

**A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD
WAS HELD ON 30 JUNE 2010**

The Mayor (Councillor Allen) (ex-officio); Councillors Beavis (P), Burgess (P), Carter, C R (P), Chegwyn (P), Mrs Forder (P), Hook (Chairman) (P), Lane (P), Langdon (P), Philpott (P) and Wright (P).

6. APOLOGIES

An apology for inability to attend the meeting was submitted on behalf of the Mayor.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Hook and Carter, C R each declared personal and prejudicial interests respectively on items 10 (Sale of land adjacent to No 8 Ewer Common) and 16 (Objection to land at Tichborne Way being registered as a Town or Village Green) on the agenda.

8. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD HELD ON 17 MARCH AND 19 MAY 2010

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Board meetings held on 17 March and 19 May 2010 be approved and signed by the Chairman as true and correct records.

9. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART II

11. BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP – ANNUAL UPDATE AND REVIEW

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Building Control which updated the Board on the progress and financial out turn of the Building Control Partnership in the financial year ending March 2010. The report also requested confirmation of the continuation of the Partnership under the terms of the current legal agreement.

The meeting expressed its thanks to the Head of Building Control for an excellent report and how well the Partnership was working.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the contents of the annual update and review report be noted; and
- b) support be confirmed for the continuation of the Building Control Partnership under the terms of the existing Legal Agreement.

12. LEASE OF PREMISES AT TORONTO PLACE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Planning and Economic Development which sought authorisation for the grant of a 10 year lease to Motive8 for the Council's premises located at Toronto Place as shown on Plan 1 attached to the report.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the Head of Property Services be authorised to agree terms for the Lease of the council's premises located at Toronto Place to Motive8 as shown on Plan 1 attached to the Director's report; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into such legal documentation as is necessary to effect the grant of a 10 year lease to Motive8 for the Council's premises located at Toronto Place as shown on Plan 1 attached to the Director's report.

13. SALE OF LAND ADJACENT TO UNIT 2 TORONTO PLACE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Planning and Economic Development which sought consideration of a request by R K Body Repair Ltd to purchase the freehold interest of the land shown on Plan 1 attached to the report, for the consideration of £9,784.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) approval be given to the sale of the land adjacent to Unit 2 Toronto Place to R K Body Repair Ltd as shown on Plan 1 attached to the Director's report, for the consideration of £9,784; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into such legal documentation as is necessary to effect the above sale.

14. LEASE OF LAND AND BUILDING FOR THE 12TH GOSPORT SCOUTS, ST LUKES ROAD

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Housing Board held on 16 June 2010 which sought approval to enter into a new lease with the 12th Gosport Scout Group for the use of the existing land and building plus additional land.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the Head of Property Services be authorised to agree terms with 12th Gosport Scout Group to enter into a new lease for the use of the existing land and building plus additional land on St Luke's Road; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into such legal documentation as is necessary to effect the above decision in consultation with the Head of Property Services.

15. SALE OF LAND ADJACENT TO NO 8 EWER COMMON

Note: Councillor Hook declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the meeting room and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon.

The Vice-Chairman chaired the meeting for this item.

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Community and Environment Board held on 14 June 2010 which sought approval to the sale of land adjacent to No 8 Ewer Common.

Councillor Wright reported that this matter had been the subject of a Stage 3 Members Panel hearing and the original complainant needed to be advised of the actions taken by the council following the hearing. The meeting was informed that notices would have to be advertised concerning the sale of this land. Officers confirmed that they would also write to the original complainant.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) approval be given to the sale of land adjacent to No 8 Ewer Common as shown on Plan 1, attached to the Director's report, on terms to be agreed by the Council's Head of Property Services; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into such documentation as is necessary to effect the above decision in consultation with the Head of Property Services.

The Chairman returned to the meeting.

16. LEASE OF NO 2 BATTERY TO THE HISTORIC DIVING SOCIETY

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Community and Environment Board held on 14 June 2010 which sought approval for the grant of a lease to the Historic Diving Society for No 2 Battery as shown on Plan 1 to the report.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) approval be given to the grant of a lease of council land at No 2 Battery to the Historic Diving Society as shown on Plan 1, attached to the Director's report, on terms to be agreed by the Council's Head of Property Services; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into such documentation as is necessary to effect the above decision in consultation with the Head of Property Services.

