

minute book 2

Council

Monday 25th July
2011
7.00 pm

Council Chamber
Town Hall
Redditch

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

*making
a
difference*

www.redditchbc.gov.uk

INDEX

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Page No's.</u>
----------------	-------------	-------------------

SECTION

Council	6th June 2011	1 – 6
---------	---------------	-------

SECTION

Executive Committee	21st June 2011	7 – 12
	12th July 2011	13 – 18

SECTION III

Audit & Governance Committee	29th June 2011	19 - 22
Planning Committee	25th May 2011	23 – 28
	15th June 2011	29 – 32



Council

6th June 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Anita Clayton (Mayor) and Councillors Peter Anderson, Rebecca Blake, Michael Braley, Andrew Brazier, Juliet Brunner, Michael Chalk, Simon Chalk, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Andrew Fry, Carole Gandy, Adam Griffin, Malcolm Hall, Bill Hartnett, Roger Hill, Gay Hopkins, Robin King, Wanda King, Alan Mason, Phil Mould, Jinny Pearce, Brenda Quinney, Mark Shurmer, Luke Stephens and Derek Taylor

Also Present:

M Collins (Vice Chair, Standards Committee)

Officers:

M Bough, T Buckley, K Dicks, C Felton, S Hanley and J Pickering and S Skinner

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

18. WELCOME

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all present. The Mayor's celebrant, June Saville, led the Council in a moment's reflection.

19. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors David Bush, William Norton and Debbie Taylor.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

.....
Chair

21. MINUTES**RESOLVED that**

subject to it being noted that the Mayor's Award for Outstanding Service to the Community had been awarded to Mrs Lorna White, with the three additional recipients being awarded unconnected commendations (Minute 4 b.), the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 23rd May 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

22. COMMUNICATIONS AND MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor's communications and announcements were considered under the following headings:

a) Mr Robert Griffith

The Mayor advised that a very brief and informal visit had been made to the Town Hall recently by former Chairman of the Redditch Urban District Council, Mr Robert Griffith who had served in that capacity in 1954-55. Mr Griffith had sent his regards to the present Council.

b) Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised that since the previous meeting of the Council she had taken part in a very enjoyable visit to the twin town of Auxerre. The Mayor also advised that she and the Deputy Leader had attended the funeral of Mr Andy Teepe, the Council's Senior Solicitor the previous week.

c) Forthcoming events

The Mayor advised that forthcoming events included: a brief visit from our other French twin – Gruchet Le Valasse over the forthcoming weekend, including a Barn Dance on the Saturday night, the Civic Service at Wychavon, the Opening of Grounds Project at Vaynor First School, a Girlguiding Celebration of Achievement, the Bridge Church Fete, the Civic Service at Worcester Cathedral, the Armed Forces Day Fly a Flag celebration and the Primrose Hospice Choir Charity Concert.

23. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

24. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No questions had been received.

25. MOTIONS ON NOTICE - WORCESTERSHIRE ACUTE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST

The Council considered an urgent Motion further to the very recent report of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on the Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust and, amongst others, the Alexandra Hospital. The Motion had been submitted by Councillor Carole Gandy and seconded by Councillors Juliet Brunner and Bill Hartnett.

The Motion had been received at less than the required nine clear days notice. However, in view of the likely broad public interest in the matter, the Mayor agreed to its inclusion on the agenda in accordance with the powers vested in her.

Councillor Gandy reported that the report of the CQC, which had been critical of the care provided at the Alexandra Hospital in a number of areas, had been a huge disappointment to her and many local residents. Whilst it was clear that much of the care provided at the Hospital was excellent, these were serious matters that had been raised and the Council had a moral obligation to raise its concerns with the PCT. It was reported that the Leader of the Council, along with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Local Environment and Health and the Leader of the Opposition were to be invited to a meeting with the Chairman of the PCT, the Head of Nursing and the Chief Executive of the PCT, should a replacement for Mr John Rostill have been appointed by that stage.

