



CABINET  
Friday, 9 September 2005

### **Present**

Councillors: John Calway, Sheila Cook, Ruth Davis, Howard Gawler, Allan Higgs, Pat Hockey, Roger Hutchinson, Shirley Potts

In attendance: Councillors Pat Apps, Bill Bowrey, Sandra Grant and Dave Hockey.

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from:  
Councillors: Maggie Tyrrell and Sheila Mead (as spokesperson on the Community Care Housing and Health Select Committee)

### **86 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Agenda Item 1)**

The Chair welcomed Councillors and officers to the meeting.

### **87 EVACUATION PROCEDURE (Agenda Item 3)**

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out on the Agenda.

### **88 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 4)**

The following Councillors declared personal, non prejudicial interests as members of parish and town councils:

Councillor John Calway – Oldland Parish Council  
Councillor Sheila Cook – Almondsbury Parish Council  
Councillor Allan Higgs –  
Winterbourne Parish Council and Stoke Gifford Parish Council  
Councillor Pat Hockey – Frampton Cotterell Parish

**89 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AS SCHOOL GOVERNORS (Agenda Item 5)**

The following councillors declared personal, non-prejudicial interests as members of school and college governing bodies:

Councillor Sheila Cook – Almondsbury Primary, City  
Technology College, Pupil Referral Unit  
Councillor Ruth Davis – Kings Court Primary School  
Councillor Roger Hutchinson – Filton College

**90 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC (Agenda Item 6)**

Dave Redgwell, Transport 2000, in relation to item , raised his concern that Business South West, though a member of the West of England Partnership, had seen fit to publicly announce the idea of a toll road around the south of Bristol and were seeking meetings with the minister, without any prior liaison or discussion with the Partnership. He maintained this was not how a member of the Partnership should be behaving and that the Partnership should speak with one voice.. He also commented that brown field sites should be considered before urban extensions were considered.

**91 ITEMS FROM MEMBERS (Agenda Item 7)**

1. Councillor Gawler commented on the poor state of the curtains in the Thornbury Council Chamber. Councillor Higgs replied that the matter had been raised by him before but that he would pursue the issue.

2. Councillor Dave Hockey commented that in relation to Item 9, it was stated that the Vision for the South West envisaged high levels of growth. This gave the impression that South Gloucestershire Council approved of such high levels of growth. The Chair commented that there had been some dispute over whether the Vision had been simply a consultation document but that it was now being taken as the agreed view of the West of England Partnership. South Gloucestershire Council had since made representations setting out its view on what constituted acceptable growth.

**92 ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIR DECIDES ARE**

## **URGENT (Agenda Item 8)**

The Chair agreed to take the following item as a matter of urgency to enable a formal Council response to be made to the Strategic Health Authority which would enable it to meet its deadline for response to the Department of Health.

### **NHS RECONFIGURATION OF SERVICES**

Members were advised that the three Leaders and the Chair and Spokespersons of the Health Select Sub Committee were meeting with a representative of the Strategic Health Authority (SRA) on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September. The SRA would be putting forward its proposals on PCT reconfiguration by 15<sup>th</sup> October 2005. Hence, it was a matter of urgency that the Council's view on the reconfiguration was determined before the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September.

It was moved by Councillor Allan Higgs, seconded by Councillor Roger Hutchinson and unanimously:-

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That the Strategic Health Authority be informed that the position of South Gloucestershire Council in respect of the NHS Reconfiguration of Services is that South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust co-terminosity with the South Gloucestershire boundary is the most appropriate option for the reasons set out in the report. To this end South Gloucestershire's preferred options are :- (1a) ; (3d) ;and (4b) as set out in the report.

2. That the text of the response to the Strategic Health Authority be circulated to all Cabinet and Community Care, Housing and Health Select Committee Select Committee members.

#### **Reason for decision**

To enable a formal Council response to be made to the Strategic Health Authority enabling it to meet its deadline for response to the Department of Health.

## **93 WEST OF ENGLAND JOINT STUDY AREA - FIRST DETAILED PROPOSALS (Agenda Item 9)**

Members considered the First Detailed Proposals from the West

of England Joint Area Study and the Council's strategic advice to be conveyed to the South West Regional Assembly in relation to the First Detailed Proposals. The First Detailed Proposals were one of the main opportunities for the authority to influence the overall approach to growth, as well as the context of the future Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). The RSS would set the context for all spatial development and planning work for the next 1-20 years.

It was moved by Councillor Roger Hutchinson and jointly seconded by Councillors John Calway and Ruth Davis and unanimously:

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the First Detailed Proposals appended as Appendix 1 to the report be forwarded to the South West Regional Assembly as a response to the Assembly's request to examine how the Council might be able to deliver a level of growth at RPG+25%.
2. The Council emphasises the points within the First Detailed Proposals, that is, that this response is subject to:-
  - (a) the West of England Partnership undertaking urgently the Green Belt review, based on the five purposes of the Green Belt, and sustainability assessment prior to finalising its proposals on the overall housing allocation and locational strategy for greenfield extensions,
  - (b) the completion and detailed consideration of the implications of the Greater Bristol Strategic Transport Study,
  - (c) further consideration of RPG+25% being dependent upon the Regional Assembly, the Government and the national regeneration agencies delivering the transport and other infrastructure investment needed in this area prior to development taking place and as part of delivering the sustainable communities agenda, and
3. That the Council:-
  - (a) recognises that whilst a targeted higher rate of growth will be required across the sub-region to meet the regeneration objectives of South Bristol and North Somerset, it has serious concerns about the sustainability and desirability of a general high growth agenda across the whole sub-region,
  - (b) rejects any suggestion of growth levels above RPG+25%

- as completely unsustainable,
- (c) notes that the Full Council has given defending the Green Belt pre-eminent importance in decision making,
- (d) believes in the critical importance of achieving sustainability within existing and future communities,
- (e) notes that past experience of high rates of growth in South Gloucestershire is already having a detrimental impact upon the quality of life of some residents and communities,
- (f) notes that the previous growth has resulted in a chronic social and physical infrastructure deficit which has compounded this detrimental impact on the quality of life,

4. That a Vote of Thanks be recorded to all Members and Officers who have contributed to the First Detailed Proposals.

**Reason for decision**

To enable the Council's strategic advice to be made to South West Regional Assembly with regard to future growth levels.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm.

**CHAIR:**.....