
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
16TH JULY 2008

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Parnell
The Sheriff, Councillor Mizon
Councillors Baillie, Ball, Barnes–Andrews, Baston, Beckett, Mrs Blatchford, Bogle, Burke, Capozzoli, Cooke, Cunio, Mrs Damani, Daunt, Davis, Dean, Dick, Drake, Fitzgerald, Fitzhenry, Fuller, Galton, Hannides, Holmes, Jones, Letts, Marsh-Jenks, Matthews, Moulton, Norris, Odgers, Osmond, Payne, Samuels, Slade, Smith, Sollitt, Stevens, Thomas, Walker, Wells, Whiskerd, White, P. Williams and Dr R. Williams.

24. APOLOGIES

It was noted that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors McEwing and Rayment.

25. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Special Council and Council meetings held on 14th May 2008 be approved and signed as correct records.

26. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND THE LEADER

1. Industrial Action

The Leader reported on the impact of the industrial action on the residents of Southampton. It was noted that twelve Schools were closed and a further three partially closed. Although there was no Refuse Collection, management aimed to catch up with commercial waste and also flats if there were health and safety issues by the end of the week. Five Libraries would be closed and a further three would have reduced hours. The Art Gallery, God's House Tower Museum and the Maritime Museum, were closed. Little or no grounds maintenance or street cleaning and litter bins were likely to be emptied and most Building Trade staff had refused to cross a picket line which resulted in an emergency service only.

The trade unions had however, agreed to exempt from industrial action Residential Care, the Community Alarm Service and emergency services such as the Responding Wardens. Cover for other emergencies were available on a call out basis. Working tower block and neighbourhood wardens would be covering necessary health and safety related duties. Most services were operational although in some cases the service was reduced.

2 Local Government Chronicle Council Worker of the Year Award

The Mayor welcomed Helen Prohett to the meeting and on behalf of Members congratulated her on her achievement as the winner of the Council Worker of the Year Awards 2008. Helen was nominated for the Leadership Category after Helen and her staff at the Central Local Housing Office helped to transform the Golden Grove estate in the city centre.

3. HMS Southampton

The Mayor reminded Members that HMS Southampton had received the Freedom of the City in 2000 and exercised their right to march through the city. The ship had carried our name around the world and had served as an ambassador for the city. As the ship was now being retired from active service and the ship's company re-deployed, the Mayor took the opportunity of wishing them all well for the future.

27. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Council received the following petitions from Councillor Letts: -

Anti-Social behaviour – Hinton Crescent: request for a Gating Order on a cut -way.

Anti-Social behaviour – Lydgate Green: request for CCTV camera installation.

28. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

The report of the Leader was submitted setting out the details of the business undertaken by the Executive (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

The Leader and the Cabinet made statements and responded to Questions.

The following questions were then submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.1.

1. Question from Councillor Burke to Councillor Hannides.

Can the Executive confirm that the involvement of the private sector in our leisure facilities will now be brought forward?

Answer

The Executive will be considering a Cabinet report on 28th July which seeks approval to initiate a procurement process to secure a partner(s) to manage the Council's sport and recreation facilities on the Council's behalf.

It is anticipated that this will secure investment in the service leading to improved usage and satisfaction and reduce the net cost to the Council of providing the service.

2. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Baillie

What is the situation with Newlands School – with the poor Ofsted report and missing staff, and how is the Cabinet Member intending to solve these issues?

Answer

In line with Ofsted guidance, a clear action plan has been developed to turn the school around, and specifically to remove the school from special measures at the earliest opportunity by December 2009.

- The Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher from Shirley Warren School, judged by Ofsted to be outstanding, are supporting Newlands' leadership team during this transition.
- The school's Head Teacher has taken the decision to leave the school with immediate effect, and the Deputy Head Teacher will also be leaving the school at the end of this term.
- The governing body, with support from the City Council, will appoint a new Head Teacher as soon as possible, followed by the appointment of a Deputy Head Teacher.
- A range of support for leadership, teaching and learning, and governors is in place under the Senior Inspector for Primary Schools.
- The Senior Inspector has advised school leaders of requirements for schools in special measures.
- The Council's Statement of Action has been submitted to Her Majesty's Inspector of schools (Ofsted). This identifies challenge and support to bring about rapid improvement.
- A plan to keep parents fully informed and committed to working in partnership with the school to improve issues identified by Ofsted, is in place.

3. Question from Councillor Burke to Councillor Smith

Can the Executive confirm their full commitment to the Northern Above Bar arts complex?

Answer

The Executive recognises the importance of the New Arts Complex project in making a significant contribution to the regeneration of the northern part of the City Centre.

This is reflected by the Council contribution of over £5m identified in the current capital programme, including £500,000 added to the scheme in July 2007 by the Executive.

We are working to find solutions to the current challenges created by the changes in the property market.

4. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Baillie

Is the Cabinet Member for Children's Services going to consider the introduction of a free and comprehensive contraception scheme to both sexes in secondary schools and sixth form colleges to help reduce the rates of teenage pregnancy in schools and decrease sexually transmitted diseases in the under twenty five age group?

Answer

No, though I will be encouraging all schools and colleges to agree how they respond to this important area.

I would point out that following successful national and local pilots in Further Education colleges and secondary schools; the Primary Care Trust, the Council and other services are committed to working together to develop a comprehensive sexual health service to the young people of Southampton.

5. Question from Councillor Galton to Councillor Phil Williams

In light of the recent encampments at the back of Lordshill Library, can the Executive assure us that they have a plan to solve this reoccurring nuisance in Lordshill and elsewhere in the City?

