

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK

CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee
held on Tuesday 20 January 2009 at 6.00pm
in the Committee Suite, King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn.**

PRESENT:

Councillors D Collis (Chairman),
P Burall, M Langwade (substitute for Councillor R Payn),
J Loveless (substitute for Councillor I Mack), J M Tilbury and A Tyler.

Member Present Pursuant to Standing Order 34: Councillor I Gourlay

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T de Winton,
Councillor R Johnston, Councillor D Pope, Councillor I Mack
and Councillor R Payn.

CSC49: APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Councillor P Burall be appointed as Vice-Chairman for the meeting.

CSC50: MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19 November 2008 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CSC51: URGENT BUSINESS UNDER STANDING ORDER 7

There was none.

CSC52: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Burall declared a personal interest in CSC57(b) – Cabinet Members' Delegated Decision List – Financial Commitment from the Borough Council's Small Area Schemes Fund – Proposed grant funding towards enhancing the setting of and access to the Village's War Memorial, as being a Member of Dersingham Parish Council.

CSC53: MEMBERS PRESENT PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 34

Councillor I Gourlay for Item CSC57: (a) Asset Management – Commercial Property Portfolio Variation to Scheme of Delegation.

CSC54: **CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE**

There was none.

CSC55: **RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

There were none.

CSC56: **MATTERS CALLED-IN PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 12**

There were none.

CSC57: **SCRUTINY OF CABINET/PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' DECISIONS**

(a) Cabinet Decisions – 13 January 2009

The decisions/recommendations from the Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday 13 January 2009 were received.

(i) **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Chairman read out the following resolution:

“That under Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.”

(ii) **Asset Management – Commercial Property Portfolio Variation to Scheme of Delegation**

Councillor Gourlay attended for this item of business under Standing Order 34.

At the invitation of the Chairman, the Property Services Manager presented the report that informed Members that the Borough Council managed a mixed portfolio of light industrial, retail and other commercial premises that generated an income for the Council and provided accommodation for small and medium sized businesses. In the current economic climate, the Property Services Manager needed a greater degree of flexibility in managing the commercial portfolio than the current Officer's Scheme of Delegation, which was relatively prescriptive.

The Chairman sought clarification on the reasoning behind the changes to the recommendations as set out in the report. In response, the Deputy Chief Executive explained that an individual case was presented in the report and the recommendation sought Cabinet's approval to revise the lease arrangements, as outlined for the specific case detailed within the report. However, it was noted at the Cabinet meeting that existing delegations in place for the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Performance were sufficient to deal with this matter and the recommendations had been amended to reflect this.

The Deputy Chief Executive and the Property Services Manager clarified issues relating to the report and responded to questions from the Committee. It was further confirmed that consideration had been given to the Business Link health check tool.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

(b) Portfolio Holders' Decisions made under Delegated Powers.

Councillor Burall declared a personal interest in Cabinet Members' Delegated Decision List – Financial Commitment from the Borough Council's Small Area Schemes Fund – Proposed grant funding towards enhancing the setting of and access to the Village's War Memorial, as being a Member of Dersingham Parish Council.

RESOLVED: That the list of Portfolio Holders' Decisions made under Delegated Powers be noted.

CSC58: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted the next meeting was scheduled to be held on **Wednesday 18 February** at 6.00 pm.

Meeting closed at 6.45 pm