

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**4.00PM 15 OCTOBER 2009**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, BRIGHTON TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors Mears (Chairman), Brown, Fallon-Khan, Kemble, K Norman, Simson, Smith, G Theobald and Young

**Also in attendance:** Councillors Mitchell (Leader of the Labour Group), Kitcat (Opposition Spokesperson, Green) and Watkins (Opposition Spokesperson, Liberal Democrat)

**Other Members present:** Councillor Oxley

**PART ONE**

**87. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**87a Declarations of Interests**

87a.1 There were none.

**87b Exclusion of Press and Public**

87b.1 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ('the Act'), it was considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I(1) of the Act).

87b.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 99 onward.

**88. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

88.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2009 be approved as a correct record.

**89. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

- 89.1 The Chairman noted that the meeting would be web cast.
- 89.2 The Chairman welcomed the new Chief Executive, John Barradell to his first Cabinet meeting.
- 89.3 The Chairman reported that the Cabinet decision regarding Phase Two of the Pedestrian Network scheme had been upheld following the consideration of a call-in request by the Environment & Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee; detailed design and implementation of the scheme would begin.
- 89.4 The Chairman highlighted the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IRA bombing of the Grand Hotel in Brighton which tragically killed 5 people and left several others seriously injured. The anniversary was marked on 12 October with a ceremony at St. Paul's Church after which guests moved on to the Grand Hotel itself. Lord Tebbit and his wife were the guests of honour and he unveiled a plaque to remember those who died.
- 89.5 The Chairman announced that Reverend Archie Coates would be taking up the post as Vicar of St Peters Church at the end of October. There had been ongoing concerns about the church and a future had recently been found through Holy Trinity Brompton and meetings had already taken place to discuss plans for St Peter's including restoration work and the conservation of the church's historic and civic items.
- 89.6 The Chairman highlighted the upcoming White Nights Festival, taking place during the weekend of 24 October; she urged everyone to go along to sample the fantastic range of cultural activities including music, art, dance and sport that would be on offer.
- 89.7 The Chairman reported that the Council had been shortlisted for the 'Most Sustainable Business' award in the Sussex Business Awards 2009/10, with the award ceremony taking place on 6 November. The nomination was topical because at the recent Local Strategic Partnership meeting the Chairman had committed to signing the Council up to the national 10-10 campaign to reduce our CO2 emissions by 10% during 2010/11. A report would be brought to November's Cabinet meeting and a more detailed action plan would be considered by the Sustainability Cabinet Committee in January and would include future targets beyond 2010 because obviously, this isn't just a one off, one year commitment. The Chairman added that the proposals had received cross-party support during debate on a Notice of Motion at Full Council.

**90. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION**

- 90.1 **RESOLVED** – That all the items be reserved for discussion.

**91. PETITIONS**

- 91.1 There were none.

**92. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

- 92.1 There were none.

**93. DEPUTATIONS**

93.1 There were none.

**94. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS**

94.1 There were none.

**95. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

95.1 There were none.

**96. NOTICES OF MOTION**

96.1 There were none.

**97. WASTE AND MINERALS CORE STRATEGY - PREFERRED STRATEGY CONSULTATION**

97.1 The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Environment updating Members on the progress of the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Development Framework, and seeking approval for the forthcoming consultation on the Preferred Strategy stage of the Waste and Minerals Core Strategy (for copy see minute book).

97.2 Councillor Mitchell welcomed the Preferred Strategy and thanked officers for producing an accessible document. She raised a concern regarding the need to use landfill and landraise for the disposal of residual waste, but spoke in support of the commitments and targets contained in the document.

97.3 Councillor Kitcat raised a number of concerns; he contended that the Preferred Strategy was not clear or ambitious enough and therefore not of sufficient quality upon which to consult.

97.4 Councillor Watkins queried whether representations made as part of the consultation would influence the final strategy and added that food waste should be a priority for the Council.

97.5 The Chairman confirmed that the report was seeking approval to consult on the Preferred Strategy; Members could ask questions during the consultation process and all comments would be considered in determining the final strategy.

97.6 The Head of Planning Strategy explained that the Council was required to produce a documents that would be found 'sound'; the Council would have to demonstrate that targets could be delivered.

97.7 In response to Councillor Kitcat's concerns, the Director of Environment explained that the Waste Strategy was linked to the Waste and Minerals Core Strategy, therefore it followed that neither document had been completed yet. She added that the background

papers would be available in Members' rooms for the beginning of the consultation period.

97.8 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet accepted the following recommendations:

- (1) That progress made on the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Development Framework be noted.
- (2) That publication of the Preferred Strategy and associated Sustainability Appraisal for a six-week period of consultation commencing on 21 October 2009 be agreed, subject to any minor factual changes to the text as agreed by the Director for Environment.

#### 98. LOCAL AUTHORITY BUSINESS GROWTH INCENTIVE (LABGI) FUNDING 2009/10

98.1 The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning allocation of the Council's Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI) funding for 2009/10 (for copy see minute book).

98.2 Councillor Mitchell welcomed the initiatives except proposals to award £5,000 to fund free parking for specific events.

98.3 Councillor Kitcat echoed Councillor Mitchell's remarks concerning proposed free parking and questioned the council's sustainability credentials in relation to the proposal.

98.4 In response to a question from Councillor Mitchell, Councillor Kemble reported that the Council had succeeded in its bid for Futures Jobs funding. He added that free parking had been proposed to encourage businesses to stay open during the White Nights Festival and bring residents into the city.

98.5 Councillor Simson added that the proposal would allow those residents from the outer areas of the city not comfortable with using public transport late at night to enjoy the festival.

98.6 In response to a query from Councillor Kitcat the Chairman explained that all the LABGI projects were linked to the recession and that it would be important to encourage local businesses to retain staff after the Christmas period; the contribution to free parking would therefore apply to both the White Nights Festival and Boxing Day.

98.7 Councillor Theobald added that £5,000 would only be small contribution to the total cost that the Council would be funding.

98.8 Councillor Watkins requested for the proposed free parking on Boxing Day to apply to all the retail centres within the city, not only central Brighton.

98.9 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet accepted the following recommendations:

- (1) That the proposed list of projects for LABGI funding be agreed.

**PART TWO**

**99. PART TWO MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

99.1 **RESOLVED** - That the Part Two minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2009 be approved as a correct record.

**100. PART TWO ITEMS**

100.1 The Cabinet considered whether or not the above item should remain exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

100.2 **RESOLVED** - That item 99, contained in Part Two of the agenda, remain exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 4.40pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of