

AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD WAS HELDON 4 AUGUST 2011

The Mayor (Councillor Carter, C R) (P); Councillors Beavis (P), Burgess (P), Chegwyn, Mrs Forder, Hook (Chairman) (P), Lane (P), Langdon (P), Philpott, Smith (P) and Wright (P).

It was reported that, in accordance with Standing Orders, Councillors Carter, CR, Forder and Hylands had been nominated to replace Councillors Philpott, Mrs Forder and Chegwyn respectively for this meeting.

13. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Chegwyn, Mrs Forder and Philpott.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Hook and Smith declared personal interests in the Gosport Waterfront Community Festival.

15. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were received.

16. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART II

17. APPOINTMENT PANEL

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive seeking the Board's decision on the arrangements for the appointment of a Chief Officer.

Members paid tribute to the work of the Community and Customer Services Manager who would be retiring at the end of the year. They recognised that he would be leaving a tremendous legacy for the residents of Gosport, particularly with the recently installed new ferry pontoon and the up and coming new leisure centre and requested that the thanks of the Board be recorded to acknowledge this work.

It was agreed that Councillors Hook, Burgess and Wright be appointed to an Appointment Sub-Board to make the appointment of a new Community and Customer Services Manager.

RESOLVED: That Councillors Hook, Burgess and Wright be appointed to an Appointment Sub-Board to act on behalf of the Policy and Organisation Board in making the appointment of a new Community and Customer Services Manager.

18. WATERFRONT COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Councillors Hook and Smith declared personal interests in this item; they remained in the room to answer Members questions, but left the room for the duration of the debate and voting. Councillor Burgess chaired the meeting for this item.

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive advising Members of a request for assistance from the Council received from the group organising the Waterfront Community Festival.

The Board was advised that the request for assistance had been received on the 28th July. It was therefore necessary to organise an Extraordinary meeting of the Policy and Organisation Board to consider the request and to allow the festival organisers to continue with their preparations.

In answer to a Member's question, the Board was advised that the guaranteed funding in place was in the form of £15000 in gate income underwritten by a local company, £20000 from concessions and the remainder in sponsorship.

It was also confirmed that in the event that re-instatement of the ground was necessary the organisers would pay for the work to be undertaken and that there would be no additional costs to the Council other than those identified in the report.

Members congratulated the organisers on obtaining such a large amount of sponsorship.

A Member expressed concern that the Council were supporting the Festival but making cuts in other areas.

The Board were advised that the request had been made to support the festival as a temporary grant to aid cash flow. It was confirmed that there was an expectation that the event would generate a profit.

Members welcomed the way in which the festival had been progressed, which had resulted in a substantial saving to the Council and the retention of a community based event that could be enjoyed by all.

Members recognised that it was important to acknowledge the risks posed by holding such events but welcomed the work that had been undertaken to consider and protect against them.

Members agreed the recommendations in the report of the Chief Executive.

Councillor Hylands requested that his vote against the proposals be recorded.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) approval be given to the provision of a temporary grant (maximum £42,500) towards the Waterfront Community Festival 2011 to assist with cash flow.
- b) the grant to be subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) the Council will pay invoices for the Festival on behalf of the organisers
 - (ii) sponsorship/concessions/income to be paid directly to the Council
 - (iii) proper accounts to be audited by an independent professionally qualified person and provided to the Council following the event.
- c) the Council waive the hiring fee for Walpole Park for the period of the Festival in August 2011; maximum of nine days and the need for a deposit for reinstatement works;
- d) the Council provide reasonable printing, PR services and other staff costs as outlined in the report free as a contribution towards the 2011 Festival; and
- e) the Council enter into a hiring agreement for the use of Walpole Park with the organisers and an agreement covering the award of the grant and the conditions set out in paragraph b) above.

The meeting concluded at 5.16pm

CHAIRMAN