



CALL-IN SUB COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2006

7.30 PM

SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA (SCRUTINY)

COMMITTEE ROOM 4
HARROW CIVIC CENTRE

MEMBERSHIP (Quorum 3)

Chair: Councillor Mitzi Green

Councillors:

Gate Thammaiah	Jean Lammiman (VC) Osborn	(none)	(none)
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Reserve Members:

1. Blann	1. Seymour	(none)	(none)
2. Ann Groves	2. Versallion		
3. Mrs R Shah	3. Romain		

Issued by the Legal Services Section,
Legal Services Department

Contact: Michelle Fernandes, Committee Administrator
Tel: 020 8424 1542 E-mail: michelle.fernandes@harrow.gov.uk

***NOTE FOR THOSE ATTENDING THE MEETING:
IF YOU WISH TO DISPOSE OF THIS AGENDA, PLEASE LEAVE IT BEHIND AFTER THE MEETING.
IT WILL BE COLLECTED FOR RECYCLING.***

HARROW COUNCIL

CALL-IN SUB COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2006

AGENDA - PART I

1. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**

To note the attendance at this meeting of any duly appointed Reserve Members.

Reserve Members may attend meetings:-

- (i) to take the place of an ordinary Member for whom they are a reserve;
- (ii) where the ordinary Member will be absent for the whole of the meeting; and
- (iii) the meeting notes at the start of the meeting at the item 'Reserves' that the Reserve Member is or will be attending as a reserve;
- (iv) if a Reserve Member whose intention to attend has been noted arrives after the commencement of the meeting, then that Reserve Member can only act as a Member from the start of the next item of business on the agenda after his/her arrival.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from:

- (a) all Members of the Committee, Sub Committee, Panel or Forum;
- (b) all other Members present in any part of the room or chamber.

3. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

To consider whether any of the items listed on the agenda should be considered with the press and public excluded on the grounds that it is thought likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that there would be disclosure of confidential information in breach of an obligation of confidence or of exempt information as defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

4. **Minutes:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2005, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

5. **Call - In of Cabinet Decision: Role of the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel:**

Enc. (a) Notice Invoking the Call-In. (Pages 1 - 4)

Enc. (b) Tabled report to Cabinet meeting of 12 January 2006 entitled Role of the Wealdstone Advisory Panel. (Page 5 - 6)

Enc. (c) Extract of Cabinet minutes. (Pages 7 - 8)

- Enc. (d) Report to Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel meeting of 19 January 2006 entitled Role of the Wealdstone Advisory Panel. (Pages 9 - 12)
- Enc. (e) Councillor David Ashton, as backbencher's, statement. (Pages 13 – 14)

6. **Any Other Business:**

Which the Chair has decided is urgent and cannot otherwise be dealt with.

AGENDA - PART II- NIL

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985: In accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, this meeting is being called with less than 5 clear working days' notice by virtue of the special circumstances and grounds for urgency stated below:-


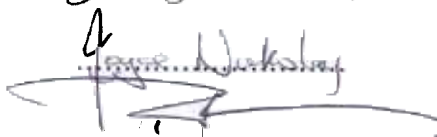
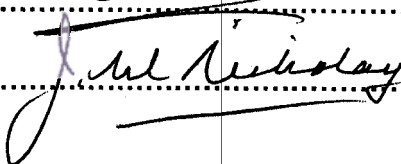
Special Circumstances/Grounds for Urgency: Under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 22 a meeting of the Call-in Sub-Committee must be held within 7 clear working days of the receipt of a request for call-in. This meeting therefore had to be arranged at short notice and it was not possible for the agenda to be published 5 clear working days prior to the meeting.

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To: The Chief Executive

1. NOTICE OF CALL-IN OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

In accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 22, we, the undersigned, hereby give notice that we wish to call-in the Executive decision detailed in section 2 below:-

<u>NAME (PLEASE PRINT)</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
CHRISTINE BEDNELL	
Joyce Nickolay	
RAYMOND ARNOLD	
MARILYN ASHTON	M Ashton
M. KARA	M Kara
J W NICKOLAY	

2. DETAILS OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

The details of the Executive decision are as follows:-

Decision: Ref. 899 Minutes of Cabinet Jan 12 [Resolved 'That the WRAP be dissolved following its meeting on 14 January 2006']

Made by: CABINET
(Cabinet/relevant Portfolio Holder)

Published On: JANUARY 17 2006
(Date)

3. GROUND FOR CALL-IN

Please specify below the grounds for the call-in, in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 22.5 (the grounds on which an Executive decision may be called in are set out overleaf). Please note that the considerations of the Call-in Sub-Committee will focus on the grounds stated, and the Sub-Committee will seek evidence to support them. Please therefore also set out below details of the evidence to support the grounds for call-in, continuing on a separate sheet if necessary.

