



THE EXECUTIVE

Meeting: Tuesday 12 February 2008 at 6.15 p.m.

Present: Councillor Faulkner (Chairman)

Councillors Ashton, A. Bingham, Haken, Kemp and Thrane.

Councillors Bisknell, Lomax, Pritchard and Webster also attended the meeting.

08/66 MINUTES
(Agenda Item 3)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 11 December 2007 be approved, subject to the time in resolution 1 of minute number 08/54 being amended from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm.

08/67 'IMPROVING HIGH PEAK': CORPORATE PLAN 2008 - 2013
(Agenda Item 4)

The Council's Performance Improvement Framework requires an annual review of the Corporate Plan in order to refresh the actions intended to deliver the Vision. In order to ensure that the review of the Corporate Plan was comprehensive, a number of consultation exercises were conducted to gather intelligence on what the people of the High Peak see as their priorities for improvement. This has included:

- A Citizens Panel survey on spending priorities;
- Touch screen surveys at receptions on spending priorities;
- Web based consultation on the draft corporate plan;
- Invitations to comment to Parish Councils and Local Strategic Partnership members;
- Staff consultation facilitated by Business Team Managers; and
- Gathering the views of 'hard to reach' groups through High Peak CVS (community and voluntary support).

The feedback received as a result of this consultation exercise had been considered by the Corporate Management Team and was detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, together with actions being taken as a consequence.

The Chairman reported that an amended measure to look at resident perceptions of Anti-Social Behaviour in the High Peak had been included. A revised version of the Plan had been circulated.



RECOMMENDED:

That the draft Corporate Plan be approved.

08/68 FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2008/09 – 2010/11
(Agenda Item 5)

A balanced budget is proposed for 2008/09, which includes a 3% increase in council tax. The budgeted surplus anticipated in 2007/08 and also in 2008/09 is proposed to be set aside to offset the budget deficit anticipated in 2009/10 and 2010/11.

The Financial Strategy shows that the position goes into a deficit in 2009/10, necessitating additional savings to be made. It is proposed that some further savings will come from changes to the scope and financing of the capital programme, with the remainder coming from efficiency savings to be delivered through a variety of routes including existing corporate efficiency plans, partnerships within Derbyshire and the strategic alliance with Staffordshire Moorlands District Council.

The report was considered by the Corporate Select Committee at its meeting held on 29 January 2008 and some amendments have been made to the Strategy in the light of comments made by the Committee and new information received.

Councillor Thrane reported that the current proposal for charges for the 'Carelink' mobile warden service was for charges to be increased by a maximum of 2.5%. However a firm proposal would be brought forward to the Council meeting following further discussions with High Peak Community Housing.

RECOMMENDED:

That the following be recommended to Council for approval:

1. Financial Strategy for 2008/09 – 2010/11.
2. That allocation of reserves at the end of each year is to be reviewed by the Chief Executive and Head of Finance consistent with the Financial Strategy and the Financial Regulations.
3. Council Tax increased by 3% in 2008/09, a rise of £4.88 (from £162.77 to £167.65) for a band D equivalent property.
4. Rents of Council dwellings to rise in line with Government determination by an average of 4.77% (over 52 weeks).
5. Rents for garages to be increased by 4.77% to £5.05 per week.



6. Sheltered housing service charges to be increased in line with government directive by 4.4% to a maximum of £5.80 per week (52 weeks) or £6.28 per week (48 weeks).
7. Charges for the 'Carelink' mobile warden service to be increased by 2.5%.
8. Fuel charges to be increased by 2.5%.

08/69 **CAPITAL STRATEGY**
(Agenda Item 6)

Each year the Capital Strategy is updated. This sets out the principles, the details and funding of the capital investment programme. Recent changes to the capital accounting rules and reductions in the government support to the Council mean that the previous capital strategy is no longer affordable. The current strategy is likely to leave a budget deficit in 4 or 5 years time of around £700,000.

The Corporate Select Committee at its meeting held on 29 January 2008 considered the report and agreed to the establishment of a five member Sub-Committee to review capital expenditure and funding. The recommendations from the Sub-Committee would be referred to the Executive.