Councillors Brunner and Hartnett supported the Motion and expressed their sadness at this turn of events and their desire for the proposed scrutiny into the apparent shortcomings to be suitably rapid and meaningful. The hope was expressed that the exercise might in part be held within Redditch to provide for the involvement of local Councillors and residents in the process.

A number of Members expressed complementary views and it was consequently

RESOLVED that

the Motion be agreed in the following terms:

“Redditch Borough Council wishes to express its deep concern regarding the recent Care Quality Commission report on the Worcestershire Acute Health Trust.

The Trust has failed to meet legal standards for nutrition, hydration and dignity.

Public confidence in the Trust has deteriorated and this Council is concerned about the health and welfare of patients in the Alexandra Hospital.

This Council requests that:

- 1) Worcestershire PCT undertake a scrutiny into the management systems that enabled this failure to occur;***
- 2) Worcestershire Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel undertake an urgent scrutiny into the standards of care given to patients; and***
- 3) Worcestershire Acute Hospital NHS Trust undertake scrutiny on their failures and report back the measures they have put in place to reassure the public.”***

26. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members received the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee held on 12th April and 23rd May 2011.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 12th April 2011 be received and all recommendations approved, subject to:**

in respect of Minute 214 (Member Development Steering Group, 31st March 2011 – Referrals) it being noted that compulsory training was a requirement only for members sitting on quasi-judicial bodies (Member Development Programme 2011/12) and that implementation of the amended policy on the forwarding of Council e-mails to personal e-mail accounts be delayed to July 2011 (Members’ ICT Facilities – Policy).
- 2) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 31st May 2011 be received and all recommendations approved.**

27. REGULATORY COMMITTEES

The Council received the minutes of the recent meetings of the Audit and Governance Committee, Planning Committee and Standards Committee.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 18th April 2011 be received and all recommendations approved;
- 2) the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 29th March and 27th April 2011 be received and adopted; and
- 3) the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 20th April 2011 be received and adopted.

28. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Council considered a brief report detailing a number of administrative matters arising since the Council's Annual Meeting.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the appointment of a second Council representative to Where Next? Association (Councillor Wanda King) be noted;
- 2) the expansion of the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from 9 to 11 and the appointment of Councillor Brenda Quinney and an additional Member of the Minority Labour Group be approved;
- 3) the permissibility of substitutes on the Parent Overview and Scrutiny be approved and the Council's Constitutional documents be amended, as appropriate; and
- 4) the appointment of Councillors Anita Clayton, Malcolm Hall and a Member of the Minority Labour Group to the Town Centre Partnership be approved, in accordance with the changed requirements of that body.

29. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS

There were no Urgent Business decisions under the Council's urgency procedures for consideration at this meeting.

30. URGENT BUSINESS - GENERAL

With the exception of the Urgent Notice of Motion which had been considered earlier in the evening, there were no separate items of Urgent Business for consideration at this meeting.

Council

6th June 2011

The Meeting commenced at 7.02 pm
and closed at 8.15 pm

.....
MAYOR, in the Chair



Executive Committee

21st June 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Carole Gandy (Chair), Councillor Michael Braley (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Juliet Brunner, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Malcolm Hall, Jinny Pearce and Debbie Taylor

Also Present:

Councillors Peter Anderson, David Bush and Mark Shurmer

Officers:

H Bennett, M Craggs, K Dicks, C Felton, T Kristunas, D Taylor and A de Warr

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

15. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Derek Taylor.

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

17. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair advised the Committee that the following item of business, scheduled on the Forward Plan to be dealt with at this evening's meeting, had been rescheduled to a later meeting of the Committee:

- Consolidated Revenue Outturn – Financial Year 2010/11.

.....
Chair

18. MINUTES**RESOLVED that**

the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 31st May 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

19. WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES TASK AND FINISH REVIEW - FINAL REPORT

Councillors Peter Anderson and Mark Shurmer presented the report on Work Experience Opportunities on behalf of the Task and Finish Group.

