

**CABINET**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 JULY 2013**

**AT 4.30 PM**

**IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WILLITON**

**Present:**

Councillor T Taylor ..... Leader

Councillor K M Mills  
Councillor S J Pugsley  
Councillor D J Westcott

Councillor C Morgan  
Councillor K H Turner

**Members in Attendance:**

Councillor M J Chilcott  
Councillor G S Dowding  
Councillor B Heywood  
Councillor R P Lillis  
Councillor I R Melhuish  
Councillor D J Sanders

Councillor H J W Davies  
Councillor A P Hadley  
Councillor A F Knight  
Councillor E May  
Councillor D D Ross  
Councillor M A Smith

**Officers in Attendance:**

Chief Executive (A Dyer)  
Corporate Director (B Lang)  
Corporate Manager Housing, Welfare and Economy (I Timms)  
Climate Change & Community Liaison Manager (A Lamplough)  
Economic Regeneration Manager (C Matthews)  
Community Safety Officer (P Hughes) – Item 7  
Meeting Administrator (K Kowalewska)

At the start of the meeting the Chairman requested that everyone stand in silence as a mark of respect for Sergeant Tom Mayberry who had recently passed away and Councillor R Lillis articulated his own personal condolences.

**CAB15      Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence was received from Councillors K V Kravis and A H Trollope-Bellew.

**CAB16      Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 June 2013**

(Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held on 5 June 2013 - circulated with the Agenda.)

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held on 5 June 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

Action: Councillor K H Turner enquired as to whether he was still on the Williton Regeneration Forum and it was requested that clarification on who the Council's representatives were on the Forum be provided before the next meeting of Cabinet.

**CAB17**      **Declarations of Interest**

Members present at the meeting declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Member of a County, Parish or Town Council:

Name	Minute No.	Member of	Action Taken
Councillor D Westcott	All	Watchet	Spoke and voted
Councillor K H Turner	All	Brompton Ralph	Spoke and voted
Councillor H J W Davies	All	Somerset County Council	Spoke

**CAB18**      **Public Participation**

No member of the public had requested to speak.

**CAB19**      **Forward Plan**

(Copy of latest Forward Plan published 25 June 2013 – circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of this item was to approve the latest Forward Plan published 25 June 2013.

**RESOLVED** that, subject to the inclusion of a report regarding Hinkley Point Key Issues as a standing item, the latest Forward Plan published 25 June 2013 be approved.

**CAB20**      **Cabinet Action Plan**

(Copy of the Action Plan – circulated with the Agenda.)

Councillor D J Westcott provided a verbal update on the Somerset Cultural Forum and confirmed that the forum had been disbanded, and future support for creative industries would be undertaken by Creative Somerset. It was also confirmed that there would be no West Somerset Council representation at the present time.

**RESOLVED (1)** that CAB7 – Cabinet Appointments to Outside Bodies be deleted as actioned.

**RESOLVED (2)** that CAB9 – Consultation Responses to the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority's Strategy Paper be deleted as actioned.

**RESOLVED (3)** that CAB10 – Non-Domestic Rates – Section 49 Hardship Relief Policy be deleted as actioned.

CAB21

**Business Case to Contribute Funding for Watchet Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)**

(Report No. WSC 76/13, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to obtain Cabinet agreement to recommend to Council to approve a supplementary estimate to match fund capital already secured from the Police and Crime Commissioner and other sources towards meeting the capital costs of installing public space CCTV in Watchet.

The report was presented by the Lead Member for Community Customer who impressed to Members the value of CCTV currently being operated in Minehead and the excellent work that was being achieved.

The Lead Member proposed the recommendation in the report, with an addition to the printed recommendations to include 'subject to Watchet Town Council's financial support and agreement to the proposal'. The amended recommendation was seconded by Councillor S J Pugsley.

A lengthy debate ensued and the following specific issues were raised:

- Watchet Town Council had confirmed that it was minded to take on the maintenance and running costs of the CCTV system.
- Concerns that the installation of CCTV would be seen as an alternative to crime prevention rather an addition, given the recent central government announcement that the police would be facing funding cuts.
- Figures showed that crime rate had fallen substantially in Minehead since CCTV was installed.
- The main benefit of CCTV was to enable the CCTV observers to communicate with the police who were then able to go to the scene and diffuse the situation.
- The Community Safety Officer advised that the Police and Crime Commissioner grant funding application needed to evidence an element of match funding, however whether the grant funding would be withdrawn if no match funding was obtained was imponderable at this time. The money was time bounded to this financial year, and the question as to whether the money was to be committed to being spent or wholly spent would have to be checked through the PCC office. The Leader advised that this item was to be considered by Full Council when further information would be available.
- Following a question as to whether Section 106 money could be used to fund the scheme, the Corporate Manager Housing, Welfare and Economy advised that there was no appropriate money within the current agreements which could be used for this particular purpose hence the request for a supplementary estimate. He confirmed that the Development Control team were negotiating for new requirements for the provision of community facilities.
- The residents of Watchet perceived that there were crime related problems and the installation of CCTV would act as a continuing

deterrent, and although it would not prevent crime it would aid in catching the culprits.

