CABINET

19 May 2016

Attendance:

Councillor Godfrey - Leader (Chairman) (P)

Councillor Weston - Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Built Environment (P)
Councillor Byrnes - Portfolio Holder for Transport & Professional Services (P)

Councillor Horrill - Portfolio Holder for Housing Services (P)

Councillor Humby - Portfolio Holder for Business Partnerships (P)

Councillor Miller - Portfolio Holder for Economy & Estates (P)

Councillor Pearson - Portfolio Holder for Environment, Health & Wellbeing (P)

Others in attendance who addressed the meeting:

Councillors Clear, Tait and Thompson

Others in attendance who did not address the meeting:

Councillors Izard, Hiscock, Porter, Scott and Weir Mr D Chafe and Mr D Light (TACT)

1. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Councillors Godfrey and Humby declared disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of agenda items due to their role as a County Council employee and County Councillor respectively. However, as there was no material conflict of interest, they remained in the room, spoke and voted under the dispensation granted on behalf of the Standards Committee to participate and vote in all matters which might have a County Council involvement.

2. **FUTURE MEETING DATES AND TIMES**

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the timetable of meetings for 2016/17 be agreed as set out on the agenda (and as agreed in PHD691).
- 2. That Cabinet meetings normally commence at 10.00am unless Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader, determines an alternative start time.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 March 2016, less exempt minute be approved and adopted.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Former Councillor Janet Berry spoke regarding Report CAB2800 and her comments are summarised under the relevant minute below.

5. <u>LEADER TO APPOINT PORTFOLIOS FOR THE 2016/17 MUNICIPAL YEAR</u>

(Oral Report)

The Chairman stated that following the Council meeting on 18 May, he had signed a Portfolio Holder Decision Notice confirming the appointment of the Deputy Leader and members of Cabinet (PHD691 refers).

Cabinet noted the Portfolio appointments announced by the Leader as set out in the table attached as an appendix to the minutes. More detailed arrangements settling the final scope of the portfolios and providing for delegation to the Portfolio Holders would be the subject of a Leader's Portfolio Holder Decision Notice.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Read for his contributions as the previous Portfolio Holder for Built Environment over the past 15 months. His position on Cabinet had been replaced by Councillor Humby with a new Portfolio of Business Partnerships, which would be a coordinating role across different Portfolios.

RESOLVED:

That the arrangements for the allocation of Portfolios be for 2016/17 (as attached as Appendix A to the minutes) be noted.

6. LEADER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that plans for redevelopment of the Station Approach area had been on display at the Council the previous week and had received approximately 500 visitors. The plans were from two architect firms (Design Engine and Hopkins) but were displayed anonymously. Visitors' comments on the schemes would be passed to the Leader and Cabinet to understand the public's view on the proposals for the type of development the Council is proposing and also on the submissions that were assessed by Officers and the Design Jury. Cabinet would need to consider these comments with the highest scoring scheme going forward, such as how the scheme would relate to traffic at the Carfax junction and how the development would sit in relation to the heights of existing buildings.

As had been explained before, as this was a design competition, neither Cabinet nor the public were making a judgement on the design and viability of the two schemes at this stage. The scoring had been done by the respected and expert Jury on the design side, and by external cost consultants, valuers and senior Council Officers on the viability side. The Leader emphasised that it was important that this process was followed correctly and was carefully considered and for that reason the highest scoring scheme would be presented to in Cabinet in June, rather than the meeting today as had originally been intended.

Following a decision on awarding the contract at the 8 June Cabinet meeting, Officers would hold a full public consultation on the highest scoring architect's design to develop a scheme that would be submitted for planning approval in the early part of 2017.

The Chairman also reported that following an independent inspection, the Council had retained its status as an organisation which met the national standard for customer service excellence. The Council had received its full three-year accreditation in 2015, which was the second time for the Council as a whole.

The Chairman announced that an external review by Local Partnerships carried out in April 2016 had endorsed the Council's project management approach. The latest review found that good progress had been made against all of the recommendations in the previous review. In addition, the current professional skills and experience available within the Council were appropriate for the size of the organisation and external skills were brought in when required.

The Chairman acknowledged that in recent months, concern had been expressed by a number of Councillors about the inability of backbench Members to be able to fully contribute towards both making and monitoring of decisions. Consequently it was proposed to establish a task and finish Informal Policy Group to examine the pros and cons of returning to a Committee system. This Group would be appointed in due course, when further information was available about the devolution proposals.