The Committee's attention was drawn to the provision of work experience in Redditch as it existed at the present time. The majority of students only received one week of work experience whilst at High School and the constraints on schools and their staff worked against this provision increasing. The benefits to both students and potential employers of effective work experience provision was outlined and a number of measures suggested such as ensuring more and higher quality placements, greater flexibility over the timing of the placement and greater involvement of parents where appropriate.

The proposal to increase the school leaving age incrementally to age 18 by 2015 was seen as a retrograde step as many of the students who would be impacted had little interest in academic pursuits but would benefit tremendously from practical experience in the workplace.

The benefits of work experience were extolled, exposing, as it did, students to the workplace environment and allowing them to make better choices as to their future career paths. The work of the Worcestershire Education Business Partnership was praised and the hope expressed that they could continue to deliver their unique service following the removal of County Council funding.

Members of the Committee agreed in principle with most of the recommendations of the Group, subject to some amendment. It was acknowledged, however, that the County Council was making adequate arrangements for the rise in the school leaving age in the years up to 2015. It was also acknowledged that the Council could continue to promote work experience by setting a good example and by encouraging the Council's partners to do likewise. It was proposed that the Council could encourage the provision of work experience opportunities through the North Worcestershire Economic Development Unit and the Local Strategic Partnership.

RESOLVED that

- 1) **the current work experience scheme, which provides work experience opportunities for 14 and 15 year olds at Key Stage 4 at school, should be continued locally;**
- 2) **the work of the Worcestershire Education Business Partnership be supported;**
- 3) **those local employers that already participate in providing work experience opportunities be thanked for their efforts and others be encouraged to deliver presentations to local students for their own benefit as well as the students, and to strengthen the existing links between schools and local industries, with Officers pursuing these aims through the North Worcestershire Economic Development Unit and the Local Strategic Partnership; and**
- 4) **there should be a clearly identifiable point of contact at Redditch Borough Council for schools to arrange work experience placements at the Council.**

20. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE MONITORING - QUARTER 4 - JANUARY TO MARCH 2011

Members considered the latest quarterly report for the authority detailing performance up to the end of March 2011.

It was reported that there were only a few areas of significant concern which were discussed at paragraph 3.8 of the report. In response to the increase in the number of working days lost due to sickness absence a Corporate Sickness Working Group had been established. The drop in recovery rates for housing benefits overpayments appeared to Officers to reflect the imposition of an unrealistic target at the start of the year whereas the increase in the numbers of violent offences was to be seen in the context of low absolute figures.

The Committee sought clarification on a number of specific indicators. In respect of swimming usage, the numbers of visits to leisure centres and the apparent anomalies that these corresponding figures threw up, Officers undertook to provide Members with additional information following the meeting.

RESOLVED that

the update on key performance indicators for the period ending 31st March 2011 be noted.

21. QUARTERLY MONITORING OF THE BENEFITS SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN - QUARTER 4 - JANUARY TO MARCH 2011

Officers updated the Committee on the performance of the Benefits Service and the progress against the Benefits Service Improvement Plan.

The Committee was informed that the Service was continuing to improve its performance, as demonstrated by the progressive decrease in the average time taken to process new claims and change events for Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Benefit claims. The investment by the Council in this Service over the period of the Improvement Plan was noted in this regard.

It was noted that data for the average time taken to process claims for neighbouring authorities included separate average figures for the three authorities in South Worcestershire who participated in a shared service. Officers undertook to contact their counterparts in these authorities and provide Members with an explanation following the meeting.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

22. QUARTERLY MONITORING OF COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS - QUARTER 4 - JANUARY TO MARCH 2011

The Committee received the report on complaints and compliments for the final quarter of 2010/11, the last occasion the information would be provided using the recently superseded recording process.

Performance over the course of the year had demonstrated an improvement in response times to complaints, notwithstanding a dip in performance in the final quarter. This was largely attributed to the nature and complexity of a number of recent complaints. Officers informed the Committee that the new recording process would hopefully lead to an increase in the numbers of complaints being reported as they were an invaluable tool in driving forward improvement across the range of Council services. Likewise, the low numbers of compliments recorded was attributed to the difficulty in capturing this data.

The telephone answering times for the Council's contact centre were an area that had been the subject of much interest over a significant period of time and Officers reported that staffing levels were profiled to take account of anticipated periods of high activity.

RESOLVED that

the update on complaints and compliments for the period January - March 2011 be noted.

23. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 24th May 2011.

RESOLVED that

- 1) **the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 24th May 2011 be received and noted; and**

Petition – Unicorn Hill – Taxi Rank

- 2) **the petition and an accompanying Officer report be submitted to the Licensing Committee for consideration by that body.**

24. WORCESTERSHIRE SHARED SERVICES JOINT COMMITTEE

The Protocol for referral of decisions from the Worcestershire Shared Services Joint Committee to participating authorities, as agreed at a meeting of the body on 25th November 2010, was considered by Members.

RESOLVED that

the protocol for referral of decisions from the Joint Committee be noted.

25. MINUTES / REFERRALS - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE PANELS ETC.

There were no minutes or referrals under this item.

26. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

The Committee received an update on the work of the Advisory Panels and similar bodies. It was noted that the Church Hill District Centre Members' Panel would be meeting the following evening

and that a further meeting of the Procurement Steering Group was in the process of being arranged.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

27. ACTION MONITORING

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 8.28 pm



Executive Committee

12th July 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Braley (Vice Chair, in the Chair) and
Councillors Juliet Brunner, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Malcolm
Hall, Jinny Pearce, Debbie Taylor and Derek Taylor

Also Present:

Councillor Robin King

Officers:

R Bamford, S Hanley, T Kristunas, S Morgan and J Pickering

Committee Services Officer:

D Sunman

28. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Carole
Gandy.

29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

30. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) The Chair advised that he had accepted the following matter
as Urgent Business:

Shared Service Board Minutes – 30th June 2011.

- 2) The Chair also informed members that the Council had been
advised by UFI Ltd that the current Learndirect contract
operating from the Greenlands Centre was to be terminated.
The current contract was due to expire on 31st July 2011 but
an extension had been awarded until 30th September 2011.

.....
Chair

Learndirect had contacted all existing learners in Redditch to advise them that there would no longer be provision at the Centre beyond September and that they were not able to advise them of who would provide a service in the forthcoming academic year.

Officers had been asked to prepare an urgent report for consideration by this Committee.

Members expressed their concerns at the loss of the contract for both students and staff.

31. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 21st June 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

32. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE OUTTURN - FINANCIAL YEAR 2010/11

The Committee considered a report which outlined the Council's overall financial outturn for the 2010/11 financial year.

Members were informed that the report showed the actual income and expenditure for 2010/11 financial year and compared it to the budget for General Fund Services and the Housing Revenue Account.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) the movement in reserves, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved; and**

RESOLVED that,

- 2) the report be noted.**

33. CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2010/11

The Committee considered a report on the actual expenditure and funding of the capital programme for 2010/11.

Officers reported that the figures included in the report would be subject to examination by the Audit Commission as part of the final accounts audit.

RESOLVED that**the report be noted.****34. SHARED SERVICE BUSINESS CASE - LAND CHARGES**

The Committee received a report on the Shared Services Business Case – Land Charges, which had been considered by the Shared Services Board on 30th June 2011.

Members noted the recommendations of the Shared Services Board.

RECOMMENDED that**the delivery of a Shared Local Land Charges Service provided by a single team hosted by Bromsgrove District Council, as detailed in Option 4 of the report, be approved.**

(During consideration of this item Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed relating to consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relations matters arising between the authority and employees of, the authority. However, there is nothing exempt in this record of the proceedings.)

