

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**  
**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE CABINET MEMBER MEETING**

**4.00pm 26 APRIL 2010**

**COMMITTEE ROOM 3, HOVE TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillor Brown (Cabinet Member)

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Hawkes (Opposition Spokesperson), Councillor Fryer (Opposition Spokesperson)

**Other Members present:** Councillor Oxley

**PART ONE**

**51. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**51a Declarations of Interest**

51.1 There were none.

**51b Exclusion of Press and Public**

51.2 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ('the Act'), the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I(1) of the Act).

51.3 **RESOLVED** – That the press and the public be not excluded from the meeting.

**52. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

52.1 Councillor Fryer raised a query about the minutes from the Special Cabinet Member meeting held on 22 March 2010. Councillor Fryer was informed that the minutes of that meeting would be approved at the next Cabinet Member Meeting on 12 July 2010.

52.2 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 January 2010 be approved and signed by the Cabinet Member as a correct record.

**53. CABINET MEMBER'S COMMUNICATIONS**

- 53.1 The Cabinet Member informed the meeting of an incident of vandalism at West Hove School that had caused extensive damage to the schools sheds and partially damaged the swimming pool cover. The Cabinet Member conveyed her disappointment and sadness on the issue and for those involved with the school.
- 53.2 Councillor Hawkes echoed the sentiments of the Cabinet Member had expressed her hope that a speedy resolution could be found to the damage caused.

**54. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION**

- 54.1 **RESOLVED-** All items were reserved for discussion by the Cabinet Member.

**55. PETITIONS**

- 55.1 No petitions had been received.

**56. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

- 56.1 No public questions had been received.

**57. DEPUTATIONS**

- 57.1 No notices of deputations had been received.

**58. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- 58.1 No letters from Councillors had been received.

**59. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- 59.1 No written questions from Councillors had been received.

**60. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

- 60.1 No Notices of Motion had been received.

**61. TENDER FOR PRIMARY & SPECIAL SCHOOLS MEALS CONTRACT**

- 61.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services on the commencement of the re-tendering process for the four-year Primary and Secondary School Meals contract due to start on 1 August 2011.
- 61.2 Councillor Fryer asked if there was still a national and local decline in the number of meals taken up as detailed in item 5.1 of the report.
- 61.3 The Head of Admissions and Transport responded that in Brighton & Hove there had been an encouraging increase in the number of meals taken up in the last few months, although a much greater improvement was sought.
- 61.4 Councillor Fryer enquired if the new contract would still abide by the recommendations set out by the Soil Association.
- 61.5 The Head of Admissions and Transport responded that the new contract would be expected to follow such initiatives as the use of free-range eggs.
- 61.6 Councillor Hawkes commended the report and stressed the importance of the service provided adding that the improvements detailed were encouraging.
- 61.7 The Director of Children's Service indicated that the improvement was welcome and had been galvanised by a lower performance than national performance indicators.
- 61.8 Councillor Fryer noted the opt-in system used in some countries and enquired if an adoption of this system would lower the unit cost.
- 61.9 The Head of Admissions and Transport replied that the cost of meals still represented good value and options of incentive options were being examined to encourage children starting school to take a school meal. Efforts were being made to provide parents with more information about school menus, to arrange tasting sessions for parents and children and to support a range of improvements to the lunchtime service.
- 61.10 **RESOLVED-** That, having considered the information in the report, the Cabinet Member approve the following recommendations:
1. That the Cabinet Member approves the commencement of the re- tendering process for the Primary & Special School Meals Contract. The new contract is set to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011 for a period of 4 years with the option to extend for up to a further 24 months (2 years).
  2. That the Cabinet Member delegates authority to confirm the award of the contract to the Director of Children's Services, within whose Department the contract is managed.
  3. That the Cabinet Member notes that in parallel to the tendering process a separate costing exercise will take place. This will determine whether insourcing of school meal arrangements would offer financial or other potential benefits to the Council and schools.

**62. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/11**

62.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the recommendations for the allocation of funding under the Capital Programme 2010/11.