The Chairman stated that at the previous Cabinet meeting on 29 March, it was agreed that the next steps for the Central Winchester site (which included Silver Hill) would be to develop an engagement and regeneration strategy. It was proposed to establish an Informal Policy Group (task and finish) to take this forward, to be chaired by Councillor Gottlieb. Full proposals for membership of this Group and terms of reference would be submitted to a future Cabinet meeting for approval.

Councillor Weston reported that the Article 4 Direction, which required planning permission to be granted before houses in Stanmore could be converted into Houses in Multiple Occupation, had recently come into force.

Councillor Miller reported that the recent improvements to the Chesil multistory car park would result in a reduction of approximately 55 tonnes of CO₂ emissions per annum, in addition to consequential monetary savings.

Councillor Miller also announced that a model of King Alfred had been installed in the Tourist Information Centre as part of the Royal Blood Trail.

Councillor Horrill announced that the "Spare Change for Real Change" campaign would be launched on 10 June 2016. This was a joint initiative between the Council, Winchester BID and the Winchester Churches Nightshelter to encourage donations to be made to dedicated charity boxes and/or via mobile phone text donations, rather than direct giving to people begging.

The Chairman also announced various recent changes to the Council's officer structure, namely: Lisa Hall appointed as the new Legal Services Manager; Simon Little appointed as the new Head of Finance (who was welcomed as present at the meeting); and Joseph Holmes appointed as the new Corporate Director (Professional Services), due to start in July 2016.

7. <u>DEVOLUTION OF POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO LOCAL</u> <u>AUTHORITIES: UPDATE ON THE POSITION IN HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE</u> OF WIGHT

(Report CAB2804 refers)

The Chairman updated Members on the background to the current situation regarding devolution, as summarised in the Report. Since the Report was prepared, the Leader of Hampshire County Council (HCC), Councillor Roy Perry had announced that he had commissioned investigations into establishing unitary authorities across Hampshire. The Chairman commented that HCC's report contained interesting proposals which could contribute to the whole devolution debate. Overall, it was important that key decisions were taken on the basis of what was best for Hampshire residents and it was essential that methods were adopted to fully inform, consult and engage with residents regarding the proposals. Consequentially, he was recommending that Cabinet endorse the requirement to plan a communication strategy over the next few weeks, to incorporate HCC's work.

The Chief Executive emphasised that the situation was rapidly changing and that work regarding combined authorities could be undertaken in parallel to discussions on devolution. The Heart of Hampshire group of Councils had written to the HCC Leader to request an input into the proposals for consultation and also suggested that they work alongside HCC to develop a brief for the consultancy.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out above and outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the position be noted and the Leader continue to discuss with other Hampshire Councils and with the Government a model for devolution which is in the best interests of the Winchester District.
- 2. That an engagement strategy be commissioned to work with Hampshire County Council to promote a range of options available to communities and to investigate further with neighbouring authorities.

8. ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET COMMITTEES AND INFORMAL POLICY GROUPS 2016/17

(Report CAB2800 refers)

Janet Berry (former Councillor) addressed Cabinet under public participation to request that the Fairness and Equality Informal Policy Group (IPG) be reappointed (and not disbanded as recommended in the Report) or preferably a Fairness Commission be established. The IPG had been set up as a response to a Notice of Motion she had submitted to Council. She highlighted that fairness and equality issues still remained within Winchester, for example high house prices and public services cuts.

The Chairman thanked Ms Berry for her comments and for her work in promoting fairness and equality whilst a Councillor. However, the ISG had not met during 2015/16 and no new ideas or recommendations had been put forward so it was not considered to be appropriate to re-appoint at this time. He emphasised that issues were continuing to be addressed through, for example, new officer structures within the Housing Benefit Team, the implementation of the Council Tax reduction scheme and the Council's apprenticeship programme. The Chairman suggested that it was for individual Portfolio Holders and other Councillors to bring forward any other suggestions and proposals in due course.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillors Tait and Thompson addressed Cabinet and their comments are summarised below.

Councillor Tait supported comments made by Ms Berry above. With regard to the proposals to establish a Cabinet (Central Winchester) Committee, he requested that Ward Members for St Michael be involved. He highlighted that there was a degree of public sensitivity regarding the lack of Town Ward Councillors on Cabinet and involving St Michael Ward Councillors in this Committee could help to address this.

The Chairman confirmed that backbench Councillors would be fully engaged in this project and it was intended the terms of reference for the new Group would be brought back to a future Cabinet meeting as soon as possible.

Councillor Thompson expressed concern that Cabinet did not include any Town Ward Councillors. She also believed that Cabinet Committees should include non-Cabinet members as full voting participants. With regard to the proposed new body to examine the proposals for Central Winchester, she queried what its membership would be and terms of reference.