RESOLVED:

1. That the advice of the Head of Finance regarding the affordability of the capital programme and the options for addressing this be noted.
2. That it be noted that the financial strategy for 2008/09 to 2010/11 has been prepared based on planned borrowing of £4.7m and that the existing capital programme remains in place.
3. That the Executive welcomes the arrangements agreed by the Corporate Select Committee on 29 January 2008 to put forward proposals for classifying and prioritising capital schemes and looks forward to considering those proposals in due course.

08/70 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS**
REPORT 2008/09
(Agenda Item 7)

The report and appendices outline the Council's prudential indicators for 2008/09 – 2010/11 and sets out the expected treasury operations for this period. It fulfils the following key requirements:

- The approval of the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision Statement as required by the Local Government (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2008.



- The reporting of the Prudential Indicators as required by the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.
- The Treasury Strategy in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management.
- The Investment Strategy (in accordance with the DCLG investment guidance).

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement be approved.
2. That the Annual Minimum Revenue Provision Statement of the Council's Minimum Revenue Policy for 2007/08 and 2008/09 be approved.
3. That the Prudential Indicators and limits for 2008/09 to 2010/11 contained within the report be adopted.
4. That the Treasury Management Strategy 2008/09, and the Treasury Prudential Indicators contained in Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
5. That the Investment Strategy 2008/09 contained in the Treasury Management Strategy, and the detailed criteria included in Appendix A to the Strategy be approved.

08/71

HIGH PEAK AND STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS STRATEGIC ALLIANCE - CONCORDAT

(Agenda Item 8)

A draft concordat has been prepared which sets out the principles of how the two councils will work together. It covers the purpose of the strategic alliance, underlying principles and values, proposed governance arrangements, distribution of savings, role of the joint Chief Executive, and exit arrangements should either council decide that it no longer wishes to proceed. The Executive is also to appoint 5 members (including both Executive and non-Executive) to a joint Member Committee, which will have an advisory function and make recommendations to the Executive.

The two Councils were jointly taking external, independent advice on the shared Chief Executive's salary, role description, employment terms and conditions, and performance measurement criteria appropriate to the unique nature of the appointment. A report would be prepared for the Appointment and Appeals panel in due course.

The Corporate Select Committee considered the concordat at its meeting held on 29 January and recommended it for approval.



RESOLVED:

1. That the proposed concordat with Staffordshire Moorlands District Council be approved.
2. That Councillors Ashton, Bisknell, Faulkner, Favell and Lomax be appointed to serve on the Joint Member Committee.

08/72

DRAFT CHARACTER APPRAISALS FOR THE WHALEY BRIDGE, CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH AND NEW MILLS CONSERVATION AREAS

(Agenda Item 9)

Between June 1999 and June 2001 the Council adopted, as Supplementary Planning Guidance, character appraisals for the Whaley Bridge, Chapel-en-le-Frith and New Mills Conservation Areas. In accordance with BVPI 219b these appraisals now require review. Draft reviews have been completed which set out the areas' special qualities and historic character. They provide guidance for owners and developers and provide a sound basis, defensible on appeal, for local plan policies and planning decisions. There were no alterations to any of the Conservation Area boundaries proposed in the Character Appraisals.

The Council will carry out public consultation on the draft character appraisals in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

RESOLVED:

That the draft character appraisals for the Whaley Bridge, Chapel-en-le-Frith and New Mills Conservation Areas be approved for public consultation.

08/73

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED ON PLANNED STREET TRADING CONTROLS

(Agenda Item 10 (a))

The Council on 18 December 2007 approved a number of measures in relation to Street Trading control in the Borough. These measures were to consult and then decide upon a new designation order to cover the whole borough; to implement a Policy on how applications for Street Trading Consents would be administered and decided upon; and a full review of the currently annually renewed street trading consents against that Policy. The consultation exercise has resulted in a small number of written representations, which were contained in Appendix 2 to the report.

Councillor Haken informed the meeting that he wished to propose some amendments to the draft resolution detailed in Appendix 1 of the report and that they be referred to the Corporate Select Committee for scrutiny before being further considered by the Executive in March.



