

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Leader's Portfolio Meeting held on
Thursday, 14 January 2010 at 10.00 a.m.

Portfolio Holder: Ray Manning

Councillors in attendance:

Scrutiny and Overview Committee monitors and Opposition spokesmen: John Batchelor

Officers:

Philip Aldis	Community Safety Officer
Gemma Barron	Partnerships Manager
Peter Harris	Principal Accountant (General Fund and Costing)
Paul Howes	Corporate Manager, Community and Customer Services
Paul Quigley	Environmental Services Manager
Guy Moody	Democratic Services Officer

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor John Batchelor declared a personal, but not prejudicial, interest as a member of the Police Authority.

12. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the meeting held on 12 November 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

There were no matters arising.

13. CAPITAL AND REVENUE ESTIMATES FOR THE LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

The Principal Accountant (General Fund and Costing) presented the Revenue and Capital Estimates for the Leader's portfolio.

The Leader was advised of the following:

- The Revenues budget had been amended to include identified savings.
- Recharges had been included in the figures, and had already been approved by the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder.
- Activities funded by the Home Office and other Partnerships were excluded from the bottom line.
- Savings from the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership would not be reflected in the Council's figures.
- The capital programme was funded by the Local Strategic Partnership.
- The capital budget for the current year had been spent.

In reply to a question the Leader was advised that recharges were high due to the amount of work performed by various officers in relation to such things as the Community Strategy.

In reply to a further question the Leader was advised that the required level of savings had been achieved.

The Leader **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET** the Revenue Estimates and Capital Programme as shown at Appendices A and B.

Peter Harris left the meeting at the end of this item.

14. **REVIEW OF CCTV PROVISION IN THE DISTRICT**

The Corporate Manager, Community and Customer Services, presented a report to:

- a) Advise the Leader on the result of a review of CCTV provision in the District, and
- b) To request that the Leader consider and agree to the principle of Cambridgeshire Police using SCDC surveillance equipment to deter anti-social behaviour.

The Leader was advised that the initiative had been designed to help Partners make best use of existing resources and negate the need for Parish Councils to buy their own CCTV systems

In reply to a question the Leader was advised that Environmental Services favoured the loan of CCTV equipment to the Police for both overt and covert purposes, but reservations were expressed about loaning the equipment to Parish Council for covert operations due to their perceived ability to meet RIPA requirements.

It was confirmed that the equipment would only be released for loan when not required by the Council. Areas for potential use would be identified through the CDRP, the ASB Group and Neighbourhood Panels, with deployment prioritised by the Neighbourhood Panel.

The Leader was advised that there was likely to be a high demand for loan of the equipment and was further advised that capital existed within the CDRP budget for further purchases if required, and agreed by the CDRP.

The Leader **AGREED** to establish an arrangement to loan the SCDC mobile CCTV camera to the Police Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) for deployment to deter Anti Social Behaviour.

Phil Aldis and Paul Quigley left the meeting at the end of this item.

15. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN**

The Corporate Manager, Community and Customer Services, presented a report to

- a) Update the Leader on progress made with the Community Engagement Action Plan, and
- b) Provide an opportunity for the Leader to highlight actions requiring further development.

Following a review of the action plan the following comments were made:

- The Leader agreed that it was no longer appropriate to
 - consult on draft service plans,
 - produce an A-Z of council services as the information was already available in a number of formats in the public domain.

- The Leader advised that Parish Councils seemed reluctant to invite Cabinet Members, other than the Planning and Housing Portfolio Holders, to their meetings.
- The Leader was advised that
 - information collected by the Place Survey was used as a basis in the formation of the 'Hard to Reach' groups consultation.
 - the level of satisfaction with the rent collection and payment options for residents of council managed Travellers sites should be evaluated in the interests of equality with other council tenants. It was agreed that this work could possibly be combined with other work with Travellers.
 - responses to the budget survey in the South Cambs Magazine were still being received.
 - no community clean up events had been held to date.

The Community Engagement Action Plan was **NOTED**.

16. **FORWARD PLAN**

The following amendments to the Forward Plan were noted:

11 March 2010

Amend:

- Performance report.
 - Corporate Manager – Paul Howes
 - Responsible Officer – Richard May

Add:

- Final Service Plan – Paul Howes.

17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Leader **NOTED** the date of the next meeting as Friday 19 February 2010.

The Meeting ended at 11.05 a.m.
