

<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting of the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CABINET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">held on Wednesday 9 January 2002</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PRESENT:-</p> <p>Councillor MARSDEN (Chairman and Leader of the Council), Councillor LACEY OBE (Deputy Chairman), Councillors Mrs GOODALL, Mrs MURRAY and TAYLOR.</p>		
	<p>98. MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2001 were submitted and approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a correct record.</p>	
	<p>99. CIVIC BUDGET 2001/2002 – REVENUE AND CAPITAL MONITORING. Councillor Marsden presented the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services monitoring current year revenue and capital budgets.</p> <p>RESOLVED: (1) To note that the general fund revenue net expenditure is over budget at the end of November by £30,000.</p> <p>(2) To note that the general fund revenue net expenditure is forecast to be underspent by £62,000 at 31 March 2002.</p> <p>(3) That the Director of Housing, Health and Community Finance and Director of Tourism and Leisure be instructed, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members, to contain all revenue expenditure in order to reduce their projected overspends.</p> <p>(4) To note the progress of the general fund capital programme and housing investment programme and likely carry forward of committed resources to 2002/2003.</p>	
	<p>*100. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIUM. Following introduction by Councillor Mrs Murray, Councillor Belsey, who had chaired the Review Team, together with Councillor Leggett and Ms Gill Steadman, Manager and Registrar of Cemeteries and Crematorium, were invited to comment upon the review. The Review Team's full report had first been submitted to the Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on the 12 December 2001. A copy of the Scrutiny Committee's minute extract had been circulated with the Cabinet papers. The Scrutiny Committee had agreed the recommendations of the Review Team.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to retain and improve the in-house service and approve the Best Value Improvement Plan.</p>	

	<p>*101. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF HIGHWAYS MANAGEMENT.</p>	
	<p>Following introduction by Councillor Taylor, Councillor Elkin, who had chaired the Review Team, together with Mark Probyn, Head of Amenities, were invited to comment upon the review. The Review Team's full report had first been submitted to the Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on the 12 December 2001. A copy of the Scrutiny Committee's minute extract had been circulated with the Cabinet papers. The Scrutiny Committee had agreed the recommendations of the Review Team.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to approve the Best Value Improvement Plan.</p>	
	<p>*102. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF CLEANSING.</p>	
	<p>Following introduction by Councillor Taylor, Councillor Stanbury, who had chaired the Review Team, together with Councillor Parsons and Mark Probyn, Head of Amenities, were invited to comment upon the review. The Review Team's full report had first been submitted to the Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on the 12 December 2001. A copy of the Scrutiny Committee's minute extract had been circulated with the Cabinet papers. The Scrutiny Committee had agreed the recommendations of the Review Team.</p> <p>Councillor Parsons reported that he had presented a dissenting report to the Scrutiny Committee on the issues of six day refuse collection and his concern that this could entail Sunday collections and the arrangements for dealing with abandoned vehicles and his belief that faster collection should be possible and that a contract for this service should be put out to open tender.</p> <p>The Cabinet noted that the Department of the Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs and the Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions had recently published a joint Consultation Document on future arrangements for the collection and disposal of abandoned vehicles. They also noted the steps being taken locally to speed up the removal of abandoned vehicles within the current legal framework and the potential cost and legal implications of seeking to 'short-cut' the current system and of using a contractor.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended:-</p> <p>(1) To agree that the collection of household waste on a Sunday be expressly excluded from the Cleansing Services contract.</p> <p>(2) That the Best Value Improvement Plan be approved including the option for a six day working week for any future Cleansing Service contract (excluding Sunday collection of household waste) should this be of benefit to the Council.</p>	

<p>*103.</p>	<p>BEST VALUE REVIEW OF BUILDING CONTROL. Following introduction by Councillor Lacey, Councillor Marsh and Mr Philip Tipler, Building Control Manager were invited to comment upon the review. (Councillor Neeham, Chairman of the Best Value Review Team, had given his apologies, as he was unable to be present). The Review Team's full report had first been submitted to the Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on the 12 December 2001. A copy of the Scrutiny Committee's minute extract had been circulated with the Cabinet papers. The Scrutiny Committee had agreed the recommendations of the Review Team.</p> <p>The Cabinet considered the minute of the Scrutiny Committee and report of the Review Team on staffing proposals relating to the checking of structural calculations in the confidential section of the meeting at minute 109 below.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to retain the in-house service approve the Best Value Improvement Plan.</p>
<p>104.</p>	<p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROTOCOL. Councillor Lacey presented the report of the Chief Executive and Director of Planning, Regeneration and Amenities. The East Sussex Local Government Association had asked all Chief Executives in East Sussex to look at the mutual roles of the County Council and District/Borough Councils in the field of Economic Development. A draft protocol had been prepared and at the last meeting of the East Sussex Local Government Association it had been agreed to recommend all Councils to adopt the protocol. A copy of the protocol was appended to the report.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the protocol be adopted.</p>
<p>105.</p>	<p>DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE ON NEW POLICY FOR PARKING STANDARDS. Councillor Taylor presented the report of the Director of Planning, Regeneration and Amenities following an earlier report to Cabinet on 30 July 2001. The draft Supplementary Planning Guidance sets out the County Council's new policy for parking standards for new development in East Sussex. The guidance supplemented the County structure plan and took account of Government guidance and the Local Transport Plan. Consultation with appropriate local bodies was currently being undertaken jointly between the County Council and District and Borough Councils in East Sussex. The outcome of the consultation would be reported to Cabinet later this year.</p> <p>This Council's concerns focussed on the Government's approach of specifying maximum parking standards rather than minimum standards and the belief that this approach was inappropriate in Eastbourne.</p> <p>RESOLVED: (1) That the basis of the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance and responses to the amendment options set out in appendix 1 to the report be noted.</p> <p>(2) That East Sussex County Council be informed of this Council's grave concern about the maximum standard approach to car parking provision as this would be unreasonably restrictive and could stifle further development.</p> <p>(3) That this Council express its considerable concern that the Government's approach to maximum rather than minimum parking</p>