RESOLVED:

That the following recommendations be approved in principle and that they be referred to the Corporate Select Committee for scrutiny before being further considered by the Executive at its meeting in March:

1. That all roads within the Borough of High Peak with a speed limit of 40 mph or greater be designated Prohibited Streets with the exception of any lay-bys adjacent to those streets which are hereby designated as Consent Streets under the terms of Schedule 4 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, with effect from 1 October 2008.
2. That all roads within the Borough of High Peak with a speed limit less than 40 mph be designated as Consent Streets under the terms of Schedule 4 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, with effect from 1 October 2008.
3. That all previous resolutions designating streets as Prohibited or Consent Streets made by High Peak Borough Council be revoked from 1 October 2008 but without prejudice to the validity of existing Street Trading Consents.
4. That the Licensing Panel be given authority to issue new Consents and the Environmental Health Business Manager be authorised to renew the same and that the standing orders be amended accordingly.
5. That the Environmental Health Business Manager be given authority to issue new consents and renew the same for all applications for lay-bys adjacent to a road with a speed limit of 40 mph or greater.
6. That the standard conditions to be applied to street trading consents be as set out in the report.
7. That the fees to be charged for Street Trading Consent be as follows and be reviewed and amended accordingly on an annual basis:
 - (a) £3100 per annum for all consents with the exception of items (b) to (i) below.
 - (b) £5000 per annum for all consents involving the sale of any Hot Food on or adjacent to roads with a speed limit not exceeding 40 mph.
 - (c) £1,900 per annum for all consents granted on Consent Streets adjacent to roads with a speed limit of 40 mph or greater.
 - (d) £1000 per annum for consents granted on Consent Streets adjacent to roads with a speed limit of 40 mph or greater for trading on a Saturday, Sunday and English Bank Holiday only.



- (e) £500 per annum, per vehicle, for all consents issued to trade on or adjacent to any road with a speed limit not exceeding 40 mph within a defined area (such a town, parish, or the whole borough) provided that the consent does not permit the trader to stop for more than 10 minutes at a time in any Consent Street. Trading would not be allowed on lay-bys adjacent to roads with a speed limit of 40 mph or greater.
- (f) £15 per day for consents lasting a period of time of not more than 7 days, providing that the consent holder shall not be entitled to a second or further consent for the same or similar trading activity at that location within a period of 3 months from the expiry of the consent.
- (g) £100 per day for consents with a number of sellers on foot at special events lasting for a period of not more than 7 days, providing that the consent holder or individual seller shall not be entitled to a second or further consent for the same or similar trading activity at that location within a period of 3 months from the expiry of the consent.
- (h) £600 for one off events which last for not more than 30 days on any Consent Streets provided that the consent holder shall not be entitled to hold a second or further consent within a period of 180 days from the expiry of the consent.
- (i) £1600 per annum for children's rides Street Trading Consent during the school holiday periods in Buxton Town Centre.
- (j) Uptake of an annual Street Trading Consent after 6 months of a financial year shall result in reduction in the fees payable by 50%.
- (k) That no charge be required for Street Trading Consents for charitable purposes lasting for the duration of one day only, and not repeated within 30 days. Charitable collections will also be required to apply for a Charitable Collection permit from the Council, under separate legislation.

08/74

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MARY ELEN ALLEN CHARITY

(Agenda Item 11)

In October 2004, the Executive appointed the then Councillor Kuppan to be the Council's representative on the Charity. The term of office was for four years. The Council had been notified by the Secretary to the Charity that Mr Kuppan had not attended meetings of the Charity and had requested that a replacement be appointed.



RESOLVED:

That Councillor Wharmby be appointed as the Council's representative on the Mary Ellen Allen Charity for a term of office to expire May 2011.

08/75 **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**
(Agenda Item 12)

RESOLVED:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items because there may be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

08/76 **SELECTION OF DEVELOPER FOR GRANBY ROAD, FAIRFIELD, BUXTON**
(Agenda Item 13)

RESOLVED:

That the bid from Gladedale be approved in principle, subject to detailed negotiations on planning matters, and further discussion with the Housing Corporation.

08/77 **WRITE-OFFS – IRRECOVERABLE AMOUNTS**
(Agenda Item 14)

RESOLVED:

That the National Non Domestic Rates detailed in Appendix 1 of the report be approved for write-off as irrecoverable.

The meeting concluded at 6.50 p.m.

CHAIRMAN