

A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD

WAS HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2008

The Mayor (Councillor Kimber) (ex-officio); Councillors Burgess (P), Chegwyn, Gill (P), Hicks, Hook (P), Langdon, Philpott, Mrs Searle (P), Smith (Chairman) (P) and Wright (P).

It was reported that Councillors Mrs Bailey, Carr, Allen and Carter had been nominated to replace Councillors Chegwyn, Hicks, Langdon and Philpott respectively for this meeting.

37. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of The Mayor and Councillors Chegwyn, Hicks, Langdon and Philpott.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hook declared a personal interest in item 7 on the agenda (Gosport Local Plan Review: Saved Policies) specifically in relation to policies supporting economic development and regeneration, including policies for retailing and town centres.

39. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2008

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Board meeting held on 17 September 2008 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

40. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

41. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART I

42. REVIEW OF STOKES BAY FESTIVAL

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive (a copy of which is affixed in the Minute Book as Appendix A) which reviewed the operation of the Stokes Bay Festival and asked Members to consider the report and its recommendations.

Members were advised that negotiations had been carried out with the police whilst the report was being compiled. The police had been minded to take action for failure to adhere to the licence conditions but confirmation had now been received from them that this was not considered to be in the public interest.

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Councillor Hook advised that a request had been made for this item to be scrutinised, having regard to recommendations contained in the report which concerned:

- the variation of the premises licence
- the responsibility for meeting the timescales resting with both the event organiser and the police
- the exclusion of parking areas in the premises licence
- specific requirements for numbers and cleansing of toilets being included in the agreement between the Council and the event organiser for the use of the land
- stewarding and organisation of the site and layout and organisation of the campsite

Members felt that the event had gone well although some of the conditions laid down had not been adhered to despite assurances from the organiser. It was important that the licensing conditions laid down for an event held on Council owned land be adhered to. It was acknowledged that Council officers were on site during the event and would have had the power to close it down should breaches of conditions have been sufficiently serious. Surprise was expressed regarding the lack of powers held by the Safety Advisory Group.

Members' attention was drawn to the fact that there were two licences i.e. the premises licence and the one for the hire of the land. Should the recommendations in the report be agreed, it should strengthen the position of the Council in enforcing the terms of the licences.

In response to a question, Members were advised that the fee for the use of the land currently operated on a flat fee basis. The Council could, if it wished, decide to change the basis of charging.

RECOMMENDED: That:

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| 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 personnel 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; |

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- 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.

Under Standing Order 6.10 (Minority Order), two Members requested that the matter be referred to full Council.

PART II

43. GOSPORT LOCAL PLAN REVIEW - SAVED POLICIES

Consideration was given to a report of the Development Services Manager which advised Members of the need to request the Secretary of State to save the Local Plan Review policies and to agree the list of policies to be saved.

RESOLVED: That the Secretary of State be requested to save the Local Plan Review policies set out in Appendix C of the Development Services Manager's report.

44. FORTON ROAD CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL DOCUMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Development Services Manager which presented to the Board a final version of the Forton Road Conservation Area Appraisal following public consultation on the draft appraisal.

The Board expressed its thanks to all concerned with the production of the document.

RESOLVED: That the Forton Road Conservation Area Appraisal be approved as a supporting document to inform Development Control decisions, and policies and proposals in the Local Development Framework.

45. LAND ADJACENT TO 2 PORTSMOUTH ROAD

Consideration was given to a report of the Development Services Manager which sought the Board's approval for the sale of the freehold interest of the land shown cross hatched black and hatched black on the plan attached to the report.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the Head of Property Services be authorised to agree terms for the sale of the Freehold interest of the land adjacent to 2 Portsmouth Road; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into such legal documentation as is necessary to effect the above decision.

46. PRESENTATION: GOSPORT SUMMER PASSPORT

A presentation was made by Jamie O'Reilly, the Council's Head of Community Safety and Luke Norbury who had worked with the Wessex Youth Offending Team at the time of the Summer Passport.

Members were advised that the scheme aimed to develop both a co-ordinated and strategic multi-agency approach to the delivery of free open access activities for young people aged 11-17 throughout the summer period within the Gosport borough. The scheme provided a diverse programme of opportunities through the facilitation of sports, leisure and arts, which were particularly developed to engage those young people at risk of offending.

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The scheme had proved to be very successful and of great benefit to the young people involved. A number of improvements for 2009 had been identified.

The Chairman congratulated all concerned on the success of the scheme.

The meeting ended at 7.00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN