

**A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD WAS HELD**

**ON 15 SEPTEMBER 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).

**30. APOLOGIES**

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

**31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**32. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD HELD ON 30 JUNE AND 26 JULY 2010**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Board meetings held on 30 June and 26 July 2010 be approved and signed by the Chairman as true and correct records.

**33. DEPUTATIONS**

No deputations were received.

**34. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no public questions.

**PART I**

**35. ADOPTION OF REVISED SCHEDULE 3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) PROVISIONS ACT 1982 AND COUNCIL POLICY TO INCORPORATE LICENSING OF SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUES (CROSS REFERENCE FROM LICENSING BOARD)**

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Licensing Board which recommended that the Council adopt the revised Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous) Provisions Act 1982 and amend its existing policy on Sex Establishments to incorporate Sexual Entertainment Venues a Sex Establishments.

RECOMMENDED: That:

- a) the revised Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous) Provisions Act 1982 be adopted; and
- b) the Council's existing policy on Sex Establishments to incorporate Sexual

Entertainment Venues as Sex Establishments be amended.

## **PART II**

### **36. PRIVETT PARK: USE OF DEVELOPERS' CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SPORTS IMPROVEMENTS**

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Community and Environment Board which recommended the use of £62,000 from the Developers' Contributions 'Sports Pitches Fund'.

Approval was sought to use £47,000 of 'Sports Pitches' funding to provide 4.5m (15') high protective weld mesh fencing and support posts, to two sections of the perimeter fence line in Privett Park and to use £15,000 of 'Sports Pitches' funding to provide a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).

The proposal to use £47,000 of 'Sports Pitches' funding to provide 4.5m (15') high protective weld mesh fencing and support posts to two sections of the perimeter fence line in Privett Park was put to the vote. Nine Members voted in favour of the proposal with Councillor Chegwyn abstaining.

The proposal to use £15,000 of 'Sports Pitches' funding to provide a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the use of £47,000 of 'Sports Pitches' funding to provide 4.5m (15') high protective weld mesh fencing and support posts to two sections of the perimeter fence line in Privett Park be approved; and
- b) the use of £15,000 of 'Sports Pitches' funding to provide a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) be approved.

### **37. PUSH DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Economic Prosperity, Tourism and Culture which provided a summary of the aims and content of the draft Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Economic Development Strategy and sought approval of the Council's consultation response.

Members were advised that there was no firm news regarding who would be taking responsibility for the HMS Daedalus site following the abolition of the South East England Development Agency. The Government was currently considering Local Economic Partnerships but there was no certainty that they would take on sites such as this.

There were no firm details of how many jobs could be created on the site and it would depend on densities and mixes of use. There were opportunities for the private sector to become involved.

It was reported that the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee was still engaged in looking into post 16 vocational education. It was acknowledged that, although funding was no longer available for the Building Schools for the Future initiative, there was a need to ensure that post 16 academic and vocational education was adequately provided. This was not within the remit of PUSH but needed to be recognised.

The view was expressed that PUSH should be made aware of Gosport's vulnerability to the economic downturn. It was felt that the Borough Council had a role to play in the economic business of Gosport and that successes should be built upon. The business community should be made aware of the existing workforce in Gosport and the potential quality of life due to being located next to the Solent.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the contents of the report and the summary of the Strategy attached at Appendix A to the report be noted; and
- b) the draft consultation response, attached at Appendix B of the report be approved.

### **38. WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE – GRANGE ROAD**

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Community and Environment Board which recommended that the Head of Property Services be authorised to agree Terms as set out in the report and that 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.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the Head of Property Services be authorised to agree terms as set out in the report; 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.

### **39. REPLACEMENT OF ELSON ALLOTMENT STORE AND REFURBISHMENT OF BROCKHURST ALLOTMENT STORE**

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Community and Environment Board which recommended approval of the grant of a lease of the Council land (shown on plans 1 and 2 of the report of the Head of Property Services) on terms to be agreed by the Council's Head of Property Services and that 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.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the grant of a lease of the Council land (shown on plans 1 and 2 of the report of the Head of Property Services) on terms to be agreed by the Council's Head of Property Services be approved; 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.

#### **40. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMAN**

Consideration was given to a cross reference from the Civic and Commemorative Events Sub-Board which recommended that former Councillor Keith Laurence Gill be appointed an Honorary Alderman.

RESOLVED: That former Councillor Keith Laurence Gill be appointed as an Honorary Alderman at an extraordinary Council meeting on Wednesday, 29 September 2010.