	<p>106. DRAFT MAPS OF OPEN COUNTRY AND REGISTERED COMMON LAND. Councillor Taylor presented the report of the Director of Tourism and Leisure on draft maps produced by the Countryside Agency under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.</p> <p>RESOLVED: (1) That a letter of representation (appendix 1 to the report) be submitted to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.</p> <p>(2) That formal representation be made to the Countryside Agency (appendix 4 to the report) in respect of the draft map showing open country within the town.</p> <p>(3) That a letter giving detailed objection be sent to the Countryside Agency in respect of the proposed inclusion of areas of downland on Bullock Down Farm and Chalk Down Farm (as shown as B and C on the map in appendix 2 to the report) be prepared by the Director of Tourism and Leisure in consultation with the Leader of the Council.</p> <p>(4) That the Director of Tourism and Leisure respond formally to the Countryside Agency supplying information on the actual extent of the existing open downland as indicated in appendix 3 to the report for inclusion as open countryside.</p>	
	<p>107. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as otherwise there was a likelihood of disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A and descriptions of the exempt information are shown in the open summary of the minutes below.</p>	
	<p>108. SUMMARY OF CONFIDENTIAL PROCEEDINGS FOR INFORMATION.</p> <p>(Note: The full minutes of the under-mentioned items are set out in the confidential section of these minutes. The reports remain confidential).</p>	
	<p>(a) Best Value Review of Building Control (see minute 103 above). The Cabinet agreed staff related issues relating to the checking of structural calculations.</p> <p>(Exempt information reason – Paragraph 1 – Information relating to employees).</p>	

	<p>(b) Best Value Review of Lifeline. The Cabinet recommended the Council to approve the interim report on the Best Value Review of Lifeline.</p> <p>(Exempt information reason – Paragraph 9 – Terms of a proposed contract).</p>	<p>The Cabinet recommended the Council to approve the interim report on the Best Value Review of Lifeline.</p>
	<p>(c) Review of East Sussex County Council Residential Care Homes for Older People. The Cabinet expressed its concern in relation to any proposed closure of homes for older people in Eastbourne as a consequence of the County Council's review and asked that any proposed relocation of existing residents be carried out sensitively and in full consultation with residents and their carers in order to ensure an improved quality of care.</p> <p>(Exempt information reason – Paragraph 4 – Information relating to recipients of services).</p>	<p>The Cabinet expressed its concern in relation to any proposed closure of homes for older people in Eastbourne as a consequence of the County Council's review and asked that any proposed relocation of existing residents be carried out sensitively and in full consultation with residents and their carers in order to ensure an improved quality of care.</p>
	<p>(d) Eastbourne Association for Voluntary Service – Future Funding. The Cabinet recommended funding arrangements for EAVS to be included in the Council's budget for 2002/2003 and associated arrangements with regard to the future of EAVS and its accommodation arrangements.</p> <p>(Exempt information reason – Paragraph 5 – Information relating to recipient of financial assistance).</p>	<p>The Cabinet recommended funding arrangements for EAVS to be included in the Council's budget for 2002/2003 and associated arrangements with regard to the future of EAVS and its accommodation arrangements.</p>
	<p>(e) Eastbourne Citizens' Advice Bureau – Future Funding. The Cabinet recommended funding arrangements for Eastbourne Citizens' Advice Bureau to be included in the Council's budget for 2002/2003 and future years and associated arrangements with regard to the future of the Bureau and its accommodation arrangements.</p> <p>(Exempt information reason – Paragraph 5 – Information relating to recipient of financial assistance).</p>	<p>The Cabinet recommended funding arrangements for Eastbourne Citizens' Advice Bureau to be included in the Council's budget for 2002/2003 and future years and associated arrangements with regard to the future of the Bureau and its accommodation arrangements.</p>
<p>The meeting closed at 6.40 p.m.</p>		
		<p>G H Marsden Chairman</p>
<p>(der\P:\cabinet\minutes\02.01.09)</p>		