The Chairman responded that, as announced above, the new Group would be chaired by Councillor Gottlieb and it was proposed that Cabinet would appoint its membership and agree terms of reference at a future meeting. An indication of the possible terms of reference was included in the above Report under the section on a Cabinet (Central Winchester) Committee. However, it was not proposed to appoint this Committee at this stage.

The Chairman highlighted that under current legislation for the Leader and Cabinet model, it was not possible for Cabinet Committees to include non-Cabinet Members with full voting rights. However, as he had announced earlier in the meeting, a Group would be established to consider alternative methods of governance, including the advantages and disadvantages of returning to the Committee system.

Cabinet noted that a list of nominees for appointments to be made had been circulated to those present.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out above and outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the following appointments to Cabinet Committees be made for the 2016/17 Municipal Year and their terms of reference be confirmed as set out in the Report (including amendments where indicated):
- (i) <u>Cabinet (Traffic and Parking) Committee</u> Portfolio Holder for Transport & Professional Services (Councillor Byrnes) plus Councillors Miller and Pearson (Deputy: Weston)

In the event of any of the standing or deputy member not being available for a particular meeting, another member of Cabinet will be selected in alphabetical rotation by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to substitute for the standing member.

In addition, the following standing list of Councillors be invited to attend and offer views at meetings of the Committee:

- (a) Councillors Clear (Deputies: Achwal and Green)
- (ii) <u>Cabinet (Local Plan) Committee</u> Portfolio Holder for Built Environment (Councillor Weston) plus Councillors Godfrey, Humby and Pearson (Deputy: Miller).

In the event of any of the standing or deputy member not being available for a particular meeting, another member of Cabinet will be selected in alphabetical rotation by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to substitute for the standing member.

In addition, it was agreed that the following standing list of Councillors be invited to attend and offer views at meetings of the Committee:

- (a) Chairman of the Planning Committee (Councillor L Ruffell) plus Councillors Evans, Gottlieb and Griffiths (Deputies: Jeffs & Thompson).
- (b) Ward Councillors, where appropriate.
- (c) Representative from the South Downs National Park Authority.
- (iii) <u>Cabinet (Housing) Committee</u> Portfolio Holder for Housing Services (Councillor Horrill) plus Councillors Miller and Weston (Deputy: Godfrey).

In the event of any of the standing or deputy member not being available for a particular meeting, another member of Cabinet will be selected in alphabetical rotation by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to substitute for the standing member.

In addition, it was agreed that the following standing list of Councillors be invited to attend and offer views at meetings of the Committee:

- (a) Councillors Berry, Izard, McLean, Scott and Tait
- (b) Two TACT representatives plus one deputy: Mr D Chafe and Mr D Light (Mrs M Gill)
- (iv) <u>Cabinet (Major Projects) Committee</u> Leader (Councillor Godfrey) plus Councillors Byrnes, Miller and Weston (Deputy: Pearson).

In the event of any of the standing or deputy member not being available for a particular meeting, another member of Cabinet will be selected in alphabetical rotation by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to substitute for the standing member.

In addition, it was agreed that the following standing list of Councillors be invited to attend and offer views at meetings of the Committee:

(a) Councillors Berry, Gottlieb, Izard, Read, Tait and Thompson (Deputy: Evans)

- (v) <u>East Hampshire and Winchester Joint Environmental Services</u>
 <u>Committee</u> Councillors Pearson, Weston and Horrill (Deputy: Miller)
- 2. That the Cabinet (Central Winchester) Committee not be appointed at this time but that proposals for a Central Winchester Informal Policy Group be brought to a future meeting.
- 3. That the following Informal Policy Group be appointed with key tasks as outlined in the Report and Membership as follows:
- (i) Independent Review of Silver Hill Informal Policy Group
 Councillors: Godfrey, Weston, Cutler, Learney and Thompson
 Officers: Chief Executive, Head of Legal and Democratic
 Services
- 4. That the following Informal Policy Groups not be reappointed:
- (i) River Park Leisure Centre Informal Policy Group
- (ii) Fairness and Equality Informal Policy Group
- (iii) Housing Rents Informal Policy Group
- 5. That the following appointments to other informal consultative groups be made for the 2016/17 Municipal Year:
- (i) Barton Farm Forum

Councillors: Byrnes (Chairman), Ashton, Berry, Burns, Elks, Horrill, Hutchison, Learney, Miller, Prince, Scott and Tait Deputies: Weir

(ii) West of Waterlooville Forum -

Councillors: Read (Chairman), Brook, Clear and Cutler Deputies: Bentote

(iii) North Whiteley Development Forum -

Councillors: L Ruffell (Chairman), Achwal, Bentote, Huxstep and McLean

Deputies: Evans

6. That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be given delegated authority to make any consequential changes to the Responsibility for Functions (as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution) as a result of changes to the terms of reference.