- The police were fully supportive for the provision of a CCTV system in Watchet.

**RESOLVED** that it be recommended to Council to approve a supplementary estimate of a maximum of £10,000 as the Council's contribution to the funding package for the provision of a public space CCTV system in Watchet, subject to Watchet Town Council's financial support and agreement to the proposal.

**CAB22**      **Request for Allocation of Planning Obligations Funding**

(Report No. WSC 75/13, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to make proposals for the allocation of monies secured through planning obligations to individual schemes, and to update members with the current funding position.

The Lead Member for Regeneration and Economic Development presented this item and outlined the details in the report, she then went on to propose the recommendation contained in the report which was duly seconded by Councillor K H Turner.

Councillor C Morgan voiced his concerns and wished the money could be used to help retailers to reduce the cost of running a shop for twelve months, rather than be used to plaster posters in the shop front window. The Economic Regeneration Manager reported that the ambition was to have very few empty shops, however at present the shop fronts would be used as a 'window' to display the exciting things that were happening in Minehead and this was thought to be a good idea. Members were advised that there were advertising consent constraints but general appropriate pictures were acceptable.

In response to questions it was confirmed that Love Minehead was the name of the project given by the Minehead Chamber of Trade.

Members were reassured that the Economic Regeneration team, as project managers, would follow Council procurement procedures and would work closely on the project with the Chamber of Trade, Minehead Town Council and the Vision Group.

**RESOLVED** that the allocation of £3,500 for the Love Minehead project be approved.

**CAB23**      **Somerset Major Sports Facilities Strategy and Playing Pitch Assessment**

(Report No. WSC 78/13, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to propose that Cabinet endorse the findings of the Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership (SASP) Major Sports Facilities Strategy and the Playing Pitch Assessment Report to

provide a rationale for the Council supporting, in principle, bids for funding being made by local community and voluntary groups for sports and recreation facilities.

The Lead Member for Community and Customer presented the report and encouraged Members to read the informative document on sports and recreation in West Somerset which could be found on the Council's website. He then went on to propose the recommendation in the report which was seconded by Councillor K H Turner.

The Climate Change & Community Liaison Manager advised that the Strategy focussed on the major sports and recreation facilities within West Somerset.

**RESOLVED** that the findings of the SASP Major Sports Facilities Strategy (March 2013) and the SASP Playing Pitch Assessment Report (March 2013), as outlined in Section 5 of report no. WSC 78/13, be endorsed, in principle.

**CAB24**      **Minehead Vision Manager Business Plan – Request for Seaside Strategy Funding**

(Report No. WSC 77/13, circulated with the Agenda.)

The purpose of the report was to update Members about the work of the Minehead Vision Manager and to request that a sum of £35,585 be released from the remaining Seaside Strategy funding to resource elements of the Business Plan,

The Lead Member for Regeneration and Economic Development presented the report in detail and proposed the recommendations in the report, which were seconded by Councillor S J Pugsley.

Reassurance was sought that the projects being undertaken were SMART and carefully monitored, and the Economic Regeneration Manager advised that there was a Minehead Vision Manager Steering Group who met on a regular basis to ensure this was being done.

During the debate the following main points were raised:

- Members were pleased to see the VIIC and the Clanville Gardens being positively used.
- This was a good news story for West Somerset Council which highlighted that there were many great projects and groups operating in Minehead.
- Following concerns regarding evidence of consultation with local businesses in connection with the Cultural Quarter and the shared space project, it was advised there was still a lot of detail to be worked out and consultations were currently being undertaken.
- The Vision Manager would attend the next meeting of full Council to answer specific questions in more detail.

**RESOLVED (1)** that the content of the Vision Manager's business plan and its contribution to the wider delivery of the Minehead Vision Group's action plan be noted.

**RESOLVED (2)** that it be recommended to Council to allocate £35,585 of the Seaside Strategy fund for the projects described in Appendix A and B of report no. WSC 77/13.

The meeting closed at 6.04 pm