#### **41. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REVIEW 2009/10, PROGRESS REPORT 2010/11, & PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer which advised Members that the annual treasury report was a requirement of the Council's reporting procedures and covered the treasury activity for 2009/10 together with a review of 2010/11 to date. The report also included the Prudential Indicators for 2009/10 in accordance with the requirements of the Prudential Code.

The Chairman requested that nominations for awareness training be submitted to the Borough Treasurer within five working days.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the Borough Treasurer's report be noted and the 2009/10 prudential indicators be approved; and
- b) Members be nominated for awareness training as suggested in section 5 of the Borough Treasurer's report.

#### **42. BUDGET STRATEGY 2011/12**

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer which considered the strategy for the preparation of the General Fund budget for the next financial year. This preparation would be in the light of the Medium Term Financial Strategy approved by the Board in June 2010 and the current national and local financial situation.

Attention was drawn to the need to seek suitable volunteers for flexible retirement, early retirement or voluntary redundancy, efficiency gains through partnership

working and “spend to save” initiatives and it was noted that, given the seriousness of the challenges facing the Council, consideration should be given to introducing some budget measures in advance of next financial year in order to make inroads into the forecast deficit as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: That the Board note the financial situation facing the Council and the principles that will be used in the preparation of the budget for the 2011/12 financial year.

#### **43. CONTRACT PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND TIMETABLE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer which updated the Board on the procurement process in respect of Grounds Maintenance, Street Cleansing, Public Toilet Cleansing and Maintenance, Refuse Collection and Housing Services and Council Asset Management contracts, sought nominations for representation on the evaluation panels and approval for the extension of some of the existing contracts to 31 March 2011 so that all contracts would be coterminous.

Members were advised that the process remained on course but the timescale was tight. There was a role to be played by Members in the selection process.

The new contracts would have a considerable bearing on the 2011/12 budget. They were likely to be costly but would need to be manageable.

With regard to membership of a new Sub-Board to oversee the evaluation panels, the following nominations were made:

Conservative: Councillors Burgess, CR Carter, Langdon and Philpott

Labour: Councillor Wright

Liberal Democrat: Councillor Chegwyn

Independent Liberal Democrat: Councillor Mrs Forder

RESOLVED: That:

- a) progress to date with the major contracts procurement process be noted;
- b) a Sub-Board be constituted to oversee the work of the evaluation panels;
- c) Councillors Burgess, CR Carter, Chegwyn, Mrs Forder, Langdon, Philpott and Wright be nominated to serve on the new Sub-Board; and
- d) the extension be approved of all relevant contracts due to finish on 16 March 2011 to 31 March 2011 so that all contracts are coterminous with the existing Waste Collection contract.

#### **44. STREET LIGHTING CONTRACT**

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 final confirmation of the inventory of lighting columns within Gosport had only recently been completed and the new contract was about to start.

Consideration was given to a report of the Leisure and Corporate Services Manager which outlined the contract arrangements proposed between Gosport Borough Council and Hampshire County Council for the future maintenance of all lighting columns within the Borough.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the details of the proposed contract between Gosport Borough Council and Hampshire County Council for provision and maintenance of the Borough Council's lighting columns be noted; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into agreements to give effect to the above proposed contract.

#### **45. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That in relation to the following items 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 these items 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.

#### **46. REPLACEMENT LANDING STAGE UPDATE**

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 it was necessary to secure the extra area of seabed required for the project to be implemented and the contract was about to start.

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Leisure and Corporate Services Manager.

The report was exempt from publication as it contained details of the financial affairs of the Council and a third party at a time when negotiations were not finally concluded. These negotiations could be prejudiced if this information was made public which may have an adverse impact on the arrangement to the detriment of

the Council tax payers. Therefore the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the details of the proposed purchase of land from The Crown Estate, as set out in Section 1 of the Leisure and Corporate Manager's report, be approved; and
- b) the Borough Solicitor be authorised to enter into agreements to give effect to the above decision.

#### **47. NEW GOSPORT LEISURE CENTRE**

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 the evaluation process had only just been completed and, to maintain the programme, it was necessary to select and notify the shortlisted consortia as soon as possible.

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Leisure and Corporate Services Manager.

The report was exempt from publication as it contained details of the financial affairs of the Council and a third party at a time when negotiations were not finally concluded. These negotiations could be prejudiced if this information was made public which may have an adverse impact on the arrangement to the detriment of the Council tax payers. Therefore the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

It was proposed and agreed that discussions be held with the Arena Group regarding the future of Gosport Ice Rink.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the details of the procurement process to date be noted and ratified;
- b) DC Leisure and Serco be requested to submit detailed and final proposals; and
- c) discussions be held with the Arena Group regarding the future of Gosport Ice Rink.

The meeting ended at 7.00 pm

CHAIRMAN