35. SHARED SERVICE BUSINESS CASE - BUILDING CONTROL

The Committee received a report on the Shared Services Business Case – Building Control to provide a shared service for Bromsgrove District Council, Redditch Borough Council and Wyre Forest District Council, which had been considered by the Shared Services Board on 30th June 2011.

Members noted the recommendations of the Shared Services Board.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) in accordance with the agreed PID dated 9th December 2010, the three partner Councils proceed with the creation of the shared service in accordance with recommendation 6 of the report: the delivery of Shared Building Control Services, provided by a single Team, hosted by Bromsgrove District Council;**

- 2) **implementation costs be shared on the same basis as the total revised service costs amongst the three Councils to reflect the percentage of the initial budget allocation into the service (as detailed at Appendix 5 to the report); this to be subject to final financial agreements being in place between the partner authorities; and**
- 3) **the new service be known as 'North Worcestershire Building Control' and use a service specific logo and document templates, the design of which is to be formally agreed before the completion of this project.**

(During consideration of this item Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed relating to consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relations matters arising between the authority and employees of, the authority. However, there is nothing exempt in this record of the proceedings.)

36. **SHARED SERVICES BOARD - PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received a progress report, which provided an update with regard to all elements of Shared Services work, together with the minutes of the Shared Services Board on 30th June 2011.

Members were informed that the Shared Services Board had considered an option to bring forward a Single Business Case to their August meeting for all remaining services to be shared. Officers reported that the recommendation referred to 'moving the remaining services into a shared environment by the end of the calendar year'. This should have read 'financial year'.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) **Members note progress to date, as detailed in the report: and**
- 2) **Officers be tasked with producing, for the August meeting of the Shared Services Board, a Single Business Case that will identify benefits and risks associated with moving the remaining services into a shared environment by the end of the ~~calendar~~ *financial* year, in so far as this is currently achievable, between Bromsgrove District and Redditch Borough Council.**

37. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 14th June 2011.

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 14th June 2011 be received and noted.

38. MINUTES / REFERRALS - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE PANELS ETC.

There were no minutes or referrals under this item.

39. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

The Committee received an update on the work of the Advisory Panels and similar bodies. It was noted that the Procurement Steering Group would be meeting the following day.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

40. ACTION MONITORING

The Committee received an Action Monitoring report and requested that Officers provide an up-date to the next meeting of the Executive Committee on the Single Equalities Scheme in respect of what the Council, as Community Leader, expected to receive in terms of education provision for the Borough and its children and young people.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

41. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that

under S.100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matter on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act, as amended:

- **Shared Service Business Case – Land Charges (as detailed at Minute 34 above**
- **Shared Business Case – Building Control (as detailed at Minute 35 above).**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00pm
and closed at 7.30pm

.....
Chair



Audit & Governance

Committee

29th June 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Bill Hartnett (Chair), Councillor Rebecca Blake (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Michael Braley, Andrew Brazier, Malcolm Hall and William Norton

Also Present:

Mr D Evans (Audit Commission)

Officers:

A Bromage (Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Service Manager), T Kristunas and J Pickering

Committee Services Officer:

S Skinner

1. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Anderson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 18th April 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair mentioned two missing reports, referred to in the previous set of minutes, and requested their submission to the next meeting of the Committee.

.....
Chair

Audit & Governance

Committee

29th June 2011

These were in respect of:

- Market Service - Income Recording System
- Stores Audit.

The Chair also asked that, on the next available Member Development occasion for Audit and Governance Committee Members, the following areas be addressed:

- Future reporting arrangements
- International Audit standards
- International reporting standards
- How the Council's processes compare against Best Practice / Private Sector organisations

5. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2010/11

The Committee received and considered the Annual Governance Statement for inclusion in the Statement of Accounts 2010/11.

Members sought a number of clarifications and further explanation of a number of points, but without impact on the document as presented, in respect of which it was

RECOMMENDED that

the Annual Governance Statement be included in the Statement of Accounts.