9. <u>LGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 5 – 7 JULY 2016: APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES</u>

Nominations to attend the conference were received from Councillors Weston and Learney.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out above.

RESOLVED:

That Councillors Weston and Learney be appointed to attend the annual conference as outlined above.

10. ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL BODIES 2016/17 (Report CAB2801 refers)

Cabinet noted that a list of nominations had been distributed to Members present at the meeting.

In addition, since the Report was published it was noted that the proposed list of "automatic nominations" set out in Paragraph 4.2 should be amended as follows:

- Remove Police & Crime Panel appointment as it had been confirmed that it was a four year appointment, to tie in with County Council elections, with Councillor Warwick as the current representative until May 2017.
- Southampton Airport Consultative Committee should be an automatic nomination for Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Environment (not Transport as stated).

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Tait highlighted that it would be his 17th year of nomination to the Winchester Housing Trust and he believed that Councillor Thacker could also offer valuable experience. He stated that St John's Winchester Charity was currently reviewing its governance arrangements with a view to reducing the number of Council nominated trustees. He emphasised the contributions made by former Councillor Patrick Davies as a current trustee.

The Chairman noted Councillor Tait's comments and stated that the above report did not propose any nomination to St John's Winchester Charity at this stage.

Cabinet also noted that Allan Mitchell would wish to continue as the representative on the Winchester Welfare Charities. At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Clear suggested that Councillor Elks be appointed as a deputy, should this be acceptable to the organisation.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out above and outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the eight principles for a revised nominations system set out in section 3 of the Report be adopted.

- 2. That the list of organisations which will no longer have a representative nominated by the Council, set out at Appendix C of the Report, be approved.
- 3. That the list of 'automatic nominations' set out in paragraph 4.2 of the Report be approved, subject to the changes outlined above, and not be brought back to Cabinet for future consideration unless there are material changes to the list, the requirements of the external organisations or Cabinet's approach to representation in future.
- 4. That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the appointed representative listed in paragraph 4.2 of the Report (as amended above), be authorised to appoint a deputy for such representatives, where one is not appointed and this is considered to be helpful, provided a deputy is acceptable to the external organisation.
- 5. That the list of external organisations which will continue to have a representative nominated by the Council set out at paragraphs 4.4 and 4.5 of the Report be approved.
- 6. That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to review new applications from external organisations wishing to secure a nominated Council representative in future, and recommend to Group Managers any which meet the criterion set out in section 5 of the Report;
- 7. That the responsibilities and requirements of nominated Members set out in section 6 of the Report be noted and adhered to.
- 8. That the following appointments to external bodies be made:
- 8.1 <u>for the 2016/17 Municipal Year (deputies in brackets):</u>

Automatic Portfolio Holder/Chairman nominations

- (a) Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing (HARAH) Councillors Horrill & Weston)
- (b) Hampshire Cultural Trust Councillor Miller
- (c) Hampshire Homechoice Board Councillor Horrill
- (d) Hampshire & Isle of Wight Association of Local Authorities (HIOWA) Councillors Godfrey and Weston
- (e) Hampshire County Council Annual Meeting with Parish & District Councils regarding public transport issues Councillor Byrnes
- (f) Hampshire Rural Forum Councillor Miller
- (g) Local Government Association Councillors Godfrey (Weston)
- (h) Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Joint Committee Councillors Godfrey & Weston

- (i) Project Integra Management Board Councillor Pearson (Weston)
- (j) South East Employers Councillors Read
- (k) South East England Councils (SEEC) Councillors Godfrey & Weston
- (I) Tourism South East Councillor Miller
- (m) WinACC Councillor Pearson
- (n) Winchester Churches Night Shelter Councillor Horrill (3 year appointment for the relevant Portfolio Holder, confirmed annually)
- (o) Winchester City Centre Management Ltd (Winchester BID) Councillor Miller
- (p) Winchester Sports Stadium Management Committee Councillors Pearson and Warwick

Other appointments:

- (q) South East Employers Councillors' Local Democracy & Accountability Network – Councillors Read & Brook
- (r) Wellbourne Standing Conference Councillor Stallard
- (s) Winchester Road Safety Council Committee Councillor Byrnes

