

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE
HELD AT FOLLATON HOUSE, TOTNES ON THURSDAY, 5 APRIL 2007**

MEMBERS

* Cllr R O Yonge - Chairman

* Cllr R J Tucker - Vice-Chairman

* Cllr N A Barnes	* Cllr R Rowe
* Cllr D W May	* Cllr M F Saltern
* Cllr S L Rankin	* Cllr I P Steer

* Denotes attendance

Also in attendance at the invitation of the Chairman:
Cllrs B J Boughton, S M Fairman, J T Pennington, J W Squire and A R Vale

Also in attendance but not participating:
Cllr B C Evans

Officers in attendance:
All Agenda Items: Chief Executive, Strategic Director (Resources) and Strategic
Director (Community);
Item 10 (E.127/06 below refers): Head of Planning and Building Control

E.119/06 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 8 March 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

E.120/06 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

It was noted that the following Members were in attendance and participated during the discussion on the under-mentioned item:-

Item 7 – (minute E.124/06 below refer) – Cllrs Boughton, Fairman, Pennington, Squire and Vale.

E.121/06 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman advised that he had agreed for one item of urgent business to be raised at the meeting. The item addressed the electronic recording of planning history files and was considered urgent as quotes had been received to undertake the work, but a contract could not be awarded to the chosen contractor to comply with minute reference E.37/05. This would be taken as Item 10 (minute E.127/06 below refers).

E.122/06 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting but none was made.

E.123/06 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

It was noted that no public questions had been received.

E.124/06 **COUNCIL PLAN AND PERFORMANCE PLAN**

A report was considered which sought Members' approval of the content of the final draft Council Plan and Performance Plan June 2007 for publication by no later than 30 June 2007.

The report highlighted that the draft Council Plan and Performance Plan as circulated with the agenda was incomplete. This was due to the end of year financial data not being available at the time of the agenda publication. The actual performance indicators for 2006/2007 would be available when it was reported to Council on 21 May 2007. Furthermore, it was noted that the Councillors information would also need updating following the district elections on 3 May 2007.

In conclusion the report noted that it was intended that the Performance Plan portrayed past performance and plans for the future in an easily understood way whilst complying with central government's requirements.

During discussion, a non-Executive Member expressed dismay that the Council had produced a document which they felt was a bureaucratic exercise of no relevance. In response, it was noted that the Council had a statutory duty to produce the document, although the government had reduced the amount of information required from those councils which were categorised under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment as "excellent" and "good". A further non-Executive Member expressed the view that he found the document a useful tool in terms of understanding the district and its needs.

As it was intended that, whilst hard copies of the Council Plan and Performance Plan would be distributed to Parish and Town Councils, it would also be a web-based document, the Chairman of Scrutiny enquired as to what percentage of the South Hams had access to it. In response it was noted that the exact percentage was unknown but it was understood to be at least 50%. However, there was a facility on the webpage which recorded the number of hits the page had received.

RESOLVED

That Council be **RECOMMENDED** to approve the final draft Council Plan and Performance Plan June 2007, subject to textual amendments to be agreed by the Leader of Council and Chief Executive, for publication by no later than 30 June 2007.

E.125/06 **AMENDMENT TO OFF STREET PARKING PLACES ORDER 2007**

Consideration was given to a report which demonstrated options for off street parking for permit holders and local residents around the Totnes Southern Area development. The report noted that should Members wish to make alteration to the status of these car parks it would be necessary to formally consult for 21 days on the agreed amendment as part of the Off Street Parking Places Order (Amendment 2007). It was anticipated that views from the consultation process would be available for Members to consider at the Council meeting of 21 May 2007 in order to resolve to amend the Order.

In conclusion, the report noted that it was inevitable that the Totnes Southern Area development would cause disruption for local residents on top of an already limited supply of parking spaces. An amendment to the Order would be a simple and low-cost solution which could help ease the current situation.

RESOLVED

That the proposed amendment to the Off Street Parking Places Order (Amendment 2007), as set out in the circulated report, be published for consultation.

E.126/06 **REPORT OF OTHER BODIES**

RESOLVED

That the following be received and that any recommendations contained therein be approved:-

(a) Environment Policy Development Group – 6 March 2007

EPDG.15/06 Life into Landscape Programme 2003-2007

RESOLVED

That the Environment Policy Development Group considered and commented upon:

- a) the outputs achieved by the Life into Landscape programme are above expectations and provided a significant amount of funding into the district;

- b) that future opportunities for new programmes of work which encourage external funding linked to the Corporate Priorities and cross cutting themes within the Council's Priorities.

(b) Prosperity Policy Development Group – 15 March 2007

PPDG.18/06 Tourism Strategy 2007 – 2012

RESOLVED

That the Tourism Plan and its Action Plan be adopted.

E.127/06 ARCHIVING PLANNING FILES – WAIVING STANDING ORDERS

A tabled report was considered which sought approval to undertake the procurement necessary for the archiving of historic planning files, without using Gcat and S-cat framework contractors available via OGCbuying solutions, as previously agreed by the Executive at its meeting of 2 June 2005 (minute E.37/05 refers).

As identified in the report, the Members were informed that officers had received 4 quotes from 4 firms and wished to award the work to the provider which was both the best suited and the cheapest. Whilst the suggested firm had a partner company which complied with S-cat and Gcat requirements, sourcing the work in this way would add 10% to the cost for no added benefit. Therefore, the report recommended waiving this element of the previous Executive minutes (E.37/05 refers) in order to gain value for money in terms of ensuring that the maximum possible number of historic planning files could be scanned.

RESOLVED

To waive standing orders and approve the procurement of services to archive planning history files based on a selective tendering process which has been undertaken without using S-Cat/Gcat framework contracts.

(NOTE: THESE DECISIONS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF E.124/06 (WHICH IS A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 21 MAY 2007) WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE FROM 5.00PM ON 18 APRIL 2007 UNLESS CALLED IN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 18).

(Meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 10.30 pm).

Chairman