

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cabinet**
held on Monday, 4th July, 2011 in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings,
Earle Street, Crewe CW1 2BJ

PRESENT

Councillor W Fitzgerald (Chairman) in the chair for items 1 - 5
Councillor R Domleo (Vice-Chairman) in the chair for items 6 - 9

Councillors D Brown, P Hayes, H Gaddum, J Macrae, P Mason and
R Menlove.

Councillors in attendance:

Rhoda Bailey, L Brown, S Corcoran, K Edwards, P Findlow, D Flude,
M Jones, S Jones F Keegan, A Kolker, D Mahon, G Merry, B Murphy,
B Silvester and L Smetham.

Officers in attendance:

Chief Executive; Borough Solicitor; Borough Treasurer and Head of Assets;
Director of Adults, Community Health and Wellbeing Services; Director of
Children and Families; Head of HR and Organisational Development; Head of
Policy and Performance; Head of Regeneration.

12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rachel Bailey.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda item 5 (Proposed Changes to Home School Transport Policy)

Councillor R Domleo declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of
having grand children who would be affected by the proposals; Councillor
S Corcoran declared a personal interest by virtue of having children who
would be affected.

14 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

Agenda item 5 (Key Decision 2 Proposed Changes to Home School Transport Policy)

Rachel White (Parent and Governor, St Thomas More Catholic High
School, Crewe) and Helen Friend (Headteacher, Warmingham CE Primary
School) had submitted questions, and received answers, regarding the
proposed changes.

Gemma Ellison, Edward McHugh (Head Teacher, St Thomas More
Catholic High School) and Tony Billings (Headteacher, All Hallows
Catholic College, Macclesfield) all made statements regarding the effect of

the proposals on pupil choice, their schools directly and on the wider school community, and on the consultation process itself.

15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2011 be approved as a correct record.

16 KEY DECISION CE11/12-2 PROPOSED CHANGES TO HOME SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY

(Councillors R Domleo and S Corcoran had each declared a personal interest in this item.)

Consideration was given to proposed changes to the Home School Transport Policy. The Portfolio Holder for Children and Family Services thanked the public speakers for their questions, statements and representations. A detailed resume was given of the process followed to date, of changes to the draft proposals that had been made in the light of responses and representations received during the consultation period, and of the proposals now made. Option 1 of the report was moved and seconded.

A number of Councillors in attendance spoke on the implications of the proposals for pupils and their families, for schools, and for the Home to School budget if the proposed changes were not implemented.

The Chairman adjourned the Cabinet meeting at this stage and left the room in order to discuss the matter further with the Portfolio Holder, the Chief Executive, the Borough Solicitor, the Borough Treasurer and the Director of Children and Family Services.

The meeting reconvened and the Chairman announced that having considered the representations made and the discussions so far it was now proposed to: -

1. Withdraw the motion to implement Option 1 of the report, and to reconsider the position again in one year's time. During the intervening period all available options would be thoroughly investigated with the assistance of the Scrutiny Committees, taking due consideration of the need to continue to provide a stable education system.
2. That for the educational year 2011 – 2012 the parental contribution for denominational transport be raised by 5% to reflect the current rate of inflation.

RESOLVED

1. That the motion to implement Option 1 of the report be withdrawn and that the position be reconsidered in one year's time. During the intervening period all available options would be thoroughly investigated with the assistance of the Scrutiny Committees, taking due consideration of the need to continue to provide a stable education system.
2. That for the educational year 2011 – 2012 the parental contribution for denominational transport be raised by 5% to reflect the current rate of inflation.

Councillor W Fitzgerald left the meeting and Councillor R Domleo took the chair for the remainder of the items on the agenda.

17 KEY DECISION CE11/12-6 CREWE GREEN LINK ROAD HIGHWAY SCHEME - CPO

Consideration was given to the use of the Council's compulsory purchase powers to enable the acquisition of land to facilitate the Crewe Green Link Road Scheme, and to secure funding for the scheme from the Department of Transport.

The acquisition of the land would enable the Council to proceed with the development and delivery of the Crewe Green Link Road (South) in order to provide a vital new road connection to relieve congestion, improve safety and air quality issues in Crewe, provide access to the Basford East Regional Investment Site, and an alternative route to Crewe Railway Station.

At the meeting an amendment was made to recommendation 2 of the decision requested whereby the following words were inserted after Highway Act 1980 '*and/or powers under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990*'

RESOLVED

1. That approval be given to the use of the Council's Compulsory Purchase Powers to undertake the acquisition of land required for the scheme between the A500 roundabout and the A5020 Weston Gate roundabout.
2. That approval be given for an Order to be made under Sections 239, 240, 246, 250 and 327 of the Highways Act 1980, and/or powers under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, for the compulsory purchase of land and rights required for the construction of Crewe

Green Link Road South as shown on drawing No: PC/12043/09/24 D/A.

3. That within the indicative land take identified on the drawing in 2.2 above, the detailed extent of land required by the CPO process be determined and authorised by the Head of Regeneration.
4. That the order be submitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation.
5. That the Borough Solicitor be authorised to:
 - i. take all necessary action to secure the making, confirmation and implementation of the Order including the publication and service of all relevant notices including the presentation of the Council's case at any public inquiry;
 - ii. to approve terms in consultation with the Strategic Director Places, and the Assets Manager, for the acquisition of legal interests (including new rights) including those for the purposes of resolving any objection to the CPO.
6. To note that in the meantime continuing efforts are being made to acquire the land by agreement to enable the Crewe Green Link Road to be progressed.

18 PARISH PLANNING PROTOCOL

Cabinet was requested to endorse the updated Parish Planning Protocol the aim of which was to provide clear and concise guidance on how the Council and its partners will work with communities undertaking a Parish Plan to support their development and implementation. It also provided guidance on how plans would be disseminated within the Council and how they could influence Council policy and service delivery.

RESOLVED

That the new Parish Planning Protocol, as shown in Appendix 1 of the report, be endorsed.

19 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

20 **WORKFORCE CHANGE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development.

RESOLVED

1. That Cabinet supports the decision of the Chief Executive to release the employees whose roles are listed as 1 to 13 in Appendix A under the arrangements agreed in relation to voluntary severance provisions for employees in the Council.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 4.00 pm

W Fitzgerald (Chairman)