community and Environment Board.

(C) Question No 3 standing in the name of Councillor Ms Ballard on what legal action is the Council taking against the Fareham and Gosport Gun Club to prevent their continued unauthorised trespass over Council – owned land was answered by the Chairman of the Community and Environment Board.

CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COUNCIL BOARDS REVIEW OF STOKES BAY FESTIVAL

At its meeting on 12 November 2008, the Policy and Organisation Board recommended that:

- a) a variation of the premises licence to permit alcohol sales until 22:45 and regulated entertainment until 23:00 be approved;
- b) responsibility for meeting the timescales rest with both the event organiser and the police;
- c) the agreement between the Council and the event organiser for the use of the Council's land include a clause that failure to provide documentation on time will result in cancellation of the agreement by the Council;
- d) a requirement be approved for a cadre of professional stewards to be provided to ensure public safety and evidence of personal qualifications etc provided to this Council in advance;
- e) future conditions regarding ticketing take into account electronic ticketing procedures and a condition to disclose advance ticket sales for each day of the event to the licensing authority be included;
- f) the premises licence not include a noise limiter condition for this type of event;
- g) the event management plan be included in the premises licence conditions with the letter agreed by the Council 14 days prior to the event and delivered by the organiser at least 7 days before the commencement of the event;
- h) the agreement between the Council and the event organiser for provisions relating to the effective pedestrian and vehicle separation and signing any future agreements be adequately specified;
- i) the agreement between the Council and the event organiser for the use of the land for provisions relating to the organisation of car parking be adequately specified;
- j) specific requirements for numbers and cleansing of toilets be included in the agreement between the Council and the event organiser for the use of the land, this provision being separate from the Premises Licence;
- k) the Premises conditions include a condition requiring technical details of any big tops, marquees, tents or similar temporary structures open to the public to be provided to the Council at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the event and that these details be provided in English. Where any of the foregoing temporary structures have a wind speed restriction on use the Premises conditions should include a condition relating to:
 - i. the provision of a calibrated anemometer to effectively measure wind speed on the licensed arena site during times that the site is open to the public; and

- ii. the provision of a competent representative from the company supplying the relevant temporary structures to advise on the safety of those temporary structures whilst the site is open to the public having regard to the prevailing conditions;
- l) any event taking place under the premises licence be considered by the Safety Advisory Group but final approval of the details of the event be obtained from each relevant public body and the premises licence be required to reflect this; and
- m)
 - i. specific requirements for layout and organisation of any campsite be included in the agreement between the Council and the Event Organiser for the use of the Council's land; and
 - ii. the Event Organiser identify in the Event Management Plan and have available an overflow campsite with car parking facilities for campers in excess of the numbers allowed by the agreement with the Council.

NOTE: Prior to this recommendation being put to the meeting Councillors Chegwyn, Hicks, Forder, Mrs Forder, Mrs Salter, Bradley, Salter, Foster-Reed and Dickson declared personal interests in this item, left the Council Chamber and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

STANDING ORDERS 3.3.2 AND 4.15.1

Councillor Hook gave notice that in respect of this item he wished to move Standing Order 3.3.5 to suspend Standing Order 3.3.2 and to move Standing Order 4.15.1 to allow officers to answer questions on the report and for the Council to move to Committee for debate. The notice of motion had been seconded by Councillor Langdon and received by the Borough Solicitor at 1.30pm on 26 November 2008.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That Standing Order 3.3.2 be suspended and Standing Order 4.15.1 be moved to allow officers to answer questions on the report and for the Council to move to Committee for debate.

The Chief Executive introduced his report on the Review of Stokes Bay Festival and answered questions thereon.

MOTION: That the Policy and Organisation Board's (12 November 2008) recommendations a) to m) be approved and adopted.

AMENDMENT: That the Policy and Organisation Board's (12 November 2008) recommendations a) to m) be approved and adopted and that for all future Festivals held at Stokes Bay for the safety and wellbeing of the public generally:

- a) a licence to permit alcohol sales until 21.45 and regulated entertainment until 22.00 be approved;

- b) responsibility for meeting the timescales rest with the event organiser;
- d) a cadre of professional stewards to be provided by the event organiser to ensure public safety and evidence of personal qualifications etc provided to this Council in advance;
- e) future conditions regarding ticketing, take into account electronic ticketing procedures, and a condition to disclose advance ticket sales for each day of the event to the licensing authority be included;
- f) the premises licence must include a noise limiting condition for this type of event;
- g) the final event management plan be included in the premises licence conditions along with the letter to residents agreed by the Council 14 days prior to the event and delivered by the organiser at least 7 days before the commencement of the event;
- n) as land owner the Council is happy with the existing licensing arrangements and instructs the Chief Executive to withdraw the new application for Stokes Bay currently being advertised with immediate effect;
- o) Stokes Bay area to be divided into 3 sections, The Arena, land to the east of Military Road and land to the west of The Arena behind the Sailing Club and each section to be charged separately at 100% of the fee set at all times; and
- p) Council requests Overview and Scrutiny Committee to carry out a comprehensive review on the Stokes Bay Festival held from 31 July 08 to 3 August 08 inviting all outside bodies such as Friends of Stokes Bay, the Police, Fire and Rescue, Traders, the Events Organiser and others to put forward their observations for a safer festival for the future.