Answer

Notices are currently around the site informing the public of this work which will consist of:

- Height restriction barriers on all the entrances to the car park;
- Timber bollards with metal rails through them forming a fence around the perimeter of the site;
- 4 bollards on the paved area at the side of the Gala Bingo Hall to prevent access through this route;
- Hoops put on paved areas to restrict access.

6. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Baillie

A recent report from the Hidden Targets group highlights a real problem of bullying for gay, bisexual and lesbian pupils, how is the Cabinet Member going to tackle this in City schools, especially the new academies, as he holds the responsibility for the City's children?

Answer

The City takes its responsibility for responding to all issues of bullying very seriously and to ensuring schools are fully trained to respond to bullying incidents, seriously.

The Breakout Youth project offers specific training/workshops on sexual diversity tackling the issue of homophobic bullying. This year they have worked in seven secondary schools. The offer is available to ALL secondary schools within Southampton. The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children will be delivering a programme to address bullying issues to the Academies.

A full day training event is planned for Anti Bullying Week (November). The event will bring together secondary school staff and agencies, and focus on Homophobic Bullying. Young people will be contributing to the event. This will be part of a series of events run in that week.

The revised anti bullying strategy, currently in development, will set out clearly the responsibilities of schools and others in this area.

7. Question from Councillor Sollitt to Councillor Dick

In the light of increased flood threat in the City, particularly around the River Itchen, can the Cabinet Member advise Council of the emergency procedures in place to deal with such events?

Answer

Lessons learned following last summer's major flooding elsewhere and more localized incidents within the City of late, are being assessed. A Flood Response Plan has been prepared in liaison with the Environment Agency and Southern Water This dovetails the Southampton City Council Major Incident Response Plan.

The first meeting of the new Local Flood Risk management group to meet quarterly, includes Southampton City Council, Southern Water, the Environment Agency and Associated British Ports.

Following the recent flooding at the Station, Millbrook, and West Quay; Highways organised an initial meeting which attracted representatives from Network Rail, Associated British Ports, the Environment Agency, Southern Water, West Quay, Capita Symonds and SCC.

The purpose of this was to establish a common understanding of the network, ownership, contacts, drainage issues etc. and prepare the way for a multi-agency operational team to take up and resolve current issues around flood alleviation.

8. Question from Councillor McEwing to Councillor Baillie

Is the Cabinet Member for Children's Services happy with Capita's progress in the new school builds?

Answer

Yes. Southampton City Council is working in Partnership with Capita on a range of building projects at schools in the City. All projects will be evaluated when complete. I receive regular updates through the Children's

Services and Learning Capital Board.

I am happy that Capita provide a professional service to the local authority and to schools.

9. Question from Councillor Sollitt to Councillor Hannides

Would the Cabinet Member update Council on the present status of the “heritage centre” to be sited in the former Magistrates Court complex?

Answer

The Executive is continuing to assess the feasibility of creating a Heritage Attraction in the former Magistrates’ Courts.

If an affordable proposal can be developed that meets the relevant criteria, a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund will be submitted for significant funding in September 2008.

10. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Baillie

How is the Cabinet Member going to satisfy the expansion plans of the City’s secondary schools considering the extra cost that Capita is charging on all capital projects in the secondary sector in Southampton and many schemes have not yet started in schools and if they have are considerably reduced or do not meet the schools' specification?

Answer

The expansion plans and other developments of Southampton secondary schools will be delivered within the funding available. The specification of the projects has evolved since the original Cabinet and Council decisions.

For example, the original plans for the Academies were drawn up before the appointment of Oasis Community Learning, and have been revised in accordance with the education vision of Oasis and the two new Principals.

In some cases, specifications have changed as a result of cost pressures. Rising commodity, energy and fuel costs have all had an impact on building prices. Where necessary, plans have been revised in consultation with schools in order to deliver the required outcomes within the available budget. Capita have worked constructively to enable solutions to be delivered. All building work incurs professional fees. Like any professional adviser, including in-house property services, Capita charges for the work it does, based on arrangements agreed by Council.

11. Question from Councillor McEwing to Councillor Phil Williams

Is the Cabinet Member for Housing happy with the way Capita is handling the decent homes programme?

Answer

The Council's repairs, maintenance and improvements programmes are multi-million pound projects. The contracts are complex.

As the new Cabinet Member, I am never satisfied, and am constantly looking to improve our services as well as our partnership working. I am happy to look at individual cases.

12. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Baillie

Can the Cabinet Member reassure the secondary school teachers in the schools that are closing in Southampton that their jobs are safe and those not employed by Oasis will receive appropriate redundancy packages?

Answer

Southampton City Council has maintained a consistent approach that all staff employed at the four closing schools will transfer to the Oasis Academies on 1st September, in accordance with the TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment) Regulations. This has been accepted by Oasis Community Learning (OCL) and the Government Department for Children Schools and Families. OCL has also made it clear that it does not intend to make staff redundant.

The majority of staff have been offered suitable alternative posts in the Academies. Some staff have sought and obtained new posts elsewhere. There is a small number of staff for whom suitable roles at the Academies have not been identified, and Oasis Community Learning have met with the staff and discussed options, but have always re-iterated that all staff are able to transfer.

13. Question from Councillor Richard Williams to Councillor Samuels

Barring any future issues with ill health, can the Leader assure the Council that he will still be the Leader of the Council at the time of the February 2009 Budget Setting Meeting?

Answer

No.

14. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Baillie

Will the specification and design of the new academies be reviewed by Full Council to ensure that the design encompasses services for the whole community?

Answer

No, but I would welcome the appropriate engagement of the Council's scrutiny arrangements.

The funding for the Academy buildings will be provided by the Government Agency "Partnership for Schools", to deliver buildings to the specifications set out by the Department for Children, Schools and Families in Building Bulletin 98. This specifies area guidelines for schools.

Oasis Community Learning is committed to making schools a part of the community and is keen to facilitate extended school activities, community learning, and to enable community lettings etc.

The City Council in its role as project manager for the Academy buildings will work with Oasis Community Learning to ensure the buildings are accessible, and that use can be maximised of facilities by the local community.

15. Question from Councillor Sollitt to Councillor Dick

What steps are the current Executive taking to fulfil the Council's resolution regarding unnecessary packaging and the problems around abandoned shopping trolleys?

Answer

I have spoken to the LGA about effective engagement with government and industry about unnecessary packaging and how to move forward with this.

The issue of abandoned shopping trolleys falls under the Neighbourhoods Portfolio and Councillor Phil Williams is doing a great job in tackling this issue. Councillor Phil Williams had informed me that his officers will shortly begin consultations with all the City Council's major stores and supermarkets with a view to establishing an effective working partnership between local businesses and the City Council's street cleansing team aimed at:

- (a) preventing the removal of trolleys from the precincts of the store
- (b) identifying the provenance of such trolleys as might be removed
- (c) rapidly removing abandoned shopping trolleys from the public realm and returning them to store.

The aim will be to secure these objectives through joint working with local businesses at no extra net cost to the City Council. These consultations will take place within the context of the powers potentially available for adoption by Local Authorities provided for within the Section 99 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and extended under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, and other relevant legislation.

16. Question from Councillor Thomas to Councillor Phil Williams

Does the Cabinet Member for Housing and Local Services have concerns regarding the number of families and individuals currently on the Council's housing waiting list?

Answer

I inherited a situation where roughly 11,600 people are on the waiting list.

I am proud that I launched the affordable Housing Partnership designed to help people into both shared equity and rented homes. I am also pleased to be bringing forward papers allocating £2.6 million for affordable housing this year. I am fully supportive of the Estate Regeneration proposals.

17. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Dick

What plans does the Cabinet Member have to resurface and make safe, Upper Deacon Road in Southampton?

Answer

There are two areas of carriageway within Upper Deacon Road that require attention as Councillor David Fuller has brought to my attention as well.

Firstly, a failed utility trench which is well outside the maintenance period and responsibility now lies with the Highway Authority. This is located on the north side of the carriageway adjacent to the channel, and is approximately 1.2 metres in width. This extends over a considerable distance; between the junctions of Windover Close and Caxton Avenue. These repairs can be made using the newly acquired Rhinopatch system and has been programmed to commence week commencing 21 July 2008.

Secondly, a section of carriageway over its full width commencing at the junction of Windover Close and running approximately 75 metres in an easterly direction is to be resurfaced. This became an issue during 2007 when the surface course started to fail (it had de-laminated) and has continued to deteriorate over time. It was included within the capital programme together with a number of other sites to be completed by the planned maintenance team. In the intervening period the carriageway was inspected at regular intervals and made safe as necessary, most recently on 2 July 2008. Toward the end of the financial year there was insufficient funds (capital) to complete the work therefore this, together with other sites, were referred to the street maintenance manager to complete from routine maintenance funds.

The sites have been assessed, priced and an instruction issued to the Council's contractor (Colas) to complete the work. Upper Deacon Road being only 6.0 metres in width and by the very nature of the works and the machinery required executing these; it will be necessary for the road to be closed. An application for a road closure has been made to Network Management who require a minimum of 28 days to process. Taking these factors into account, it is anticipated that this section of carriageway will be resurfaced in approximately four weeks time.

18. Question from Councillor Bogle to Councillor Moulton

What procurement savings have been delivered by Capita since they took over this function, and how does this relate to the schedule originally

proposed?

Answer

The following savings have been delivered to date:

- Annual Procurement Savings = £504k
(These savings are currently in the process of being approved and signed off by the SSP Transformation Board)
- The Total Contract Benefit Contribution towards the SSP target (over 10 yrs) = £4.7M

Expectations/Targets

- The SSP target is that Transformation and Procurement will deliver £53.5m in savings over the 10 year period of the contract.

19. Question from Councillor Letts to Councillor Phil Williams

Could the Cabinet Member identify the number of active residents' associations in the City on a ward by ward basis and give some indication of their active memberships?

Answer

This question is difficult to answer. Our Neighbourhood Involvement Team estimate the number of active citizens as follows:

Group Name	Ward	Estimated Numbers
Ocean Village	Bargate	50
Underwood / Redhill Residents Association	Bassett	20
Hollyhill Residents Association	Bassett	15
East Bassett Residents Association	Bassett	15
Old Bassett Residents Association	Bassett	12
North West Bassett Residents Association	Bassett	11
Tower Gardens Residents Association	Bassett	10
Bentham Court Residents Association	Bassett	5
Bassett, Highfield & Swaythling Community Action Forum	Bassett, Swaythling & Portswood	75
Clovelly Road Residents Association	Bevois	76
Newtown Residents Association	Bevois	49
Graham Road Residents Association	Bevois	39
Bevois & Inner City Neighbourhood Watch	Bevois	36
Northumberland Road (emerging group)	Bevois	5
Ropewalk Gardens	Bevois	4
Bitterne & Harefield Community Action Forum	Bitterne & Harefield	9
Bitterne Manor Community Association	Bitterne Park	3
Community Centre Get Togethers	City wide	75
Kutchi Cultural Association	City wide	8
Chinese Association	City wide	50
Blackbushe, Pembrey and Wittering T&RA	Coxford	20
Coxford Community Association	Coxford	10
Redbridge T&RA	Coxford	10
Lordshill Community Association	Coxford	6

Lordswood Community Association	Coxford	5
Four Walls T & RA	Coxford	20
Kinloss, Cardington and Cranwell Court T & RA	Coxford	20
Community at St Marks	Freemantle	2
Meon Court	Harefield	30
Harefield Community Association	Harefield	8
Harefield Tenants and Residents Association	Harefield	7
Harefield Tenants and Residents Children & Young People Sub Group	Harefield	5
Regents Park Community Association	Millbrook	10
Freemantle Common Play Association	Peartree	20
Cliff RA	Peartree	19
Merryoak Computer Club	Peartree	15
Merryoak Community Centre	Peartree	10
Peartree Community Action Forum	Peartree	10
Wharncliffe Road Tenants and RA	Peartree	10
Peartree 21	Peartree	10
Veracity Recreation Ground	Peartree	10
Highfield Residents Association	Portswood	200
Portswood Residents Gardens	Portswood	20
PRADOS	Portswood	15
Oakmount triangle	Portswood	15
St Denys Community Centre Association	Portswood	8
The 4 Cs Care Group for the blind / partially sighted	Portswood	8
Independent T and RA	Redbridge	20
Maybush and District Community Association	Redbridge	10
Friends of Mansel Park (FOMP)	Redbridge	8
Millbrook Community Association	Redbridge	7
Communicare in Shirley & District	Shirley	250
Shirley Warren Community Garden	Shirley	60
Jamies Babies	Shirley	20
Warren Close	Shirley	50
Sholing Senior Citizens Club	Sholing	83
Bishops Crescent Tenants & Residents Association	Sholing	80
Sholing Community Association	Sholing	10
Sholing Study Centre	Sholing	10
Sholing Community Action Forum	Sholing	10
Riverview Residents Association (St Denys)	St Denys	10
Saltmead Residents Association	St Denys	6
Swaythling Neighbourhood Centre Community Association	Swaythling	40
Mansbridge Residents Association	Swaythling	25
Aster House	Swaythling	6
Medwall Court Sheltered Accommodation	Thornhill	50
Pleasant View Sheltered Accommodation	Thornhill	40
Fairfax Court Sheltered Accommodation	Thornhill	30
Moorlands Community Association	Townhill Park	25
Townhill Park Community Association	Townhill Park	10
Weston Court Community Group (Lunch and Laughs)	Woolston	25
Woolston Community Association	Woolston	15
Woolston Community Association – Sub-Section	Woolston	10

20. Question from Councillor Baston to Councillor Dick

Will the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport inform us what changes he made to the proposed Parking Policy due to go to Cabinet on 20th February, after the discussion at the Environment and Scrutiny Panel on 6th February?

Answer

I made the following changes to the report following the recommendations by Environment and Transport Scrutiny Panel on 6th February. These referred to the following:

- Parking standards for commercial developments (where the reference to 'continuing to be restrictive' was changed to 'striking a balance between commercial and traffic management requirements')
- A new statement was added to the effect that developments should be designed in such a way as to minimise the land-take of associated car parking
- The statement on the current viability of Park and Ride was slightly reworded
- A new statement was added concerning the possibility of preferential charging rates to encourage car sharing
- The statement on not creating Residents' Parking Zones in the City Centre was expanded to include the consideration of options that would allow City Centre residents to have access to Council-controlled parking spaces in the City Centre (as an alternative to Residents' Parking)

The Scrutiny Panel also requested an on-going dialogue about the review and implementation of the operational policies which will be included as part of the ongoing work in this area.

I would not have brought forward proposals to introduce charges to those who currently have a permit and do not pay a charge.

21. Question from Councillor Letts to Councillor Matthews

Why is an excellent youth facility such as the Tunstall Road Youth Centre, under used when problems of anti-social behaviour in the area amongst young people in the area are rife?

Answer

Youth Centres have an important role to play in diverting young people from antisocial behaviour. Youth workers at Hightown Youth Centre (Tunstall Road Youth Centre) are working with young people in centre based activities, residential opportunities and in the development of the Dumbleton Park off road bike track which is an additional facility for young people in the area. Youth workers are also involved in developing a new evening drop in provision at the Natterbox in Hinckler Parade.

Hightown Youth Centre works in partnership with Woodlands school to offer targeted support to young people during the school day, five days a week. The centre also offers evening youth provision and some daytime support to a young parent group and a group for young people who are at risk of becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

91 different young people have attended Hightown Youth Centre in the last three months. Attendance at the evening youth provision averages about 20 young people – this should be more and an action plan is in place to address this.

Hightown Youth Centre does have additional capacity for further work to be developed for young people particularly at the weekends. Greater opening would have resource implications.

The current restructure of the Young People and Community Support division will create increased capacity in the area to offer a wider range of extended services from Hightown Youth Centre.

22. Question from Councillor Cunio to Councillor Dick

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport advise when councillors will be informed of road works in their wards as recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel?

Answer

The road works scheduled to be carried out this year as part of the capital road works programme has already been sent to Democratic Services for distribution. It was issued to all Members via the Members Bulletin on 11th July 2008. The information includes schemes, dates and wards and an update will be provided quarterly.

Members should be aware that this list does not include reactive maintenance and other ad hoc works will take place on the Highway throughout the year by Utilities and due to unforeseen essential maintenance. This information is regularly updated on the Roadworks Map which is available on Southampton On-line.

23. Question from Councillor Davis to Councillor Phil Williams

Could the Cabinet Member please explain why the Council, when tenants exchange properties, demolish developments such as conservatories, and take out kitchens put in with permission by the previous resident, replacing them with inferior equipment?

Answer

Why demolish a good conservatory and replace it with a weaker one?

As Cabinet Member, I would not and could not support this policy.

My understanding is that if a tenant is successful in securing a transfer to another property the Decent Homes team will assess the property that has been vacated. If a conservatory or similar structure has been added to the original structure by the previous tenant and it is in good condition the tenancy will be offered to the new occupiers on the basis that the new tenant accepts responsibility for that structure. If the conservatory was poorly built and maintained, does not comply with good building standards

or is a health and safety concern, the structure could ultimately be demolished.

I am happy to look at individual cases to ensure that this approach is being followed.

29. MOTIONS

a) Major Projects Board

Councillor Baston moved and Councillor Sollitt seconded:-

“Council notes with concern the decision of the Executive to cease meetings of the Major Projects Board and the effect this will have on cross party involvement on future developments in the City.

Bearing in mind the present economic climate and the importance of ensuring the future economic stability of the City, Council requests that this decision be reversed and that the Executive actively encourages cross party working for the good of the City.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED LOST

RESOLVED that the motion be not approved.

(b) Annual Southampton Festival

Councillor Burke moved and Councillor Bogle seconded: -

“This Council recognises the importance of high profile events, as a way of promoting the City to visitors, and raising our residents’ sense of pride in the City’s heritage, culture and diversity. This Council resolves to implement an annual Southampton festival to follow the Southampton Boat Show in September. The Festival should be a show case for a whole range of arts and culture. This Council calls upon the Executive to draw up proposals and seek funding for a Southampton festival, to commence in September 2009.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED LOST

RESOLVED that the motion be not approved.

(c) Considerate Developer Policy

Councillor Slade moved and Councillor Davis seconded:-

“That Southampton City Council should formulate and implement a "Considerate Developer Policy" on all developments within the City. This should be implemented within the next three months.”

Amendment moved by Councillor Dick and seconded by Councillor Fitzhenry:

First line: Delete the words

“Southampton City Council”

and replace with

“the Executive”.

After the word “should” in the first line, delete the words:

“formulate and implement a "Considerate Developer Policy" on all developments within the City. This should be implemented within the next three months.”

And replace with:

“bring forward initiatives that complement existing policies to further encourage developers to work in a considerate and responsible way and that these further initiatives should be brought forward to coming months.”

AMENDED MOTION TO READ:

“That the Executive should bring forward initiatives that complement existing policies to further encourage developers to work in a considerate and responsible way and that these further initiatives should be brought forward to coming months.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the Executive should bring forward initiatives that complement existing policies to further encourage developers to work in a considerate and responsible way and that these further initiatives should be brought forward to coming months.

(d) Sustainable Construction

Councillor Richard Williams moved and Councillor Blatchford seconded:-

“Council calls on the Executive to increase the level of sustainable construction in all new homes built in the City from Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 to Level 4 with immediate effect.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED LOST

RESOLVED that the motion be not approved.

30. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES OR THE MAYOR

1. Question from Councillor Richard Williams to Councillor Dean

Given the very great interest and level of objections to the Crest Nicholson Planning Application for Centenary Quay, why does the application have to be heard in August when many interested parties are on holiday?

Answer

It is an established, expected and accepted requirement laid down in Government guidance that planning applications should be processed to a fair determination at the earliest opportunity. This avoids undue delay, added costs and uncertainty to all interested parties.

The two applications before the Council on the former Vosper Thorneycroft site will be assessed independently of one another but share some common requirements and linkages. These commonalities make the consideration of the professional officers' recommendation on both these proposals together a logical and necessary approach to take.

The employment based proposal for a high specification boat builders on the Centenary Quay area of the site by Palmer Johnson is time sensitive and linked to contracts that would ensure active employment in the area for the future. Consideration of this proposal is therefore important to be made at the earliest opportunity. This is the prime reason for arranging the August meeting.

The primarily residential proposal from Crest Nicholson follows on from the principles of the earlier SEEDA residential scheme approved in August 2006. Whilst there are some significant differences this scheme would still look to provide the necessary ground works and infrastructure links that the Palmer Johnson proposal would rely upon to enable and facilitate the start of development on this site.

The needs of local residents, business' and interested parties have been considered as part of the normal publicity and consultation stages in the applications' processing. The ability to attend the Panel meeting will be made available with an extended notification period to allow interested groups and individuals the opportunity to plan their attendance or to make alternative arrangements for representation at the meeting. The meeting itself is also likely to allow a wider scope for public speaking than would normally be possible as part of a scheduled and full agenda Panel meeting.

31. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

a) Appointment of Members

RESOLVED that subject to certain decisions that may from time to time be made by the Council, the following Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies be appointed with the allocation of seats to political groups shown therein and they be delegated authority to act within their terms of reference:

Political Group	Seats on Council	%
Conservative	26	54.17
Labour	14	29.17
Liberal Democrats	8	16.67

Committees	Lib Dem	Labour	Con	Number of Seats to Groups
Overview and Scrutiny Management(10)	3 Cllr Baston Cllr Drake Cllr Mizon	3 Cllr Williams Cllr Rayment Cllr Letts	4 Cllr Ball Cllr Cooke Cllr Dean Cllr Fuller	10
Planning and Rights of Way (7)	1 Cllr Davis	2 Cllr Cunio Cllr Blatchford	4 Cllr Dean Cllr Fitzhenry Cllr Holmes Cllr Walker	7
Employment and Appeals Panel (7)	1 Cllr Davis	2 Cllr Marsh-Jenks Cllr Burke	4 Cllr Dean Cllr Fitzhenry Cllr Norris Cllr Walker	7
Chief Officer Employment Panel (7)	1 Cllr Baston	2 Cllr Williams Cllr Rayment	4 Cllr Moulton Cllr Norris Cllr Samuels Cllr Smith	7
Licensing Committee (13)	2 Cllr Galton Cllr Drake	4 Cllr Blatchford Cllr Cunio Cllr Letts Cllr Thomas	7 Cllr Fuller Cllr Holmes Cllr Norris Cllr Odgers Cllr Walker Cllr Wells Cllr Whiskerd	13
Sub-Committees	Lib Dem	Labour	Con	
Environment and Sustainability SP (7)	2 Cllr Drake Cllr Galton	2 Cllr Letts Cllr Thomas	3 Cllr Dean Cllr Jones Cllr Whiskerd	7

Children and Young People SP (7)	1 Cllr Beckett	2 Cllr Cunio Cllr Stevens	4 Cllr Fitzgerald Cllr Fitzhenry Cllr Jones Cllr Odgers	7
Safer Communities SP (7)	1 Cllr Mizon	2 Cllr Damani Cllr Payne	4 Cllr Cappozoli Cllr Fitzgerald Cllr Holmes Cllr Norris	7
Healthy City SP (7)	1 Cllr Drake	2 Cllr McEwing Cllr Rayment	4 Cllr Cooke Cllr Cappozoli Cllr Daunt Cllr Osmond	7
Economic Well-being SP (7)	1 Cllr Sollitt	2 Cllr Bogle Cllr Burke	4 Cllr Ball Cllr Fuller Cllr Osmond Cllr Wells	7
Audit Committee (7)	1 Cllr Beckett	2 Cllr Barnes-Andrews Cllr Bogle	4 Cllr Ball Cllr Daunt Cllr Fuller Cllr Wells	7
Licensing General Sub-Committee (7) (Membership must come from membership of Licensing Committee)	1 Cllr Galton	2 Cllr Blatchford Cllr Cunio	4 Cllr Fuller Cllr Norris Cllr Wells Cllr Whiskerd	7
TOTAL	16	27	50	93

2. Appointment to Committees / Sub-Committee and other Bodies NOT subject to political proportionality.

Committee/Sub-Committee	Liberal Democrat	Labour	Conservative	Number of Seats to Groups
Standards and Governance ((10) including the Mayor and 3 independent members)	2 Cllr Mizon Cllr Slade	2 Cllr Barnes-Andrews Cllr Burke	2 Cllr Cooke Cllr Osmond	6
Assessment Sub-Committee (4) Independent (Chair) plus 3 Members appointed from S&G	1 Cllr Mizon	1 Cllr Burke	1 Cllr Cooke	3
Assessment Appeals Sub-	1	1	1	3

Committee (4) 1 Independent (Chair) plus 3 Members appointed from S&G	Cllr Slade	Cllr Barnes- Andrews	Cllr Parnell	
Local Determinations Hearing Panel (5) 2 Independent (1 as Chair) plus 3 Members from S&G	1 Cllr Mizon	1 Cllr Burke	1 Cllr Cooke	3
Licensing and Gambling Sub- Committee (3) (Any 3 Members drawn from the Licensing Committee membership on rotation basis)	1	1	1	3
Other bodies	Lib Dem	Labour	Con	
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (3)	1 Cllr Galton	1 Cllr Marsh- Jenks	1 Cllr Smith	3
Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton Strategic Planning Joint Advisory Panel (5) <i>(City Council's entitlement is 5 Members. However, last year this Authority decided only to appoint 3)</i>	1 Cllr Slade	1 Cllr Letts	1 Cllr Samuels	3
South East Employers (3 + 3)	1+Deputy Cllr Davis Cllr Drake (deputy)	1+Deputy Cllr McEwing Cllr Thomas (deputy)	1+Deputy Cllr Moulton Cllr Matthews (deputy)	6
South East Employers Scrutiny Network (2)	1 Cllr Slade	1 Cllr Marsh- Jenks		2
Police Joint Committee (Police Authority) (1) <i>(Overall proportionality is calculated across the County. This</i>		1 Cllr Rayment		1

<i>may require a change in appointment)</i>				
Partnership for Urban Southampton – Overview and Scrutiny Committee	1 Cllr Baston			1

The meeting was adjourned to allow meetings of each of the Committees and Sub-Committees to be held in order to appoint the Chair to each of the Committees and Sub-Committees appointed by the Council.

b) Appointment of Chairs

RESOLVED that the following Chairs be elected for the 2008/09 municipal year:

Committee	Chair
Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee	Councillor Letts
Planning and Rights of Way Panel	Councillor Dean
Employment and Appeals Panel	Councillor Norris
Chief Officer Employment Panel	Councillor Samuels
Licensing Committee	Councillor Wells
Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Thomas
Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Fitzhenry
Safer Communities Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Fitzgerald
Healthy City Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Cooke
Economic Well-being Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Ball
Audit Committee	Councillor Ball
Licensing General Sub-Committee	Councillor Wells

c) Appointment of Independent Members

Members noted that in response to recent advertisement, the Council had received 5 nominations to serve as Independent Members of the Standards and Governance Committee. Although there was however only a requirement to appoint 3 Members, the Solicitor to the Council, following discussion with the 3 group leaders, was recommending the appointment of a fourth member.

RESOLVED that the following Independent Members be appointed to the Standards and Governance Committee:

- Brian Hooper
- Geoff Wilkinson
- David Blake
- Katerina Mesmer

32. ADOPTION OF THE JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH AND CARE IN THE CITY

The report of the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health was submitted

requesting adoption of the 'Joint Strategic Needs Assessment' which would inform the development of a joint strategy to improve health and well-being in the City in the future (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED

- (i) that the 'Joint Strategic Needs Assessment' for health and care services be adopted; and
- (ii) that the Council work with the Southampton City Primary Care Trust to develop and implement a new medium term Health and Well-Being Strategy for the City based on this assessment and that a report be submitted to Cabinet in due course.

NOTE: Councillor Sollitt declared a prejudicial interest in the above matter, in view of his employment with the Health Authority, and left the meeting during the consideration of the matter.

33. ACADEMIES: CAPITAL PROJECTS

The report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services was submitted seeking approval in relation to increasing the Children's Services Capital Programme and Revenue Budget for Oasis Academy Mayfield and Oasis Academy Lord's Hill (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED

- (i) that £805,800 be added to the Children's Services Capital Programme phased £285,000 in 2008/09, £178,000 in 2009/10, £203,800 in 2010/11, £85,000 in £2011/12 and £54,000 in 2012/13 for the management of the Academy building programme to be funded from DCSF grant and Council contribution;
- (ii) that the sum of £405,800 from Council resources be approved in order to fund the authority's role in the procurement and project management of the academies' projects; and
- (iii) that £40,000 be added to the Children's Services revenue budget to fund an Academies Buildings Officer.

NOTE: Councillor Galton declared a prejudicial interest in the above matter, in view of his daughter attending Lord's Hill School in September, and left the meeting during the consideration of the matter.

34. BUILDINGS SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE

The report of the Head of Infrastructure and Capital was submitted requesting the Council to note that £585,000 had been allocated to the Buildings Schools for the Future revenue budget (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED

- (i) that it be noted that a sum of £585,000 had been made available for 2008/09, as part of the “Changes to existing capital and revenue budgets” report, to fund year one of the BSF Project Team costs. The funding would be held centrally in the newly created ‘Development Fund’. Future years’ funding would be requested as part of the annual budget setting process; and
- (ii) that delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director for Resources to approve draw down of funding from the Development Fund for the Building Schools for the Future project team, up to the sum of £585,000 in 2008/09, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning.

35. 2008/09 ADULT LEARNING AND SKILLS PLAN

The report of the Cabinet Member for Young People and Skills was submitted seeking approval for the delivery plan for adult learners and adult skill development delivered by the City Council in Partnership with a range of different organisations. The Learning Skills Council requires the Council to endorse the plan for their element of the funding which runs from August 2008 – July 2009 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the 2008/09 Adult Learning Plan be approved.

36. MINERALS PLAN: SUBMISSION (LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK)

The report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport was submitted seeking approval of the “Proposed Submission” version of the Minerals Plan, identifying sites suitable for mineral operations across Hampshire (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

It was noted that the Cabinet at its meeting on 30th June had approved the recommendations in the report but had noted the following updated situation:

Land Won Sand and Gravel Sites

The Cabinet report (summary) explains that the nearest land won sand and gravel sites to Southampton will be at either Pickwell Farm, Netley or Hamble Airfield.

UPDATE: The site finally selected is Hamble Airfield

Indicative Mineral Areas

The Cabinet report (paragraph 28) explains that the Plan identifies, “County wide”, indicative mineral areas, including tiny parts within (on the edge of) Southampton.

UPDATE: It is intended the final Plan will exclude the parts within Southampton from the indicative mineral areas.

(Areas outside but close to Southampton remain in the indicative mineral areas, eg – Hamble peninsula, south of Eastleigh and Nursling areas).

Willments Shipyard, Hazel Road

The proposed Plan safeguards the existing aggregate recycling facility (ARF) at this location from redevelopment.

The Cabinet report (paragraphs 25 – 26) suggests that this safeguarding would not apply if a comprehensive redevelopment of the whole Hazel Road area came forward.

UPDATE: The latest version of the Plan changes the emphasis should a comprehensive regeneration scheme come forward, from “automatically” de-safeguarding the ARF site to “reconsidering” its safeguarding in the context of regeneration policy.

Amendment moved by Councillor Dick and seconded by Councillor Fitzhenry:

Amend 2 to include the word “or” at the end of the sentence;

Add new 3 to read:

“Are changes relating to deep water wharves which do not change the Plan’s position on the sites identified.”

Amended Recommendations to read

- (i) To approve the “Proposed Submission” version of the Minerals Plan as placed in the members’ room for public representations and for subsequent “Submission”.
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Head of Planning and Sustainability, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transportation, to make changes to the “Proposed Submission” Plan prior to “Submission”, or to make changes at subsequent stages, including recommending changes to the Inspector through the examination process, provided these:
 - 1. Do not change the overall direction, shape or emphasis of the document and do not raise any significant new issues; or
 - 2. Only affect other geographical areas covered by the Plan and do not impact on Southampton; or
 - 3. Are changes relating to deep water wharves which do not change the Plan’s position on the sites identified.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the “Proposed Submission” version of the Minerals Plan as placed in the members’ room for public representations and for subsequent “Submission” be approved; and
- (ii) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Planning and Sustainability, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for

Environment and Transportation, to make changes to the “Proposed Submission” Plan prior to “Submission”, or to make changes at subsequent stages, including recommending changes to the Inspector through the examination process, provided these:

1. Do not change the overall direction, shape or emphasis of the document and do not raise any significant new issues; or
2. Only affect other geographical areas covered by the Plan and do not impact on Southampton.
3. Are changes relating to deep water wharves which do not change the Plan’s position on the sites identified.

37. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC – CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX TO ITEM 38

RESOLVED that the confidentiality in respect of Appendix B to Item 38 be removed.

38. FUTURE HIGHWAYS SERVICE – PROPOSALS FOR LONG-TERM DELIVERY

The Council, having removed the confidentiality of Appendix B to the report, considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport seeking agreement to the commitment of existing capital and approval of additional monies to the Environment and Transport revenue budget (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED

- (i) that the commitment of the existing Highways capital and revenue budgets for the period of the partnership contract, as set out in section 40, along with any additional funding approved as part of the budget process be approved;
- (ii) that the addition of £100,000 to the 2008/09 Environment & Transport Portfolio revenue budget, from General Fund balances, to meet the implementation costs of the Highways Service Partnership and to note the additional resource requirements for 2009/10 and 2010/11, as set out in section 42 of the report be approved;
- (iii) that the estimated range of net benefits from the partnership contract, as set out in section 44 of the report be noted, together with the forecast that an average net saving of £443,000 per annum is realistic over the 10 years of the contract; and
- (iv) that it be noted that this would form an addendum to the Council’s Policy Framework, i.e. an addendum to the Best Value Performance Plan.

39. FUTURE USE OF CITY COUNCIL OWNED LAND AT STONEHAM

The report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport was submitted seeking amendment to the Local Transport Plan 2006 – 2011 regarding City Council owned land at Stoneham (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 be amended by deleting all references to the possible use of the site at Stoneham (identified as Site 18b in Section 8.2 of Annex B) as a potential Park and Ride.

40. CHANGES TO THE BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK PROCEDURE RULES

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning was submitted seeking approval of the revised Budget and Policy Framework for inclusion in the Constitution (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED

- (i) that the key changes to the Budget and Policy Framework as set out in the report be noted; and
- (ii) that the revised Budget and Policy Framework as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved for inclusion in the Constitution.

41. CHANGES TO EXISTING REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning was submitted seeking approval of changes to existing revenue and capital budgets (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED

- (i) that the additional expenditure in 2008/09 for the items set out in Appendix 1 to the report, to be funded in part from the savings in Appendix 2 with the remainder coming from balances be approved;
- (ii) that subject to the final decision referred to in resolution (iii), the efficiencies, income generation proposals and service reductions as set out in Appendix 2 to the report be approved;
- (iii) that it be noted that prior to a final decision being made regarding grant reductions referred to in Appendix 2 to the report, (ref. LC16) formal consultation with affected organisations would commence as soon as possible and that any savings referred to in Appendix 2 for item LC16, are subject to the outcome of consultation with affected parties;
- (iv) that £70,000 be added to the Resources and Workforce Planning Portfolio Capital Programme in 2008/09 to complete works for cooling in the Computer Suite Room to be funded from Direct Revenue Financing; and
- (v) that expenditure of £154,000 in 2008/09 for a new cooling system in the computer suite room be approved.

42. FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2007/08

(i) Statement of Accounts 2007/08

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning was submitted concerning the statement of accounts for 2007/08 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the approval of the Statement of Accounts 2007/08 by the Standards and Governance Committee on 26th June 2008, subject to any changes required after the completion of the Audit, be noted. Any such changes will be presented to the Audit Committee

(ii) General Fund Revenue Outturn 2007/08

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning was submitted concerning the general fund revenue outturn for 2007/08 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the final outturn for 2007/08 detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be noted;
- (ii) that the performance of individual portfolios in meeting their budget targets as set out in paragraph 7 of the report, together with the major variances in Appendix 2, be noted;
- (iii) that the carry forward requests as set out in Appendix 3 to the report be approved;
- (iv) that an addition to the Risk Fund of £200,000 for 2008/09 as set out in paragraph 16 of the report be approved; and
- (v) that the use of £2,188,700 of the 2007/08 underspend to fund the cost of the corporate items set out in paragraphs 17 and 18 of the report be approved.

(iii) General Fund Capital Outturn 2007/08

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning was submitted concerning the general fund capital outturn for 2007/08 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the actual capital spending in 2007/08 as shown in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the report be noted;
- (ii) that the proposed capital financing in 2007/08 as shown in paragraph 10 of the report be approved; and
- (iii) that the revised scheme estimates for 2008/09, to take account of

slippage and rephrasing, detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

(iv) Housing Revenue Account Revenue and Capital Outturn 2007/08

The report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Local Services was submitted concerning the housing revenue account and capital outturn for 2007/08 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the HRA revenue outturn for the financial year 2007/08, which shows a surplus for the year of £1,514,400, and balances at the end of the year of £3,107,900, be noted;
- (ii) that the HRA capital outturn for 2007/08 be noted;
- (iii) that an increase in the level of Direct Revenue Financing (DRF) in 2008/09 of £962,600, which is equivalent to the level of revenue savings in 2007/08, be approved;
- (iv) that the amendments to the HRA Capital Programme for 2008/09, set out in Appendix 3 to the report, to take account of the variations in 2007/08 be approved;
- (v) that the increase in the budget provision for Lift Refurbishment of £495,000 in 2008/09 and £238,000 in 2009/10, with this being funded from the savings on completed capital schemes in 2007/08 (£112,000) plus part of the additional DRF (£621,000), be approved; and
- (vi) that it be agreed not to proceed with the CHP scheme in its current form because it has not been possible to identify a preferred private sector partner and to note that proposals for the use of the remaining budget provision will be brought forward as part of the capital update that will be reported to Council in September.

(v) Review of Prudential Limits and Treasury Management Outturn 2007/08

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning was submitted concerning the treasury management activities for 2007/08 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Treasury Management activities for 2007/08 and the outturn on the Prudential Indicators be noted; and
- (ii) that it be noted that the continued proactive approach to Treasury Management has led to significant savings in borrowing costs and additional investment income during the year.

(vi) Collection Fund Outturn 2007/08

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning was submitted concerning the actual payments made to and from the collection fund during the 2007/08 financial year (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the accounts for the Collection Fund in 2007/08 as shown in Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

43. INTERNET AND TELEPHONE REGISTRATION

The report of the Election Registration Officer was submitted seeking approval to the introduction of automated telephone and internet electoral registration systems (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the principle of entering into an agreement with a provider for the provision of an automated telephone and internet electoral registration system be approved; and
- (ii) that the Electoral Registration Officer be authorised to enter into an agreement with such a provider for the provision of such a service and take all other actions necessary to give effect to the above recommendation and the contents of the report.