

**A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD  
WAS HELD ON 28 JUNE 2017  
Subject to Approval**

The Mayor (Councillor Mrs Batty) (ex-officio), Councillors Allen (P), Bateman (P), Burgess, Carter (P), Chegwyn (P), Mrs Cully (P) Edgar (P), Foster-Reed (P), Hook (Chairman) (P), Hicks (P), Hylands (P) , Jessop (P), Murphy(P), Philpott (P)

It was reported that in accordance with Standing Order 2.3.6 Councillor Mrs Hook had been nominated to replace Councillor Burgess for this meeting.

**6. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received from The Mayor, Councillor Burgess.

**7. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meetings of the Board held on 22 March 2017 and 18 May 2017 be signed as true and correct records.

**8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none

**9. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations.

**10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no public questions.

**PART II**

**11. CITIZENS ADVICE GOSPORT**

Citizens Advice Gosport presented to the Board details of their services for the past year and advised the priorities for them moving forward. They advised the Board of a number of projects they were working towards in the future and details of the number of clients they had helped support.

Members welcomed the presentation and thanked the officers for attending.

## **12. CROSS REFERENCE FROM THE STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: EY – AUDIT PLAN 2016/17**

Consideration was given to a cross reference report from the Standards and Governance Committee seeking approval of the EY Audit Plan 2016/17

**RESOLVED:** The audit plan and the risks identified in the auditors work on the audit opinion and value for money conclusion, and their planned response to those risks be noted.

## **13. BUS SERVICE 11 – SATURDAY SUBSIDY**

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer seeking Board approval to subsidise the Route 11 Saturday Bus Service for a further two years.

Members advised that progress was being made with the Haslar site and that planning applications would shortly be submitted and that this would increase the requirement for the route.

Members also welcomed that the route provided a service to the Bridgemark part of the A32.

It was requested that a letter be written to Hampshire County Council to request that they provide the funding for the route, as transport is a County Council function.

**RESOLVED:** That the Route 11 Saturday Bus Service be funded for a further two years from June 2017 at an annual cost of £4,305 per annum

## **14. PEST CONTROL SERVICE REVIEW**

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Environmental Health reviewing the Council's Pest Control Service, to bring it in line with other Hampshire Authorities.

In answer to a Member's question the Board were advised that in the event of an infestation in which it was unclear as to the cause, discretion could be used if circumstances meant it was not appropriate to charge, it was also possible to secure the debt by placing land charges onto individual properties and then demand payment at a later date.

It was acknowledged that the proposed charges were considerably less than those available commercially and at the lower end of the scale of charges in Hampshire Authorities.

In answer to a Members question, the Board were advised other pests included ladybirds, squirrels, and ants.

**RESOLVED:** That a fee be introduced for rodent treatments of £60, except for people on low income.

That free of charge rodent treatments be provided to persons on low income, defined as being in receipt of one of the following benefits :-

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Pension Credit (Guarantee)
- Universal Credit (maximum award)

That a fee of £30 be introduced to survey and quote or if possible treat for bed bugs and fleas.

That the vacant post of Animal and Pest Control Officer to Animal and Pest Control Supervisor be redesigned and regraded at an additional cost of £3,500 per annum

## **15. CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS POLICY**

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive seeking Board approval for the adoption of the revised Customer Complaints Policy.

**RESOLVED:** That the revised Customer Complaints Policy be adopted with immediate effect.

## **16. GIFTS AND HOSPITALITIES POLICY**

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Solicitor and Deputy Chief Executive seeking Board approval for the adoption of the revised Gifts and Hospitalities Policy.

**RESOLVED:** That the revised Gifts and Hospitalities Policy be adopted with immediate effect.

Concluded at 18.59