



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
CABINET

Held: MONDAY, 12 MAY 2008 at 1.00 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Willmott- Chair
Councillor Draycott- Vice-Chair

Councillor Bhatti	Councillor Kitterick
Councillor Connelly	Councillor Osman
Councillor Corral	Councillor Mrs Sood
Councillor Dempster	Councillor Wann

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Coley – Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group
Councillor Follett– Leader of the Green Group
Councillor Mugglestone – Leader of the Conservative Group
Councillor Naylor –Culture and Leisure Task Group Leader

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281. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

282. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

No declarations were made.

283. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Willmott thanked Councillor Corral and Councillor Manjula Sood, who were both to leave their positions on the Cabinet. He also paid thanks to Councillor Draycott for her service as Deputy Leader.

Furthermore, the councillor Willmott announced that it had recently eclipsed one year since the establishment of the present administration, and stated that

many achievements had taken place and this highlighted the increased pace the Cabinet was working at. In addition, a document that detailed one-hundred achievements of the administration was to be published in the coming months, and thanked all who had contributed during the past year.

284. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 21 April 2008, having been circulated to Members, be taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

285. MATTERS REFERRED FROM COMMITTEES

There were no matters referred from Committees.

286. REPORT OF THE CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY TASK GROUP, "A SNAPSHOT OF SERVICE PROVISION BY THE YOUTH SERVICE"

Councillor Dempster submitted a report from the Children, Schools and Young People Scrutiny Task Group and the Children and Young People's Department that set out the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Task Group concerning a review of service provision by the Youth Service.

In response to a question from Councillor Follett in respect of when the work carried out by external consultants to define and cost a future Integrated Youth Support Service would be complete, Councillor Dempster confirmed that the conclusions of this work would be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board within three months.

The Leader recommended that the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services be asked to prepare a further report for Cabinet that provided a clearer strategy of the services that would be provided.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the contents of the report, as referred by OSMB be noted, along with the progress made to date on the recommendations.
- (2) That the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services be asked to consider the recommendations contained in the report, with a view to appropriate implementation as part of reprofiling the Youth Service into an Integrated Youth Support Service; and
- (3) That the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services be asked to prepare a further report for Cabinet that provides a clearer strategy of the services that

will be provided.

287. LIBRARIES STRATEGY 2008-2013

Councillor Connelly submitted a report that presented the Draft Libraries Strategy 2008-2013 and a report of the Culture and Leisure Task Group that set out its findings, conclusions and recommendations following its investigation of the strategic review.

The relevant minute extract from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board held on 8 May 2008 had been circulated to the Cabinet and in response, Councillor Connelly recognised that the long-term aim was for one new library to replace the existing central lending and reference buildings.

Councillor Connelly reported that the Culture and Leisure Task Group, led by Councillor Naylor conducted a piece of work, which had successfully influenced the Libraries Strategy. Councillor Naylor reported that the Task Group had visited approximately half of the City's libraries, and as part of the investigation, spoke to both Library staff and service users. He explained that many positive comments were received, and staff in particular were enthusiastic to contribute to the review. One issue identified by Councillor Naylor was the need to provide conveniences in every library, partly due to the fact that people now used libraries for longer spells of time.

Councillor Willmott congratulated the Task Group for its work, and noted positive aspects of the review and the overall scrutiny process.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Libraries Strategy for the next 5 years as set out in this report and the attached strategy "Better Libraries – Better Lives" be approved; and
- (2) That it be noted that approval to this report and strategy does not at this stage represent a commitment to identify additional funding, and where necessary, proposals for additional funding to implement the strategy will be brought forward for consideration as part of the Council's Budget Strategy.

288. LEICESTERSHIRE AND LEICESTER WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CORE STRATEGY

Councillor Wann submitted a report that sought approval from Council to submit the documents to the Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and Local Government in relation to the Leicestershire and Leicester Joint Waste Development Framework Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Development Plan document.

The relevant minute extract from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board held on 8 May 2008 had been circulated to the Cabinet.

In response to a query from Councillor Coley around the uses of construction waste, Councillor Wann stated that this waste was not of a high enough grade for all types of re-usage but it was hoped that this would be achieved in the near future.

