

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

4.00pm 21 JULY 2008

COMMITTEE ROOM 3, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Mrs Brown (Cabinet Member)

Also in attendance: Councillor Hawkes (Opposition Spokesperson)

Other Members present: Councillors Fryer, Kemble and Smart

PART ONE

16. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

16a Declarations of Interests

16a.1 There were none.

16b Exclusion of Press and Public

16b.1 The Cabinet Member considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A, Part 5A, Section 100A(4) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

16b.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of item 30 listed in Part Two of the agenda "Part 2 Minutes of the previous meeting on 9 June 2008" if there were any matters arising that Members and officers wished to discuss.

17. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

17.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 June 2008 be approved and signed by the Cabinet Member.

18. CABINET MEMBER'S COMMUNICATIONS

18.1 There were none.

19. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

19.1 **RESOLVED** – The Cabinet Member reserved both items on the agenda for discussion.

20. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

20.1 There were none.

21. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

21.1 There were none.

22. PETITIONS

13.1 The Cabinet Member indicated that a petition referred from the Cabinet meeting of 10 July 2008, had been received from Cllr Randall, listing 22 signatures, calling on Brighton and Hove City Council to sign up to Stonewall Education Champions Programme that provided support to local authorities tackling homophobic bullying in schools.

13.2 The Cabinet Member clarified that Cllr Randall was unable to attend the meeting. In his absence, she read out her response and confirmed that a copy would be sent to Cllr Randall.

22.3 *“Thank you to Councillor Randall for raising the issue of homophobic bullying. The CYPT has been actively supporting anti-homophobic bullying developments in schools for several years. This work has been informed by an action plan developed by the LGBT anti- bullying working group, which includes representatives from the LGBT community including Allsorts and Spectrum. Examples of developments include:*

- *An example bullying report form which provides a method for schools to more systematically record homophobic bullying incidents.*
- *A booklist for primary schools which details books that represent families with lesbian and gay parents, challenge gender stereotypes and provide positive images of gay and lesbian people.*
- *An event to launch national Homophobic Bullying guidance and All of Us a local resource which supports the development of inclusive sex and relationship education in anti-bullying week. This was organised in partnership with Stonewall and attended by all secondary schools, 19 primary schools and 3 special schools.*

The CYPT has been investigating Stonewall’s Education Champions Programme which involves an annual payment of £1250 and will commit to further discussions with Stonewall about the potential for added value to existing anti-homophobic bullying work. Our current emphasis is on support for local groups such as Allsorts to enhance the work with schools.”

23. DEPUTATIONS

23.1 There were none.

24. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

24.1 There were none.

25. NOTICES OF MOTIONS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

25.1 There were none.

26. MATTERS REFERRED FOR RECONSIDERATION

26.1 There were none.

27. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

27.1 There were none.

28. PROTOCOL FOR THE CREATION OF ALL THROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

28.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services regarding a revised protocol for the creation of all-through primary schools, supporting the amalgamation of infant and junior schools where considered appropriate (for copy see minute book).

28.2 The Cabinet Member indicated that she would allow a discussion on this item. However, she would not be making a decision on this item at today's meeting. She explained that the report circulated with the agenda missed some information and, in order to make the process open and transparent and allow for the full document to be in the public domain before a decision was made. A special meeting of the Children & Young People's Cabinet Member would be arranged for 30 July 2008, where a decision would be made.

28.3 The Assistant Director, as School Support Central Area, explained that this was a protocol that would only come into being when a merger was being considered. He indicated that, in terms of consultation, the draft document had been distributed widely and discussed at numerous groups, which included all Headteachers and Chairs of Governors in the city and school advisors. He clarified that the comments received were generally supportive, recognising the potential advantages of all through primary schools.

28.4 The Assistant Director also confirmed that, whilst there was general support for the protocol, it was also recognised that for any change to be made to existing schools, there would be a comprehensive consultation process to be followed which would allow concerns or comments from any quarter to be fully considered.

28.5 Cllr Hawkes welcomed the proposal and considered it would be advantageous for schools in the city.

28.6 **RESOLVED** - That the decision be deferred to the special meeting of the Children & Young People Cabinet Member Meeting to be held on 30 July 2008.

29. INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE CREATION OF AN ALL THROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM ST LUKE'S INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

- 29.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Children's Services proposing an informal consultation on the creation of an all-through primary school at St Luke's Infant and Junior Schools as a result of a head teacher leaving (for copy see minute book).
- 29.2 Cllr Fryer enquired whether there were plans to make any changes to the school buildings and further enquired about who would be consulted in the process.
- 29.3 The Assistant Director, School Support & Central Area explained that the schools in question were sited in the same building, only separated by a door. There were matters to be considered, such as funding and the issue of listed buildings consent that would be needed for any adaptations as the existing building is Grade 2 listed. However, officers would be looking at any enhancement that could be made, by considering the schools as a cluster rather than two separate schools. In terms of the consultation, the Assistant Director confirmed this was due to start in September, after the Summer holidays, so that everyone would have the opportunity to comment on the proposal. The information would be circulated to all parents, to the Councillors and the wider community.
- 29.4 Cllr Hawkes welcomed the report and considered that it would be more advantageous if the schools became one.
- 29.5 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendation:
- (1) That the publication of the informal consultation document proposing the creation of an all through primary school from St Luke's Infant and Junior Schools be agreed.

PART TWO**30. PART TWO MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 9 JUNE 2008 - EXEMPT CATEGORY 3**

- 30.1 **RESOLVED** – That Part Two minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 June 2008 be approved and signed by the Cabinet Member meeting as a correct record.

The meeting concluded at 4.20pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of