

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

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Minutes of a meeting of the Executive held on Tuesday 22 November 2005 at City Hall Bradford

Commenced 1400
Concluded 1440

PRESENT – Councillors

CONSERVATIVE
Eaton
Cooke
Hawkesworth
Hopkins
B M Smith
D Smith

Councillor Eaton in the Chair

Also present: Councillors Lewthwaite and A Thornton

72. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Cooke disclosed a personal interest in Minute 76 (Airedale Masterplan) as the Chairman of the Airedale Partnership.

Councillor D Smith disclosed a personal interest in Minute 76 (Airedale Masterplan) as the Chairman of the Shipley Town Centre Partnership.

As neither of the disclosures was prejudicial, the Members remained in the meeting throughout.

ACTION: *Legal and Democratic Services Director*

73. MINUTES

Resolved -

That the minutes of the meetings held on 20 September and 17 October 2005 be signed as a correct record.



74. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

75. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE

The following recommendations to the Executive were noted:

1. Corporate Improvement Committee (1 November 2005)

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Resolved -

- (1) That parts (1), (2), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9) and (10) of the decision of the Executive be released for implementation.**
- (2) That parts (3) and (4) of the decision be referred back to the Executive to reconsider in the light of the following representations by this Committee:**
 - (i) That NRF monies should not be included in the Council's core budget.**
 - (ii) The Committee recognises that cost savings are sometimes necessary, but that increased efficiency can be achieved on occasions without cost cutting.**
- (3) That an examination of the way in which financial information is disclosed to Members be undertaken by this Committee.**
- (4) That a report be submitted to this Committee at the earliest opportunity which considers the potential implications for the Council arising from the issue around Bradford-i and the move to monthly pay for Council employees.**

2. Regeneration and Economy (8 November 2005)

HOUSING STRATEGY

Resolved -

- (1) That it be drawn to the attention of the Executive that the Housing Strategy should be considered by full Council as part of the 'policy framework'.**
- (2) That the report on the Housing Strategy be welcomed and it be noted that the provision of statistics and evidence would have been helpful.**
- (3) That a working party be established to look at the problem of Homelessness and this is to include Empty Homes.**

3. **BRADFORD WEST AREA COMMITTEE (27 July 2005)**

**COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS 2004/05 AND HOLIDAY ACTIVITY PROGRAMME -
SUMMER 2004**

Resolved -

- (1) **That the Corporate Improvement Committee be thanked for its consideration of and recommendations on this important issue.**
- (2) **That the Executive be requested to consider Community Chest Grant funding as part of the Council's budget process and that Community Chest Grant funding is separately accounted for and not susceptible to variation in future years.**

Notes:

- (i) *In noting receipt of the recommendation in respect of the Medium Term Financial Strategy it was*

Resolved -

- (1) ***That the recommendations of the Corporate Improvement Committee be noted.***
- (2) ***That the decisions taken by the Executive on 17 October 2005 as recorded in resolutions (3) and (4) of Minute 60 (2005-06) be reaffirmed.***

**IMPROVEMENT AREA: Corporate
ACTION: Finance Director**

- (ii) *In noting the receipt of the remaining recommendations, the Leader advised Members that the Housing Strategy would be reported to the Executive next year and that the recommendation regarding Community Chest Grants 2004/05 and holiday activity programme Summer 2004 would be addressed as part of the budget process.*

76. **DELIVERING THE AIREDALE MASTERPLAN**

Previous reference: Minute 15 (2005/06)

The report of the Regeneration and Housing Director (**Document "AY"**) set out the key actions required to begin the implementation of "Airedale Corridors: a masterplan and strategy for Airedale."

In particular, it outlined the feedback received to date on the proposals, proposed a delivery structure for the Masterplan and identified work priorities for the period up to March 2007.

In presenting the report the Regeneration and Housing Director highlighted the areas that had generated the most debate, which were transportation issues and proposals regarding Shipley Town Centre.

Members expressed concerns about funding the transportation issues arising from the masterplan and the dependence on Central Government decisions regarding the Local Transport Plan.

Resolved -

- (1) That the delivery structure and work priorities for the implementation of the Airedale Masterplan be approved as outlined in Document "AY".**
- (2) That a bid be submitted to Yorkshire Forward for funding of the Executive Team and feasibility work, and the cost of Council match funding of £180,000 in 2006/7, £210,000 in 2007/8 and £250,000 in 2008/9 be referred to the priority-led budget process 2006/7.**
- (3) That the implementation of the masterplan, including any Council contributions through funding or use of Council assets, be considered on a project by project basis through future reports to the Executive.**
- (4) That the Regulatory and Appeals Committee and appropriate Planning Panels be requested to have regard to the contents of the Airedale Masterplan in determining applications within the area, pending the adoption of relevant local strategic planning documents.**

IMPROVEMENT AREA: *Regeneration & Economy*

ACTION: *Regeneration and Housing Director*

**77. THE REPORT ON THE SCRUTINY OF SCHOOL
REFURBISHMENTS/NEW BUILDS**

Previous reference: Young People and Education Improvement Committee,
Minute 26 (2005/06)

At its meeting on 20 July 2005, the Young People and Education Improvement Committee considered the report of the Scrutiny of School Refurbishments/New Builds and resolved:-

- (1) That the draft report be adopted as the Committee's report, subject to the amendments made during the meeting and the incorporation of the comments of Asset Management and Education and Life Skills, excluding the Asset Management's point 5 which be replaced with "...the Council can require the contractor to dismiss a sub-contractor if it sees fit" and deleting the statement regarding construction costs from point 8.*
- (2) That the Executive be urged to adopt the recommendations in the report.*

In accordance with resolution (2) above, the report of the Interim Policy and Performance Director (**Document "AZ"**) presented the resolutions that were made in the scrutiny report.

Councillor A Thornton, the Deputy Chair of the Young People and Education Improvement Committee, presented the Committee's report. He summarised the recommendations on project management, design and design specification, and defects.

The Chair noted the success of the school reorganisation programme and thanked the Improvement Committee for the work it had undertaken in ensuring lessons could be learned for the future.

Resolved -

- (1) That the recommendations of the Young People and Education Improvement Committee be noted.**
- (2) That the Education Director be instructed to ensure that the recommendations of the Committee that relate to improvements in processes undertaken with schools and contractors are implemented.**
- (3) That those recommendations that depend on the availability of additional funding be addressed within the resources that can be made available.**

IMPROVEMENT AREA: *Young People and Education*

ACTION: *Education Director*

78. ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2007 INTAKES

The report of the Education Director (**Document "BA**) sought permission to consult on a proposal to change Bradford's co-ordinated admission scheme to an 'equal preference' scheme, in the light of the draft new Code of Practice for admissions and recent decisions by the Schools Adjudicator.

Members expressed concern that they were being asked to consider the proposals while the new Code of Practice for admissions was still in draft.

Resolved -

That consultation takes place on removing the first preference criterion and changing Bradford's co-ordinated admissions scheme from a 'first preference' to an 'equal preference' basis for the 2007 admissions.

IMPROVEMENT AREA: *Young People and Education*

ACTION: *Education Director*

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Executive.

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THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER