

Cabinet



Date	15 February 2006
Venue	Council Offices, Wesham
Cabinet Members	John Coombes (Leader of the Council) Tim Ashton, Susan Fazackerley, Patricia Fieldhouse, Albert Pounder, Simon Renwick, Paul Rigby, Roger Small.
Other Councillors	John Bennett, Linda Nulty, Elizabeth Oades, Heather Speak, Fabian Wilson, Stephen Wall.
Officers	Bill Taylor, Philip Woodward, Ian Curtis, Brian White, Allan Oldfield, Paul Walker, Tony Donnelly, Andrew Shore, Peter Welsh
Others	-

At the commencement of the meeting the Leader of the Council provided details of procedure rules to be used at Cabinet meetings. For this meeting non-members of the Cabinet would be entitled to ask one question on each agenda item. At future meetings non-cabinet members and members of the public would be able to submit written questions. Members would be provided with full details of the Cabinet procedures in due course.

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that any personal/prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000.

2. Mill Street Car Park, Kirkham

Paul Walker (Economic & Regeneration Manager) presented the report, which advised the Cabinet of progress with negotiations with Kirkham Town Council over the future of Mill Street car park.

At its meeting on the 20th July 2005 the Executive Committee considered a detailed report on a request from Kirkham Town Council to take over the management and control of Mill Street car park, Kirkham. The Committee resolved 'not to introduce charges on Mill Street car park and to authorise officers to negotiate with representatives of Kirkham Town Council about the future of Mill Street car park and that a report be brought to a future meeting of the Executive Committee'.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED not to agree to the transfer of Mill Street car park at present.

3. Car Park Operation and Fees

Andrew Shore (Technical Services Manager) presented the report which advised the Cabinet of proposed operational and fee changes for the Council's car parks in 2006/07.

The Fylde Car Park Strategy was adopted in July 2005 and recommended that the car park tariffs be reviewed at least every two years. The report before Cabinet explored opportunities to maximise the use of existing space and further potential for income generation.

The Council operated a long stay and a short stay parking tariff in designated car parks and a schedule of fees was appended. A new fee structure was adopted in April 2005 and it was proposed that the changes recommended in this report be adopted after April 2006. The present level of fees was believed to represent the higher end of a competitive market rate for parking and it was therefore not recommended that a flat rate increase on all parking fees be adopted for the year 2006/07. A comparison of typical fees for neighbouring Council operated surface level car parks was also appended to the agenda report.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED-

1. To agree to the proposed operational and fee changes as detailed in the report and that the Council's car parking order be amended accordingly.
2. That Members agree to refer the St Pauls Avenue car park to the asset management group for further consideration and an options appraisal report be brought back to a future meeting of the Cabinet.
3. To discontinue the 60p concession currently given on the price of a swim on presentation of a pay and display ticket from St Annes pool car park.

4. The Communications Strategy (revised)

Allan Oldfield (Policy & Change Manager) presented the report, which outlined the Communications Strategy for Fylde Borough Council that had been revised to incorporate additional elements of strategic communication in a more efficient approach to presenting strategy.

The revised Communications Strategy outlined the key strategic outcomes and the strategic approach to communications that would be adopted at Fylde Borough Council. The strategy also outlined the clear aims of communications work at Fylde Borough Council.

The revised Communications Strategy was an amalgamation of several existing and new strategies that had been revised, updated and integrated. Some new elements had been added i.e. the web site, intranet and knowledge management elements.

The need to revise the Communications Strategy and include several new elements was identified as a key outcome from the Access to Services inspection carried out by the Audit Commission in 2005.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED to approve the revised Communications Strategy

5. Statement of community involvement

Tony Donnelly (Local Plans Manager) presented the report, which advised the Cabinet of the results of the consultation on the pre-draft document (Regulation 25 consultation) following agreement of that document on the 28th September 2005. Changes to the document were proposed having regard to the consultation responses received and authority was sought to undertake the Regulation 26 stage of consultation and public participation.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED to recommend to Council that the content of the draft Statement of Community Involvement be agreed for the purposes of Regulation 26 consultation and public participation.