6. BRIBERY ACT 2010

The Committee received a report which detailed the information necessary to prepare the Council to implement processes and procedures to ensure compliance with the Bribery Act 2010.

Members noted that the Act was due to come into force on 1st July 2011 and expressed some disappointment that the current report was being submitted to the Committee relatively late, in relation to this implementation date.

Officers were requested to do all necessary to ensure that Members and Officers were rapidly and fully briefed on the implications of the new legislation.

RESOLVED that

- 1) **the Committee note that procedures will be put in place to avert any possible actions against the Council in relation to Bribery actions and potential legal actions that could be taken against the Council for not having**

Audit & Governance

Committee

29th June 2011

'adequate' measures in place; and

- 2) **the Chief Executive Office be requested to add relevant information into the next issue of the Members' Bulletin; and**
- 3) **this matter be added to the Member Development Programme for future Induction sessions or to other appropriate opportunities for Member and Officer training.**

7. INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

The Committee received and considered the Internal Audit Annual Report for 2010/11, together with the opinion of the Acting Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Services Manager of the overall adequacy of the Council's internal control environment.

Members raised a number of matters with Officers for further clarification and explanation, as detailed below.

a) Statements of Internal Control

Members noted that a number of Statements of Internal Control were still outstanding. Members expressed disappointment that these had not yet been completed and returned and required notification, with explanations, to be submitted to them as soon as the Statements were returned.

b) Housing Control Spreadsheet - Garages

In relation to advice that a master spreadsheet had been mislaid in relation to control of the Council's garage stock, the Committee urged Officers to take all steps to rediscover the spreadsheet and to notify Members if this proved impossible.

c) Sundry Debtor Income

In relation to concerns that outstanding arrears and collection performance had not been reported to Members since 2008, the Chair requested that reports be made to the Executive Committee and/or Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as appropriate.

d) Duplicate Payments

Members noted arrangements currently in place to minimise the risk of duplicate payments being made. In most instances, the Council's computer systems would not permit this to happen. However, in the case of separate invoices being received by Officers for the same

Audit & Governance

Committee

29th June 2011

order, a degree of risk remained, and control was subject to Officers' vigilance.

RESOLVED that

subject to the exceptional matters raised by Members and recorded in the preamble above, and associated action required, the Internal Audit Annual Report for 2010/11 be approved.

8. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2011/12

Members considered the Audit & Governance Committee's rolling Work Programme for 2010/12.

RESOLVED that

subject to the addition to the Programme of the two items detailed at Minute 4 above, the report be noted.

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm
and closed at 8.05 pm



Planning Committee

25th May 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Michael Chalk (Chair), Councillor Roger Hill (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Peter Anderson, Michael Braley Substituting for Councillor Brenda Quinney), Brandon Clayton (substituting for Councillor Andrew Brazier), Malcolm Hall and Bill Hartnett

Also Present:

M Collins (Observer for Standards Committee)

Officers:

R Bamford, S Edden, C Felton, A Hussain, A Rutt and S Skinner

Committee Services Officer:

J Smyth

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Andrew Brazier, Robin King, Wanda King and Brenda Quinney.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27th April 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

.....
Chair

**4. PLANNING APPLICATION 2011/054/OUT –
LAND EAST OF BROCKHILL LANE, REDDITCH**

Mixed use development of 171 dwellings,
public open space and outline application for
4,738 square metres of Class B1 (Business)
floorspace and access

Applicant: Persimmon Homes Ltd

The following people addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules:

Mr R Lee – Objector representing Brockhill Action Group
Mrs M Muckle – Objector representing Batchley Support Group
Ms V Kendrick – Objector representing CPRE
Councillor B Quinney – Objector representing local residents
Councillor L Stephens – Objector representing local residents
Mr M Sackett – Agent for the Applicant.