Councillor Follett expressed concern with regard to 'behind the scenes' waste management and felt that symbolic changes were required to influence the production of waste. Councillor Willmott felt that door-stop recycling schemes addressed many behavioural and cultural changes, and that the overall aim was to influence the behaviour of all households, in terms of re-cycling.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) That, due to the need for this item to be progressed and submitted to Government prior to the next ordinary meeting of Council, that, in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 9, this report be considered at the Council Annual Meeting on 15 May 2008.

289. ILLEGAL MONEY LENDING AND DELEGATION OF POWERS TO NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

Councillor Wann submitted a report that concerned the delegation of enforcement and prosecution powers to Nottingham City Council to enable the East Midlands Public Protection Project Team to undertake investigations into illegal money lending in the Leicester City area and take appropriate enforcement actions.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Executive of Nottingham City Council be given delegated authority to the discharge of the enforcement function and powers under the Consumer Credit Acts 1974 and 2006 and any legislation which amends or succeeds the same, including any secondary legislation made there under in so far as they relate to illegal money lending in Leicester City and for such cases and investigations as are agreed between the Authorities.
- (2) That the Executive of Nottingham City Council, for the exercise of this function and in so far as the law allows be delegated powers in respect of any associated offence which may become apparent under other legislation or at Common Law including, but not limited to:
 - The Administration of Justice Act 1970
 - The Business Names Act 1985
 - The Consumer Credit Act 1974
 - The Criminal Attempts Act 1981

- The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001
 - The Criminal Law Act 1977
 - The Fraud Act 2006
 - The Malicious Communications Act 1988
 - Consumer Protection Act 1987
 - Offences Against the Person Act 1861
 - Theft Act 1968 and 1978
 - Proceeds of Crime Act 2002
 - Perverting the course of justice
 - False imprisonment
 - Kidnap
 - Blackmail
- (3) That the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture be authorised to sign the Protocol subject to the Service Director, Legal Services, being satisfied as to its contents.
- (4) That the Corporate Director Regeneration and Culture be authorised to agree any amendments to the Protocol in the light of how the project develops, subject to consultation with the Cabinet lead.

290. EXTENSIONS TO BOUNDARIES OF MARKET PLACE AND AYLESTONE VILLAGE CONSERVATION AREAS

Councillor Wann submitted a report that confirmed the boundary extensions to the Aylestone Village and Market Place Conservation Areas.

RESOLVED:

That the extensions to the boundaries of the Aylestone Village and Market Place Conservation Areas be approved.

291. SPINNEY HILL HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND GRANT APPLICATION

Councillor Connelly submitted a report that provided an update on the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for a grant to help restore Spinney Hill Park, advised of success at the initial stage of the application and requested approval for further development work for the second stage application.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That work on the development of and submission to the HLF of the second stage application for the Spinney Hill Park project be approved.
- (2) That the identified match funding remains committed to support the project.

292. 10,000 TREES - PROJECT OUTLINE

Councillor Wann submitted a report that provided members with details of the project to plant 10,000 trees across Leicester, as per the Labour manifesto pledge of 2007.

RESOLVED:

That the project management and delivery arrangements be approved.

293. UPDATING OF PARKS BYELAWS

Councillor Connelly submitted a report that provided an update on the process of updating the existing Parks Byelaws and to seek approval for the formal approval of the new proposed Parks Byelaws, and their subsequent sealing and final public consultation process.

The Head of Legal Services was asked to determine whether Law 11 covered the prohibition of BBQs in parks, and if this was not the case, to find out if the law could be suitably amended.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the final draft of the proposed Parks Byelaws be approved and that they are then sealed by Council.
- (2) That the byelaws are advertised by public notice in a newspaper circulating in the local area and held on deposit for a period of one month for public comment.
- (3) That the Head of Legal Services be asked to determine whether Law 11 covered the prohibition of BBQs in parks, and if this was not the case, to find out if the law could be suitably amended.

294. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004 - ADJUDICATION JOINT COMMITTEE

Councillor Kitterick submitted a report that informed members of the need to join a new Adjudication Joint Committee Agreement for the civil enforcement of Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London, which was shortly to replace the current agreement.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Service Director, Legal Services be authorised to make the necessary arrangements for the City Council to enter into a new Adjudication Joint Committee Agreement for the Civil Enforcement of Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London.
- (2) That Councillor Kitterick be appointed as the Cabinet

member representative and a substitute Cabinet member be appointed to serve on the Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London Joint Committee

295. A 'ONE LEICESTER' SIGN UP TO THE NATIONAL SKILLS PLEDGE

Councillor Osman submitted a report that sought commitment to the National Skills Pledge, as a major employer in the city.

Councillor Willmott saw this as a vital piece of work, and felt that it should help to address the skills shortage identified within the 25 Year Vision.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Cabinet confirms its commitment to the Skills Pledge and asks that the Leader and Chief Executive sign on behalf of the Authority.
- (2) That public sector partners be invited to join the City Council in a city-wide signing of the pledge.

296. CAPITAL RESOURCES FOR INTERMEDIATE CARE

Councillor Corrall submits a report that highlights the need to seek an early decision from on the bid submitted for capital resources for the Intermediate Care element of the Butterwick scheme.

Councillor Corrall paid thanks to those officers who had worked to ensure that the scheme be progressed.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the requirement for an early decision be noted.
- (2) that allocation of the capital required to progress this scheme be agreed.
- (3) that the receipt from the land to be earmarked as the council's contribution to the Extra Care element of the scheme be confirmed.

297. HEALTH INEQUALITIES: POSITION REPORT APRIL 2008

Councillor Manjula Sood submitted a report that provided a summary of the follow-up meeting held with the National Support Team for Health Inequalities on 26 February 2008.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the progress made in developing a framework to tackle health inequalities be noted

- (2) That the key areas for action by the Council and Primary Care Trust be endorsed
- (3) That the health agenda be promoted via community ward meetings, making use of ward level health data to inform local priorities for health improvement work.

298. TRADING ORGANISATIONS - 2008/2009 BUDGETS

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that detailed all the council's trading organisations and their 2008/2009 budgets in accordance with Finance Procedure Rules. It also outlined policies in respect of the use of any retained surpluses of the trading organisations.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the 2008/2009 budgets for the Council's trading organizations be approved;
- (2) That the proposed policies in respect of the use of retained surpluses for each department be noted;
- (3) That the determinations to Finance Procedure Rules be amended to allow the Resources and Regeneration & Culture departments to retain budgeted surpluses as detailed in paragraph 5.2 of the supporting information.

299. THE COUNCIL'S CUSTOMER ACCESS STRATEGY - A ONE COUNCIL APPROACH TO CUSTOMER SERVICE

Councillor Draycott submitted a report that reviewed the achievements and disappointments of the Customer Access Strategy since 2005 and set an ambitious programme of activities to achieve a *One Council, One Contact* experience of Customer Access.

Councillor Draycott requested that a report be presented to Cabinet in six months in relation to the progress made with the council complaints procedure.

In relation to the establishment of the Charnwood Customer Services Centre, Councillor Osman welcomed investment in communities as well as central areas.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the vision, aims and objectives of the refreshed Customer Access Strategy 2008 – 2011 be agreed.
- (2) That the telephone access strategy be noted that aims to reduce the number of externally advertised numbers and move the majority of all initial council contact into a contact centre environment.
- (3) That the progress made in implementing the Council's

existing Customer Access Strategy since its launch in 2005 be recognised.

- (4) That a six monthly progress report in October 2008 and a full annual review in April 2009 be provided to the Cabinet.
- (5) That a report be presented to Cabinet in six months in relation to the progress made with the council complaints procedure.
- (6) That the virement of the corporate budget for the Customer Transformation Fund to the Resources Department be approved as follows:

2008/09:	£800k;
Future years:	£1m per annum

300. SIGN-OFF ARRANGEMENTS FOR LEICESTER'S LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT (2008/11)

Councillor Willmott submitted a report that recommended arrangements for the formal sign-off of Leicester's new Local Area Agreement (LAA) prior to submission to Communities and Local Government for Ministerial sign-off.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Subject to any further direction from government, Council be asked to amend the constitution to add formal sign-off of Leicester's Local Area Agreement and other LAA functions (e.g. modification at 'annual refresh') to the list of local choice matters which are to be Cabinet business.
- (2) That, due to the need for this item to be progressed and submitted to Government prior to the next ordinary meeting of Council, that, in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 9, this report be considered at the Council Annual Meeting on 15 May 2008.

301. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 2:20pm.

