

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Monday 14th October 2002

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: The Chair (Councillor Hollingsworth), the Vice-Chair (Councillor Baker), and Councillors Susan Brown, Christian, Clarkson, Cook, Johnson, Price, Smith and Tarver.

OFFICERS PRESENT FOR THE WHOLE OF THE MEETING: Marion Headicar (Chief Executive), Neil Gibson (Strategic Director, Housing, Health and Community), Bhupinder Gill (Legal Services Business Manager and Brenda Lammin (Legal Services Business Unit).

OFFICERS PRESENT FOR PART OF THE MEETING: Kathryn Latter (Business and Information Systems Business Manager) Jill Bailey (E-government Manager), Val Johnson (Neighbourhood Renewal Business Manager and David Penney (Media and Communications).

224. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

225. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

226. IMPLEMENTING ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT IEG2

The Strategic Director, Physical Environment submitted a report (previously circulated and now appended).

Resolved:-

- (1) to RECOMMEND Council on 14th October to adopt the Implementing Electronic Government Year 2 statement, and incorporate it into the Council's policy framework, and to authorise the submission of the statement, subject to any minor textual changes that may be necessary, to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister;
- (2) to request the Director to circulate to all Councillors details of the anticipated benefits of e-government, as referred to on page 25 of the statement, as soon as the information becomes available

227. SUPPORTING PEOPLE SHADOW STRATEGY

The Neighbourhood Renewal Business Manager submitted a report (previously circulated and now appended).

Resolved:-

- (1) to RECOMMEND Council on 14th October that:-
 - (a) subject to (b) below, the revised draft of the Shadow Supporting People Strategy for Oxfordshire, as set out in the appendix to the report, be agreed so far as this Council is concerned for inclusion in the Council's policy framework;
 - (b) the Strategic Director, Housing, Health and Community, be authorised to make changes to the revised Shadow Strategy for submission to the Government in light of any comments agreed by the Joint Member Forum, and the Council's policy framework be modified accordingly;
- (2) to ask the Legal and Committee Services Business Manager to look at how the Constitution could be adjusted to deal with the approval of multi-agency policy documents affecting the Council's policy framework.

228. CUSTOMER SERVICES BUSINESS UNIT - VIREMENT

The Customer Services Business Manager submitted a report (previously circulated and now appended).

Resolved to RECOMMEND Council on 14th October that Financial Procedure Rule 2.1 be revised in order to permit the virement of funds to an employee budget for a period of one year as described in the report.

229. CONSTITUTION - PLANNING CALL-IN

The Legal Services Business Manager submitted a report (previously circulated and now appended).

Resolved to RECOMMEND Council on 14th October

- (1) that decisions on both Councillor Woodin's Motion and the issues raised at Council in July be deferred until the review of the delegation of planning decisions and the operation of area committees to give consistency of decision making has been carried out;

- (2) that the review include consideration of the sort of applications which should be considered by the Strategic Development Control Committee rather than area committees, and be submitted by the Planning Business Manager to the meeting of Council on 9th December 2002, following consultation with the Legal Services Business Manager on statutory and constitutional issues.

230. PARKS AND GREEN SPACES STRATEGY

The Legal Services Business Manager reported that the Executive Board's decision on this matter of 27th September 2002 had been called in for scrutiny. The Board considered:-

- (a) a report (previously circulated and now appended) of the Parks and Green Spaces Business Manager;
- (b) a minute (previously circulated and now appended) of the Executive Board of 27th September 2002;
- (c) a draft minute (circulated at the meeting and now appended) of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 10th October 2002.

Resolved:-

- (1) to RECOMMEND to Council on 14th October that capital spending (amounting to £425,000) for 2002/03 for items 1-6 in Appendix 1 to the report be approved, to be funded from the slippage arising from the inability to progress the Horspath Road community facilities in the current year;
- (2) to agree that bids for capital spending in future years be considered as part of the forthcoming capital and revenue budget setting process;
- (3) to respond to the views of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the comments of the portfolio holder as follows:

Committee Recommendations/ Comments	Executive Board Response
<u>Welcomed</u> the commitment to the proposed detailed consultation with Area Committees on the proposed expenditure	Noted
<u>Noted</u> that consultation with Area Committees would produce a list of priorities which may differ from that proposed by officers, and that consideration would have to be given	Noted

as to how to deal with these within limited funds	
<u>Recognised</u> the need to use the capital funding to improve the maintenance and safety of the infrastructure	Agreed - criteria for area committee schemes will include maintenance issues.
<u>Noted</u> that the highest priority should be improvements to safety	Agreed
<u>Welcomed</u> the consultation carried out with users, and recommend continued consultation to develop strategic aims	Agreed
<u>Noted</u> that spending proposals should be backed up by strategic aims such as reaching target users and designing out crime, and that the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy had been drawn in accordance with an overall strategy	Noted
<u>Supported</u> the proposals for re-developing and improving the three paddling pools especially as new water features would result in on-going savings in water use and revenue costs	Agreed
<u>Asked</u> that provision of street sport sites should be considered carefully to ensure that the location and the facilities are appropriate for the proposed users	Agreed - area committees to be consulted
<u>Recommended</u> agreement for funding for the proposed urgently needed refurbishment of the toilets at Shotover even if these cannot be progressed within this financial year	The issue of provision of toilets in Shotover will be visited by this administration and a report produced in due course. This has been an issue for many years and is a complex project. The advice of the Scrutiny Committee will be sought in developing proposals.
<u>Expressed</u> concerns at the potential risks to sports provision if the changing rooms at Donnington Sports Ground were not replaced, and ask that the Executive Board consider expediting replacement facilities	Issues affecting Donnington Sports Ground will be addressed as part of the planning process for Capital expenditure.

<p><u>Recommended</u> the Executive Board to note that allotments also needed investment in better facilities to support and attract allotment holders and ask that they consider ways of increasing funding above the present minuscule level</p>	<p>The administration intends to develop an allotment strategy during the next few months</p>
<p><u>Asked</u> that consideration be given to asking developers for contributions for allotments as new housing tended to increase demand</p>	<p>This will be discussed with the Planning department</p>
<p><u>Recommended</u> that partnership working in some form should be considered as part of each project as well in the overall strategy for developing open spaces as this would enable additional funding to be accessed, and that capital money should be made available to fund officer time to develop partnerships wherever the financial return would outweigh the initial investment.</p>	<p>The question of partnership working will be addressed as part of the Open Spaces strategic work.</p>

The meeting commenced at 2.30 pm and closed at 3.25 pm.