8.2 For The Period Of Time Stated (Deputies In Brackets):

- (a) The Carroll Centre Board of Trustees (Observer until May 2019) Councillor Green (Councillor Tait)
- (b) Hospital of St Cross and Almshouses of Noble Poverty (Nominated Trustee until May 2020) Councillor Warwick
- (c) Live Theatre Winchester Trust Limited (Observer until May 2019) Councillor Berry
- (d) Police and Crime Panel (until May 2017) Councillor Warwick (Pearson)
- (e) Portsmouth Water Customer Forum (until May 2019) Councillor Brook
- (f) River Hamble Harbour Management Committee (until May 2017) Councillor Weston (Councillor McLean)
- (g) South Downs National Park Authority (until May 2020) Councillor Thacker
- (h) Southampton International Airport Consultative Committee (until May 2019) – Councillor Pearson (as Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Environment) plus Councillor Warwick (Councillor Cook & Laming)
- (i) Streetreach (Observer until May 2019) Councillor Gottlieb
- (j) Trinity Winchester (until May 2019) Councillors Horrill (as Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Housing) and Councillors Burns and Mather
- (k) Winchester District Citizens Advice Bureau Trustee Board (Observer until May 2019) Councillor McLean
- (I) Winchester District Board of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (until May 2019) Councillor Pearson
- (m)Winchester Housing Trust (until May 2018) Councillor Thacker (Director) and Councillor Tait (Observer)

(n) Winchester Welfare Charities (until May 2020) – Allan Mitchell (former Councillor)

11. <u>MINUTES OF CABINET (HOUSING) COMMITTEE HELD 22 MARCH 2016, LESS EXEMPT MINUTE</u>

(Report CAB2803 refers)

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Cabinet (Housing) Committee held 22 March 2016 be received and the corrections outlined above be made (as attached as Appendix B).

12. **FUTURE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

RESOLVED:

That the list of future items, as set out in the Forward Plan for June 2016, be noted.

13. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

RESOLVED:

- 1. That in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.
- 2. That the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business because it is likely that, if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of 'exempt information' as defined by Section 100I and Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

<u>Minute</u> Number	<u>Item</u>	Description of Exempt Information
##	Exempt minute of the previous meeting)	Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including
##	Exempt minute of) Cabinet (Housing)) Committee)	the authority holding that information). (Para 3 Schedule 12A refers)

14. **EXEMPT MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the exempt minute of the previous meeting held on 29 March 2016 be approved and adopted.

15. <u>EXEMPT MINUTE OF CABINET (HOUSING) COMMITTEE HELD 22</u> MARCH 2016

(Report CAB2803 refers)

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

That the exempt minutes of the Cabinet (Housing) Committee held 22 March 2016 be received and the corrections outlined above be made (as attached as Appendix B).

The meeting commenced at 10.00am and concluded at 11.25am

Chairman

14 Appendix A

Portfolio	Leader – Finance & Corporate Policy	Deputy Leader - Built Environment	Business Partnerships	Housing Services	Environment, Health and Wellbeing	Transport & Professional Services	Economy & Estates
Portfolio Holder	Stephen Godfrey	Vicki Weston	Rob Humby	Caroline Horrill	Frank Pearson	James Byrnes	Steve Miller
Lead Officer	Andy Hickman/ Joseph Holmes	Simon Finch/Andy Hickman	Antonia Perkins/ Eloise Appleby	Richard Botham	Eloise Appleby/ Simon Finch/ Richard Botham	Simon Finch/ Joseph Holmes/ Howard Bone	Eloise Appleby/ Kevin Warren
Responsible Teams/Head of Team	Major Projects (Antonia Perkins) Financial Services (Simon Little) Revenues & Benefits (Terri Horner/tbc)	Development Management (Julie Pinnock) Building Control (Chris Griffith- Jones) Historic Environment (tbc) Corporate Communications (Martin O'Neill) Strategic Planning (Steve Opacic)	Policy Co- ordination (Antonia Perkins) Business Partnerships (Eloise Appleby)	Housing Services (Amber Russell, Andrew Kingston, Steve Tong) New Homes Delivery (Andrew Palmer)	Environmental Health & Licensing (Dave Ingram) Environment Contract (Rob Heathcock) Landscape & Open Spaces (Sue Croker) Drainage & Street Care (Darren Lewis) Health & Wellbeing (Lorraine Ronan) Community Safety & Neighbourhood Services (Sandra Tuddenham) Sport & Physical Activity (Mandy Ford)	Traffic Transport & Engineering (tbc) Parking (Richard Hein) Organisational Development (Alison Gavin) Business Management (Alison Gavin) Legal Services & Democratic Services (Howard Bone) IMT (Tony Fawcett)	Estates (Kevin Warren) Economy & Arts (Kate Cloud) Tourism (Ellen Simpson) Community Grants (Melissa Fletcher)