6. Blackpool Local Plan 2001-2016 Proposed Modifications - December 2005

Tony Donnelly (Local Plans Manager) reported on proposed modifications to the Blackpool Local Plan that were received by Fylde Borough Council on 1st December 2005.

A Local Plan Inquiry was held between November 2004 and March 2005 to consider all outstanding objections to the Local Plan. The Inspectors Report was received on August 8th 2005. Blackpool Council had now considered the Inspectors findings and recommendations and on 30th November 2005 approved its Proposed Modifications to the Plan. The Proposed Modifications to the Plan were published for a six week period of consultation commencing Friday, 9th December 2005. The end of the consultation period was Friday 20th January 2006.

The purpose of this report was first of all to clarify the status of the outstanding objection, secondly to highlight any proposed modifications of significance to Fylde Borough and finally to provide details of documents described in the proposed modifications that will further add to Blackpool's workload. These would need to be considered if we are agreeing to carry out joint working with Blackpool.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED to draw to Blackpool's attention that some of the terminology in the document relates to the old system of Local Plans and may need up-dating.

7. Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management - Out-Turn Position for 2004/2005

Brian White (Finance Manager) presented the detailed report, which provided the Cabinet with information in respect of the performance of the Treasury Management function of the Council for the financial year 2004/05, and comparison with anticipated prudential indicators for the year.

The Local Government Act 2003 required the Council to set prudential indicators for capital financing and treasury management annually, within the context of a 3-year

financial strategy and also to report back on actual performance measured against these prudential indicators at the end of the financial year.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED to note the position for the year 2004/05.

8. Treasury Management Strategy

Brian White (Finance Manager) presented the detailed report, (a copy of which was included with the agenda papers) which advised the Cabinet on the requirement for the Unit Business Manager (Finance) to report and make recommendations to the Cabinet on a proposed treasury management strategy for the forthcoming financial year. The report sets out the treasury management strategy for 2006/07 and encompassed borrowing requirements, debt management arrangements, the annual investment strategy and prudential indicators for treasury management for the Council.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED to approve the treasury management strategy for 2006/07.

9. Capital Monitoring Report

Brian White (Finance Manager) presented the detailed report, (a copy of which was included with the agenda papers) which provided an update on progress of the councils' capital programme at the end of December 2005.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED -

1. To approve the revised capital budget of £3,594,012 and note the current expenditure to December 2005 of £2,415,353 representing almost 58% of current capital budget.
2. To approve slippage of £713,000 into 2006/07 for the St. Anne's Square Regeneration, Park View Playing Fields, Boating and Paddling Pools.

10. Concessionary Travel Scheme

Brian White (Finance Manager) presented the report and informed the Cabinet that in March 2005, the Government announced that the minimum standard for elderly and disabled persons concessionary travel on local bus services would change from half fare to free travel with effect from April 2006. Following that announcement, Lancashire County Council and all Lancashire District Councils had considered a series of options for a revised concessionary travel scheme within the county. The report presented those options, together with details of the financial implications of each option on the Council's budget, in order for the Cabinet to decide on their preferred way forward for concessionary travel in Fylde. The recommendation to the report had been put forward to members following discussions with the other Lancashire Districts, who had reached a general consensus that this option was affordable and represented the closest match to the existing concessionary travel scheme.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED to approve option 3 as stated in the report as the recommended concessionary travel scheme for elderly and disabled residents of the borough and to budget accordingly.

11. Revenue and Capital Budgets 2006/07

Brian White (Finance Manager) presented the detailed report, (a copy of which was included with the agenda papers) which recommended revenue and capital budgets for 2006/07 and beyond, together with the suggested council tax increase in 2006/07.

The Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and RESOLVED -

1. To approve the net budget requirement of £9,758,380 in 2006/07.
2. To approve a Council Tax increase of 4.95% in 2006/07.
3. To approve a 5 year capital programme as detailed in appendix 5 of the report (subject to the amendments at paragraph 2.4 and 2.5 of the report) to be reviewed and rolled forward on an annual basis with all schemes ranked B & C dependent on the outcome of the accommodation review.

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