

**EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th August, 2007 at 10.00 a.m.

Present:-

Councillor Derek Burt - Chairman  
Councillor Spencer Flower - Vice-Chairman

Present: Councillors Lucy Clark, Alex Clarke, Queenie Comfort, Janet Dover, Mike Dyer, Stewart Hearn, Anne Holland, Pat Hymers, John Little, David Packer and George Russell.

Also in Attendance: Councillors Barbara Manuel and Boyd Mortimer.

125. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sally Elliot and Don Wallace.

126. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Janet Dover declared a personal interest in Minute No. 136 (Reference from the Q.E. Leisure Centre Consultative Group) and remained present.

Councillor Mike Dyer declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute No. 127 (in relation to Minute No. 102 of the previous meeting) and took no part in the discussion

127. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July, 2007 were confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the following:

- the resolution in Minute No. 102 being amended to read;  
*'RESOLVED that an Abatement Notice be served on the whole of the site excluding motorcycle activities on the area already covered in the 2006 injunction'*
- resolution (c) in Minute No. 103 being amended to include the word 'vehicular' in reference to the bridge; and
- the voting for Minute Nos 103 and 104 being incorporated.

(Councillor Mike Dyer declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item in relation to Minute No. 102 of the minutes of the previous meeting and took no part in the agreement of the amended wording of the resolution.)

128. Presentations by the Public

The Committee received a petition from the residents of Starlight Farm Close, Verwood regarding maintenance issues of the open space on

Starlight Farm Close.

The Committee were advised by the Head of Legal Services and the Head of Technical Services of the current situation in relation to maintenance issues of the open space.

Further to this Members discussed the issue and felt that a report should be presented to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee in order that they may have more details of the situation.

In the meantime it was requested that the residents of Starlight Farm Close be written to and advised of the way in which the petition was being dealt with.

### **RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

129. **Appointments on Outside Bodies**

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'A' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were requested to agree a change of outside body representative on the Verwood Hub.

**RECOMMENDED that;**

- (a) the resignation of Councillor Michael Simper as the Council's representative on the Verwood Hub Community Association be noted; and**
- (b) Councillor Jean Hazel be appointed as the Council's new representative on the group.**

Voting: Unanimous

130. **Housing benefit and Council Tax Benefit take up**

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'B' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were requested to consider approval of the proposed Benefits Take Up Strategy.

**RECOMMENDED that subject to the Strategy being amended to include Town and Parish Councils as partners, the Benefits Take Up Strategy outlined in the report be adopted.**

Voting: Unanimous

131. **Town/Parish Plan Protocols**

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'C' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were requested to consider supporting the introduction of a

formal response mechanism for Towns and Parish Plans.

**RECOMMENDED that the formal response mechanism for Town and Parish Plans as detailed in paragraphs 4.5 and 4.6 of Appendix 1 to the report be approved.**

Voting: Unanimous

### **DELEGATED BUSINESS**

132. **'Planning for a Sustainable Future' White Paper**

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'D' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members of the Committee were requested to consider a formulated response to proposed national changes in the planning system.

**RESOLVED that subject to the agreed amendments being incorporated into the report, the responses set out in the report and the relevant appendices be forwarded to the Department of Communities and Local Government for their consideration.**

Voting: Unanimous

133. **Proposed Conservation Area - Brog Street / Sleight Lane, Corfe Mullen**

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'E' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members considered giving approval to consult the public on the proposed conservation area, its draft boundaries and draft appraisal.

**RESOLVED that Officers be authorised to consult Corfe Mullen Parish Council, Dorset County Council, English Heritage, residents living in the neighbourhood and, through the website and press releases, with the public generally and report back with their respective responses.**

Voting: Unanimous

134. **Audit and Assessment of Open Space to meet the requirements of Planning Policy Guidance 17 and evidence base for the Local Development Framework**

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'F' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members considered the results of the audit of current provision and needs assessment and considered approval of the consequent work.

**RESOLVED that:**

**(a) consultation be carried out with local councils, the community partnership and other interested parties to develop options for**

**open space and recreation provision for consideration in the Local Development Framework;**

- (b) the results of the audit and assessment be considered during future review of the Council's Cultural Strategy;**
- (c) work be carried out to develop an interim Supplementary Planning Document to seek justifiable and appropriate developer contributions towards the leisure and recreation needs arising from new development.**

Voting: Unanimous

135. Redevelopment of Alderholt Surplus Stores - Adoption of Open Spaces

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'G' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were requested to consider approving that the principle of the open space including a pond, be adopted.

**RESOLVED that the land proposed for adoption at Alderholt Surplus Stores is accepted, and the details are delegated to the relevant Heads of Service to negotiate a satisfactory outcome.**

Voting: Unanimous

136. Reference from the Q.E. Leisure Centre Consultative Group

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'H' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were requested to consider two recommendations from the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre Consultative Group.

**RESOLVED that:**

- (a) Chiltern Sport Contractors be engaged to carry out works as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report: and**
- (b) the Leisure Centre acquires through a lease arrangement, two VibroGyms as detailed in Appendix 2 to this report.**

Voting: Unanimous

(Councillor Janet Dover declared a personal interest in this item and remained present.)

137. Reference from the Grants Sub-Committee

The Chief Executive submitted a report, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'I' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were requested to consider a reference from the Grants Sub-Committee in relation to a grant request from Wimborne Rugby Club.

**RESOLVED that subject to the views of the Grants Sub-Committee**

**following a panel visit to Wimborne Rugby Club, a sum of £25,000 be included in the draft 2008/09 Sport and Recreation Business Plan.**

Voting: Unanimous

138. Performance Board Minutes

The Chief Executive submitted a report for information, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'J' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members considered the minutes of the Performance Board Meeting held on 9th July, 2007.

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Performance Board Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2007 be noted.**

Voting: Unanimous

**URGENT DELEGATED BUSINESS ITEM**

139. Moors Valley Country Park Car Parking Charges

The Chief Executive submitted an urgent item of business at the agreement of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, a copy of this report was circulated to each Member at the meeting and a copy of which appears as Appendix 'K' to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Members were requested to consider the delegation of powers in order for the Lead Member for Culture to sanction promotional car parking charges for Moors Valley Country Park.

**RESOLVED that the Head of Community Services in conjunction with the appropriate Lead Member, be given delegated powers to approve promotional pricing charges for Moors Valley Country Park.**

Voting: Unanimous

The meeting ended at 12.32 p.m.

CHAIRMAN