(In view of the amount of public interest and the large number of registered public speakers for this item, for the sake of the expeditious and fair treatment of the application the Chair granted extended timings for representatives of the Brockhill Action Group, Batchley Support Group and the Commission for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE). An equivalent total time was permitted to the Applicant's Agent. Ward Members were given up to three minutes each. In view of this exceptional arrangement, most individual would-be speakers subsequently withdrew their requests to speak.)

RESOLVED that

having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, Planning Permission be REFUSED for the following reason:

“The proposed development would represent an intrusion into designated Primarily Open Space as designated within the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No. 3. Policy R1 seeks to protect such designated land and the proposal would conflict with criteria i, ii, iii and v of this Policy.”

(This decision was taken contrary to Officer recommendation, in view of the fact that, the proposed route for the access road and the siting of a small part of the development build, would encroach on an area designated as Primarily Open Space land.)

**5. PLANNING APPLICATION 2011/083/FUL –
54 JUBILEE AVENUE, CRABBS CROSS**

Extension to side of bungalow and
Loft conversion with new gable ended roof

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Luckman

Councillor Carole Gandy, supporter and Ward Councillor, and Mrs H Luckman, the Applicant, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.

RESOLVED that

having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, Planning Permission be GRANTED, subject to the following conditions:

- “1) Development to commence within three years.**
- 2) Materials to match existing**
- 3) Approved Plans specified.”**

(This decision was taken contrary to Officer recommendation, and subject to relevant conditions, in that the Committee considered that there was already a mix of house and bungalow designs and roof styles already within the street scene and therefore the proposed extension and alterations would not have a harmful effect on the character and appearance of the existing bungalow and general street scene.

**6. PLANNING APPLICATION 2011/087/FUL –
LOWANS HILL FARM, BROCKHILL LANE, REDDITCH**

This item was WITHDRAWN from the Agenda by Officers and was not discussed.

**7. PLANNING APPLICATION 2011/093/FUL –
LAND TO THE SOUTH AND WEST OF "HIGH TREES",
DARK LANE, ASTWOOD BANK**

House type substitutions –
Plots 1 to 5 (Amendment to Scheme approved
under Application 2009/259/FUL)
Erection of five detached dwellings with
associated access and parking

Applicant: Mr A Cockayne

RESOLVED that

- 1) **having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Regeneration to GRANT planning permission subject to:**
 - a) **A planning obligation ensuring that the County will be paid appropriate contributions in relation to the development for education provision, and that Redditch Borough Council receives contributions towards playing pitches, play areas and open space provision to be provided and maintained in the locality; and**
 - b) **the conditions and informatives as summarised below:**

Conditions

- “1. Development to commence within three years.**
- 2. Details of materials (walls and roofs) to be submitted.**
- 3. Landscape scheme including details of boundary treatment to be submitted.**
- 4. Landscape scheme including details of boundary treatment to be implemented in accordance with approved details.**
- 5. Trees to be protected in accordance with tree protection plan.**
- 6. Limited working hours during construction period.**
- 7. Access, turning and parking.**
- 8. No gates/means of enclosure on any of the access roads.**

9. Details of the tree planting belt to be provided along the western boundary of the site to be submitted approved and implemented with failure of planting to be covered under Condition number 4.
10. None of the existing hedge planting that fronts Dark Lane shall be removed.
11. All hard surfaces to be permeable and retained as such.
12. Development to be carried out in accordance with plans submitted with the application.
13. Appropriate condition to address the recommendations of the protected species survey.
14. Contamination: standard conditions.”