62.2 **RESOLVED-** That, having considered the information in the report, the Cabinet Member approve the following recommendations:

1. That the Children and Young People Cabinet Member recommends to Cabinet approves the allocation of funding on the basis set out in paragraphs 3.3 to 3.54 in the agenda.
2. ~~Subject to Cabinet approval, to~~ That the Children and Young People Cabinet Member approve the allocation of funding as shown in Appendices 2, 3 and 4 of the agenda.

### 63. PROPOSED EXPANSIONS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS - CONSULTATION OUTCOME

63.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services proposing the permanent expansion of Goldstone Primary School and Westdene Primary School by one form and the expansion of Queens Park Primary School by half a form of entry and the issuing of Statutory Notice required if approved. The work would take effect as of September 2011.

63.2 Councillor Hawkes noted the concerns over traffic congestion raised at the public meetings at Goldstone and Westdene Primary School and responded that her belief was that the need for additional spaces at schools particularly in that area outweighed such reservations. Councillor Hawkes supplemented that other schools had successfully implemented restrictions that had alleviated such problems.

63.3 **RESOLVED-** That, having considered the information in the report, the Cabinet Member approve the following recommendations:

1. That the proposal to permanently expand Goldstone Primary School by one form of entry from September 2011 be noted and endorsed.
2. That the proposal to permanently expand Westdene Primary School by one form of entry from September 2011 be noted and endorsed.
3. That the proposal to permanently expand Queens Park Primary School by half a form of entry from September 2011 be noted and endorsed.
4. That the publication of the required Statutory Notice to progress these proposals be agreed.
5. That the results from the statutory consultation processes are referred to Cabinet Member Meeting on Monday 12 July 2010 for decision.

### 64. PROPOSED NEW SCHOOL FOR HOVE

- 64.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services concerning the further exploration of options for a new school in Hove.
- 64.2 Councillor Hawkes relayed her concerns that the deadline set was too long and that the need for a new school necessitated that it be brought forward either to a scheduled or special meeting. Councillor Hawkes added her belief that at this point details should be refined and the major decision-making underway, supplementing that the new school may alleviate but not resolve the problem of school spaces and no sites should be dismissed in the likelihood another school will be needed.
- 64.3 The School Futures Projects Director responded that no sites have yet been dismissed from consideration and admitted that there may have been a cautious approach but this had been solely based on the necessity to get every detail right.
- 64.4 The Director of Children's Services reminded those present that the nature of the new school would be dependent on the Council's application to the Building Schools for the Future (BSF). Following the general election the position in relation to the BSF will be clearer and proposals will adapt to changes in context.
- 64.5 Councillor Fryer asked if Leicester Villas had been dismissed from considerations and what nature the report in January would have.
- 64.6 The Schools Futures Project Director responded that Leicester Villas would still be part of the parallel discussion for another school in line with the growth of the city and that the proposal brought forward in January 2011 would be for a final agreement on the development.
- 64.7 Councillor Fryer enquired when there would be a decision made between the two proposed sites.
- 64.8 The Schools Futures Project Director answered that this would be brought to the Cabinet Member Meeting as soon as possible.
- 64.9 **RESOLVED-** That, having considered the information in the report, the Cabinet Member approve the following recommendations:
1. To further explore the options for providing a new two form entry primary school either on the Hove Park Depot site or the Hove Park 'upper' School site. If the Hove Park 'upper' School site is chosen consider providing this as part of a 0 – 16 school as part of any BSF proposals.
  2. That the results of this further investigation are reported to the Cabinet Member Meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011 for consideration.
  3. Explore the ways in which a 2 FE primary unit (to include infant and Key Stage 1) could be established on the site of an existing school in Hove in temporary accommodation by September 2011. Explore management of this proposed unit with primary head teachers in Hove.
  4. Consider how the children at the unit would transfer to any new school opened as a result of recommendation 1) above.

5. That the results of further consideration of (3) and (4) above are reported to the Cabinet member Meeting on Monday 12 July 2010 to determine the site and management of the proposed 2 form entry primary unit (to include Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1).

The meeting concluded at 4.37pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of