The Amendment was accordingly put to the vote and declared CARRIED.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Substantive Motion as amended be approved and adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8.30pm the Council adjourned for five minutes, commencing the business of the Council at 8.35pm.

PART II MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the following Part II Minutes be received.

Policy and Organisation Board: 12 November 2008 (Minute Nos. 43 – 46)

Community and Environment Board: 3 November 2008 (Minute Nos. 41 – 46)

STANDING ORDER 4.15.1

The Mayor reported that notice had been received requesting that Standing Order 4.15.1 be moved to enable the Deputy Chief Executive and Borough Treasurer, Leisure and Cultural Services Manager and Borough Solicitor to introduce their respective reports related to Gosport Community Safety Partnership, Redevelopment of the Holbrook Recreation Centre and Portsmouth and Gosport Joint Board – Appointment of Members.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That Standing Order 4.15.1 be moved to enable the Deputy Chief Executive and Borough Treasurer, Leisure and Cultural Services Manager and Borough Solicitor to introduce their respective reports related to Gosport Community Safety Partnership, Redevelopment of Holbrook Recreation Centre and Portsmouth and Gosport Joint Board – Appointment of Members.

GOSPORT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

The Deputy Chief Executive and Borough Treasurer introduced his report on the above. The purpose of his report was to ratify appointments to the Gosport Community Safety Partnership Strategic Board.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Council ratifies the appointment of the Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board as the Council's representative on the Community Safety Partnership Strategic Board; and appoints the Deputy Chief Executive and Borough Treasurer as the standing deputy to the Gosport Community Safety Partnership Strategic Board, for the rest of this civic year.

REDEVELOPMENT OF HOLBROOK RECREATION CENTRE

NOTE: Councillor Mrs Mudie declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the Council Chamber and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Consideration was given to a report of the Leisure and Cultural Services Manager on the above. The Manager advised that the word "saving" should

be added after £100,000 p.a. in the last sentence of paragraph 3.3 of the report.

The report stated that the Holbrook Recreation Centre Working Group had met on 5 November 2008 to receive a presentation from Strategic Leisure/Scott Wilson in respect of progressing the procurement of the replacement facility. As the Working Group was required to make a recommendation for approval to the Council, this report sought that approval to the scheme for new facilities at Holbrook Recreation Centre and to undertake the procurement process beginning with the necessary advertisement in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) in order to invite developers to submit expressions of interest and to submit a planning application.

Legislation required that the recreation element of the project is advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU); the hotel element would usually be exempt. However, because the preferred approach is to procure the project as a single entity, the whole development would be advertised in this way. The benefits of combining the different uses as one project would lead to greater cohesion of design and a more efficient delivery of the respective components.

Following an assessment of the available land and the configuration of the mix of facilities, it had been possible to arrange the buildings so that both the new Centre and Hotel gained the benefit of a road frontage onto the A32. It is envisaged that the restaurant facilities would offer a link between the recreation centre and the hotel and generate benefits to the operation of both facilities. A copy of the site layout was attached as Appendix B to the Manager's report.

STANDING ORDER 4.11.18

In order for the Council meeting to continue beyond 9.30pm the Mayor moved Standing Order 4.11.18.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That in accordance with Standing Order 4.11.18 the Council meeting continues beyond 9.30pm.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That Council approve:

- i) the provision of the range of recreation facilities as outlined in the Manager's report, described as the 'Optimum Mix', together with a hotel, small retail outlet and restaurant facilities;**
- ii) undertaking the procurement process for the provision of the above facilities; and**

- iii) the submission of a planning application for the proposed development.
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PORTSMOUTH AND GOSPORT JOINT BOARD – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

The Borough Solicitor introduced her report on the above. The report requested the election of six Councillors to serve on the Portsmouth and Gosport Joint Board for 3 years from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2011.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the six Councillors outlined in paragraph 2.4 of the Borough Solicitor's report (Councillors Cully, Edgar, Edwards, Gill, Hook and Smith) be re-elected as the Council's representatives on the Portsmouth and Gosport Joint Board for three – year terms of office from 1 January 2009.

The meeting ended at 9.38pm