

## CABINET

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held in the Town Hall, Rhyl on Tuesday 6th March 2001 at 10.00 a.m.

### PRESENT

Councillors E.C. Edwards (Leader), I.M. German, D.M. Holder, R.W. Hughes, G.M. Kensler, D.M. Morris, E.A. Owens, A.E. Roberts, W.R. Webb, K.E. Wells and E.W. Williams.

Observers - Councillors M.Ll. Davies, S. Drew, P. Douglas, F.D. Jones, M.M. Jones, J.A. Smith and W.G. Thomas.

### ALSO PRESENT

Chief Executive, County Clerk and Corporate Director: Resources.

#### **1162. URGENT MATTERS**

The Leader gave notice of the following items which in his opinion should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972:-

- (i) Minutes of the Emergency Cabinet meeting held on 28.02.2001;
- (ii) School Catering - Meat Supplies;
- (iii) The Leader of the Council submitted a report for external advertisement of a Planning Officer: Social Services Directorate, and
- (iv) Denbighshire Local Health Alliance Paper - for circulation only.

#### **1163. MINUTES OF THE CABINET**

The Minutes of the Cabinet held on 22 February 2001 (previously circulated) were submitted.

***RESOLVED*** that the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 22 February 2001 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

The Minutes of the Emergency Cabinet held on 28 February 2001 were submitted.

#### Matters Arising:-

The Chief Executive explained that the Emergency Cabinet meeting had been convened in order to make an Order regarding the Foot and Mouth Disease, which had been followed by an amendment to the original Order made by MAFF and NAFW, the effect of which was to close all rural footpaths and land beyond to the public. The Chief Executive informed Members that the Order had reflected the need not to inhibit unduly the movement of those who reside adjacent to footpaths.

The Head of Public Protection and Regulatory Services updated Members on the Control Centre at Caledfryn which was open initially for a month, although Denbighshire had no outbreak. Collection of refuse from farm yards had ceased as had school transport to farm yards. Contract Services had produced the signs which had been made available to farmers to restrict access to land and were available from the One Stop Shops, Council premises and the website. Publicity leaflets had been distributed to schools. The cost to date was less than £10k and would be met from the Emergency Code. The Council's publicity trailer was stationed at Caledfryn and would be the base for the eventual issue of cattle movement licenses.

The Emergency Planning Officer said Denbighshire was carrying out advanced contingency planning and was in contact with other Counties. Advice on the holding of meetings was being examined.

Councillor R.W. Hughes said she was impressed with the way in which the team was working and had attended the Members Briefings. Councillor Hughes wished to record the Cabinet's thanks to the team.

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 28 February 2001 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

#### **1164. SCHOOL CATERING - MEAT SUPPLIES**

Councillor K.E. Wells, Cabinet Lead Member for Lifelong Learning submitted the report seeking Members' agreement to alternative arrangements for the provision of meat supplies for school meals during the Foot and Mouth Crisis. Consultations had been carried out with Contract Services and the Wirral and North Wales Purchasing Organisation.

**RESOLVED** that Members approved to substitute beef, pork and lamb with chicken or turkey if 'home killed' beef, pork and lamb were unavailable or the shortage dictated considerable price rises.

#### **1165. CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

The Leader submitted the report (previously circulated) to determine whether Members would attend the LGA Conference in July 2001 at Harrogate and to also note agreement with the WLGA Reception arrangements at the LGA Conference.

Councillor W.R. Webb pointed out that the LGA Conference was always held on the same week as the Llangollen International Music Eisteddfod and suggested Denbighshire should not be represented.

Councillor D.M. Holder suggested the Chief Executive should attend. The Chief Executive said given the size and cost of the LGA Conference it would be more worthwhile to attend the WLGA Conference.

Councillor E.W. Williams said the cost of conference attendance would have to come from Members' Budget and no Members' expenses would be paid. This would curtail attendance at any other conferences during the year.

Councillor G.M. Kensler agreed with Councillor Webb and suggested that Denbighshire ask for copies of the Conference papers.

**RESOLVED** that Members agreed not to send a representative to the LGA Conference in July 2001 at Harrogate which would mean no attendance at the WLGA Reception at the Conference.

#### **1166. RECRUITMENT**

The Leader of the Council submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking approval for external advertisement.

Tenant Participation Officer: Scale 5 Personal Services Directorate ~ Housing Services  
Environmental Health Officer (Food Safety): PO1 Environment Directorate ~ Food Safety  
Clerical Officers: Scale 2 Lifelong Learning Directorate ~ Education Services ~ TWO Posts  
Temporary Clerk/Typist: Scale 1 / 2 (Local Land Charges) ~ Chief Executive's ~ County Clerk's Dept  
Part Time Administrative Assistant: Currently being evaluated ~ Chief Executive's ~ Best Value

Planning Officer: PO 2 Personal Services Directorate ~ Planning Section (circulated at the meeting)

**RESOLVED** that the external advertisements of the above posts be approved. Members agreed the Part Time Administrative Assistant: Chief Executive's ~ Best Value post should be bilingual.

#### **1167. CORPORATE OBJECTIVES**

The Leader of the Council submitted the report and appendix (previously circulated) seeking Members' agreement to the Corporate Objectives of Denbighshire Council for 2001-2002.

The Corporate Director: Resources indicated that there was a need to agree a direction for the Council for the coming year and the report reflected the discussions held at the Henllan Awayday. Service Plans would be produced based upon these Corporate Objectives. Councillor E.A. Owens said C2 needed to include open transparent government as one of the key objectives.

Councillor E.W. Williams questioned the lack of involvement of non-Cabinet Councillors, as all Councillors are to carry out the Council's work.