Informatives

- “1. Reason for approval
2. Drainage details to be in agreement with Severn Trent Water.
3. Highway Note 4 – Private apparatus within the highway.
4. Highway Note 5 – No authorisation for applicant to carry out works within the publicly maintained highway.
5. External security lighting to comply with guidance to ensure that it does not adversely affect neighbours amenities.
6. No burning on site.
7. Adequate measures to be put in place to prevent migration of dust and particulates beyond the site boundary;

and

- 2) in the event that the planning obligation cannot be completed by the 8th June 2011:
 - a) authority be delegated to the to the Head of Planning and Regeneration to REFUSE the application on the basis that without the planning obligation, the proposed development would be contrary to policy and therefore unacceptable, due owing to the resultant detrimental impacts it could cause to community infrastructure by the lack of provision for their improvements and the increase in demand for such infrastructure; and

- b) in the event of a refusal on the grounds stated at Resolution 2) a) above, and the Applicant resubmitting the same or a very similar Planning Application with a completed legal agreement attached to cover the points noted, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Regeneration to GRANT planning permission, subject to the conditions and informatives stated in Resolution 1) b) above.

8. **ENFORCEMENT REPORT 2009/351/ENF –
PATCH LANE, OAKENSHAW**

Non-compliance with an Enforcement Notice

RESOLVED that

in relation to a breach of planning control, namely the failure to comply with the requirements of an Enforcement Notice, authority be delegated to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Head of Planning and Regeneration Services, to instigate legal proceedings in the Magistrates' Court if required.

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm
and closed at 10.17 pm

.....
CHAIR



Planning Committee

15th June 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Michael Chalk (Chair), Councillor Roger Hill (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Andrew Brazier, Juliet Brunner (substitute for Peter Anderson), Bill Hartnett and Wanda King

Also Present:

M Collins (Observer for Standards Committee)

Officers:

N Chana, A Hussain, A Rutt and S Skinner

Committee Services Officer:

J Smyth

9. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Peter Anderson, Malcolm Hall, Robin King and Brenda Quinney.

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25th May 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

.....
Chair

**12. PLANNING APPLICATION 2011/094/EXT –
1 TO 3 PLYMOUTH ROAD, SOUTHCREST**

Extension of time for Application 2008/202/FUL
Demolition of No. 3 Plymouth Road and construction
of a 60 bedroomed nursing home with associated parking

Applicant: Mr M Dawson

Mr M Dawson, the Applicant, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.

RESOLVED that

- 1. having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Regeneration to GRANT planning permission subject to:**
 - a) a planning obligation ensuring that appropriate contributions in relation to off-site improvement works in the locality are provided; and**
 - b) the Conditions and informatives as summarised below:**

Conditions

- 1. Development to commence within three years.**
- 2. Details of materials (walls and roofs) to be submitted.**
- 3. Landscape scheme including details of boundary treatment to be submitted.**
- 4. Landscape scheme including details of boundary treatment to be implemented in accordance with approved details.**
- 5. Access, turning and parking areas to be provided**
- 6. Limited working hours during construction period.**
- 7. Contaminated land survey and details to be agreed**
- 8. Any unexpected contaminants found to be dealt with in agreement with LPA.**
- 9. Land contamination remediation measures if necessary to be agreed with LPA.**
- 10. Development to be carried out in accordance with plans submitted with the application.**
- 11. Cycle store details to be agreed.**
- 12. Bin storage details to be agreed.**

13. **Defined use as C2 residential home only (not a general C3 Residential Use Class).**
14. **Further details to be submitted in respect of Sustainability Statement for prior written approval of the LPA.**
15. **Staff and visitor car parking area granted to be clearly demarcated and signage to be displayed at the site directing staff and visitors to the parking areas: details to be submitted for approval in writing by the LPA.**

Informatives

1. **Reason for approval**
2. **Drainage details to be in agreement with Severn Trent Water.**
3. **The attention of the applicant is drawn to the importance of keeping Plymouth Road free of parked vehicles during the construction period in the interests of highway safety;**

and

2. **in the event that the planning obligation cannot be completed by 14th July 2011, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Regeneration to REFUSE the application on the basis that without the planning obligation the proposed development would be contrary to Policy CS.6 of the Borough of Redditch Local Plan.**

(During consideration of this application, the Committee requested that Enforcement Officers investigate and address, if necessary, the current condition of the site.)

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 7.10 pm

.....
CHAIR