17. LEE-ON-THE-SOLENT SKATE PARK EXTENSION AND UPGRADE

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Community and Environment Board held on 14 June 2010 concerning approval to use £32,000 of 'Other Sports' funding to extend and upgrade the Skate Park facility situated on the promenade at Lee-on-the-Solent.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to the use of £32,000 of 'Other Sports' funding to extend and upgrade the Skate Park facility situated on the promenade at Lee-on-the-Solent.

18. ST VINCENT COLLEGE CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION FOR RELINING THE SWIMMING POOL

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Community and Environment Board held on 14 June seeking approval to the Council making a capital contribution of £22,000 towards the costs of relining the swimming pool at St Vincent College.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to a capital contribution of £22,000 towards the cost of relining the swimming pool at St Vincent College.

19. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND CAPITAL STRATEGY

The Financial Services Manager had submitted for the Board's consideration the updated Medium Term Financial and Capital Strategies.

The Manager advised that the policy and plans of the new Government are currently still being developed so that more amendments may be necessary to the strategies as these become clearer and any impact on the Council is known.

The Manager recognised that action must be taken to cut the projected budget to an acceptable level that would avoid Council Tax capping. To outline the seriousness of the situation the Manager had included extracts from the conclusions reached in the recent Audit Commission publication "*Surviving the crunch: Local finances in the recession and beyond*" (March 2010); these illustrated the Commission's concern about the challenges now facing councils.

The Capital Strategy set out a framework for monitoring the progress of ongoing schemes in addition to establishing a process of post implementation review of completed Projects.

RESOLVED: That the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Capital Strategy be approved.

20. APPROVAL OF THE 2009/10 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Deputy Chief Executive and Borough Treasurer had submitted to the Board for their consideration his report and the Statement of Accounts 2009/10.

His report set out the back ground to the requirement for members to approve the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts; which is shortly to be made available for public inspection and audit, together with some brief notes on the Statement and financial outturn position for 2009/10.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the Statement of Accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2010 be received and approved;

- b) the revenue variances detailed in Appendix C to the report be noted;
- c) the capital programme slippage detailed in Appendix D to the report be noted; and
- d) the write offs approved under delegated authority at Appendix E to the report be noted.

21. OBJECTION TO LAND AT TICHBORNE WAY BEING REGISTERED AS A TOWN OR VILLAGE GREEN

Note: Councillor Carter, C R declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the meeting room and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon.

By reason of special circumstances, the Chairman determined that the following item be considered at this meeting notwithstanding the fact that the item had not been available for public inspection in accordance with the provisions of Section 100B(4)(a) of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

The special circumstances were created by the fact that a Public Inquiry on the above land is to be held tomorrow.

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive which sought the Board's approval for an objection to be made by the Council to an application to register land at Tichborne Way as Town or Village Green and for Council Officers to sign witness statements as to facts related to the Land.

When the above recommendation was put to the meeting Councillor Wright voted against it.

RESOLVED: That the Chief Executive be authorised to sign a Statement of Objection to an application made to register land at Tichborne Way as Town or Village Green and other Council Officers be authorised to sign statements as to the facts related to the Land.

22. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in relation to the following item the public be excluded from the meeting, as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during this item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and further that in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the report.

23. SALE OF GARAGES

Consideration was given to an exempt cross reference from the Housing Board held on 16 June seeking approval to the disposal of garage blocks in Leesland Road, Nobes Avenue, Dunkeld Road and Nesbitt Close.

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The cross reference was exempt from publication as it contained details of the financial affairs of the Council and third parties at a time when negotiations were not finally concluded. If this information were released it may have a negative impact on future negotiations on the sales described in the report. Therefore the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the Head of Property Services be authorised to agree terms for the sale of the Freehold interest in the garage blocks for disposal at Leesland Road, Nobes Avenue, Dunkeld Road and Nesbitt Close; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into such legal documentation as is necessary to effect the above decision.

The meeting ended at 6.25 p.m.

CHAIRMAN