The Chief Executive said the Corporate Objectives reflected the Council's overall vision and priorities, and these Corporate Objectives indicated how these priorities would be established over the coming year.

Councillor G.M. Kensler asked that C4.3 be amended to include the relationship between the Cabinet / Corporate Directors and Councillors / Corporate Directors.

Councillor E.W. Williams said he supported the report but asked for a timetable of the next stages and a clarification of the involvement by Council. The Corporate Director: Resources outlined that service plans would be developed in the next month and these would form the basis for the business plan/best value performance plan to be prepared by the end of June. The Chief Executive explained that the report covered the priorities that Cabinet suggested this year which would need to be endorsed by Council.

**RESOLVED** that Members approved the Corporate Objectives of Denbighshire County Council for 2001-2002 as outlined in the attached Appendix.

#### **1168. DENBIGHSHIRE CCTV SERVICES - FUNDING**

Councillor E.A. Owens, Lead Cabinet Member for Resources submitted the report and appendix (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval to the 2001-2002 revenue budget and a 'one off' capital allocation for the County Council's CCTV service. Two permanent operators are required 24 hours a day, seven days a week to operate the service.

The Assistant Chief Executive: Contract Services explained that the service had transferred to Contract Services recently and he had since been in contact with other Authorities to assess their CCTV provision. The 7 year old Denbighshire CCTV needed updating and enhancing and it was hoped to market the service. He explained that the majority of revenue income came from other services, Railtrack and the North Wales Health Authority. No provision had been made by the North Wales Police to any Local Authority in North Wales.

Councillor E.W. Williams detailed a recent presentation given at the LGA Rural Commission meeting he had attended on community safety which had included CCTV on mobiles in rural areas. He also requested that a similar presentation be provided for Cabinet at a future meeting.

Councillor G.M. Kensler said there was a need for CCTV cameras in Denbigh which would particularly help small businesses. Councillor E.A. Owens said the cost of an optic link for Denbigh was currently beyond the Council's budget but expansion of the facility could be considered when the capital budget was greater.

**RESOLVED** that the gross revenue budget for the Council's CCTV service for 2001-2002 be approved at £207k (net budget £188k) with a 'one off' capital allocation of £30k.

#### **1169. SETTING UP OF A JOINT WORKING PARTY TO REVIEW CAPITAL PLANNING AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**

Councillor E.A. Owens, Lead Cabinet Member for Finance submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members approval to agree Council Member representation on the joint working party to review existing Capital Planning and Project Management Procedures. This would be in the form of a task and finish joint Member / Officer group appointed for approximately 2 months. Councillor Owens suggested that Councillor W.R. Webb, Lead Cabinet Member for Property and herself as Lead Cabinet Member for Resources along with 1 Independent and 1 Labour Member should form the Member's part of the group.

Councillor D.M. Holder suggested the number of Members in the group be increased to 6. Councillor Owens said membership should be limited to 4 as the group would only meet for two months. It was suggested that the Independent and Labour Members be taken from outside the Cabinet membership. Councillor E.W. Williams felt that a Best Value representative should also be included.

**RESOLVED** that four Members be appointed to the joint working party; Councillor E.A. Owens and W.R. Webb together with one Independent and one Labour Member.

**1170. BEST VALUE - CORPORATE APPROACH TO THE "4 CS"**

Councillor E.W. Williams submitted the report and Appendix (previously circulated) seeking approval of the proposed Corporate Statements on the four elements of Best Value: Challenge, Compare, Consult and Compete.

Members had undertaken to agree a formal approach to the four elements of Best Value resulting from the District Audit's Statutory and Detailed Report on the County's BV Performance Plan 2000-2001.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet approved the statement presented in the attached Appendix.

**1171. LIVERPOOL BAY SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTION BY DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Councillor D.M. Morris, the Lead Cabinet Member for the Environment submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members approval to adopt the Liverpool Bay Shoreline Management Plan and agreement to participation in its implementation and monitoring. The Plan provided a basis for a sustainable coastal defence policy and set objectives for the future management of the shoreline. Council had accepted the draft Plan in September 1999, subject to minor amendment.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet adopt the Liverpool Bay Shoreline Management Plan and agreed to participate in its implementation and monitoring.

At this juncture (11.15 a.m) the meeting adjourned for 15 minutes to allow Members to participate in refreshments.

**1172. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 8, 9 and 10 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

**1173. PASSENGER TRANSPORT SERVICE CONTRACTS**

Councillor D.M. Morris, the Lead Cabinet Member for the Environment submitted the report (previously circulated) seeking Members' approval to amend the termination date of 7 local bus service contracts from 31 March 2001 to 31 August 2001, as the contracts are funded from the Bus Subsidy Grant which had been extended to 31.03.04.

**RESOLVED** that Members approved the extension of the local bus service contracts due to expire 31.03.2001 to 31.08.2001 and that the contract with Transport Marketing to produce promotional material for the Clwydian Ranger network for the summer of 2001 be extended.

**1174. SHORTLISTING FOR THE HEAD OF PERSONNEL**

The Chief Executive welcomed to the meeting Mr. Tim Lewindon of Riley's Consultants who had been engaged in the recruitment process for the post of Corporate and Assistant Directors and Heads of Service.

Mr. Lewindon briefed Members on the recruitment process and the preliminary interviews that had been held with candidates.

On the basis of the interviews, candidates were shortlisted and arrangements were agreed for final interviews for the Head of Personnel by Cabinet on 20 March 2001.

**RESOLVED** that the candidates selected by Cabinet be interviewed by Cabinet on 20 March 2001.

The meeting concluded at 12.30 p.m.

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