..... See Attached

Reasons for Call-In of Cabinet Decision to dissolve WRAP

a) Inadequate consultation with stakeholders prior to the Decision

The Cabinet decision to dissolve WRAP on January 12 was a last minute addition under AOB, tacked on as an adjunct to the dissolution of Best Value.

The dissolution of Best Value had been discussed by that panel at its most recent November 2005 meeting, the implications had been discussed, and the proposal for dissolution came from Best Value itself to Cabinet after a unanimous vote of the Panel.

WRAP had simply noted, in its latest November meeting, the Neighbourhood Renewal Forum proposals, with an outline plan, but had never considered its dissolution before the Forum proposals would be finalised. Minute 267 of the WRAP November 2005 meeting explicitly stated that WRAP, as a panel, would be subsumed into the Forum, which would have a representation that would augment that of WRAP.

The Forum proposals still have not been progressed, and, absent WRAP, there is no meaningfully constituted body available or appropriate so to do. At the meeting of WRAP on Thursday January 19, the Chair stated that WRAP members would be an important part of the formulation arrangements for the Forum, but was unable to explain how, given that Cabinet had formally dissolved WRAP under Item 15b of the Cabinet meeting of Thursday January 12.

The solution is simple. If this call-in is accepted, then WRAP would be reinstated as a Panel of Cabinet, and would then be able to debate its being subsumed into the Forum in an orderly and effective way, ensuring that the Forum has an effective representation and remit.

To assist the Call-In sub-committee, the points made by Councillor David Ashton at the WRAP January 19 meeting are attached. Councillor Ashton back benched under Agenda items 8/9.

Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel January 19 – matters raised under Item 8/9 by Councillor David Ashton regarding the proposed dissolution of the Panel further to Item 15(b) of January 12 Cabinet

1) As a Cabinet member, I (and Cllr Mote) assumed the new set-up would simply be the existing Wealdstone Regeneration Panel, in another wider guise, ie with wider participation, not a situation of existing participants being excluded.

This was based on item 267 in the WRAP November 15 minutes – “WRAP would be subsumed into the W NRF”. “The membership....would include a wider participation....” “Organisations currently represented on the Panel would be offered places on the Forum”.

The minute refers to an outline transitional plan

2) The dissolution of WRAP was raised as a late AOB item (Item 15b) of urgent business at the January 12 Cabinet, on a piece of paper given out as Cabinet commenced. It was linked to Best Value Panel being abolished (Item 8 on the main agenda), with its role being taken up within Scrutiny. Under Item 15b, para 2 states, “the work currently undertaken by WRAP would be subsumed”. This differs, subtly, from the wording in the WRAP minutes and previous Cabinet understanding, which states, “WRAP would be subsumed”.

The wording under the Cabinet proposal means that the current membership of WRAP is dissolved, and has no relationship with the new Forum. Previously, what was subsumed was the panel itself, not the work undertaken. This is a critical difference.

3) Best Value's abolition, as one of a range of alternatives, was initiated by Best Value itself, and discussed first at Best Value. In fact, the proposal was initiated by me, and agreed at Best Value in November unanimously.

4) I was under the impression that the WRAP proposal had similarly been discussed, voted and agreed at WRAP. I now understand this was not the case. Unlike Best Value, this was never debated and agreed by WRAP, and, as I mentioned earlier, in any case, what Cabinet was enticed to vote for was not what was previously raised.

5) This has the appearance of a sly attempt to manipulate membership of WRAP, and any successor Forum. I would hope that this was not intentional, and would encourage the Chair of WRAP to put matters straight, and ensure any change to WRAP, as a Panel of Cabinet, is carried out in the same democratic way that Best Value Panel, another Panel of Cabinet, was carried out, and that the content of Item 267 in the WRAP November 15 minutes would be properly applied after due consideration by WRAP, if such was the result of a democratic vote by WRAP.

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HARROW COUNCIL

CABINET

THURSDAY 12 JANUARY 2006

ROLE OF THE WEALDSTONE REGENERATION ADVISORY PANEL

1. At Item 8 on its agenda the Cabinet is considering a proposal that the Best Value Advisory Panel be dissolved, in the light of the changes in the Best Value regime. A similar proposal is now identified in respect of the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel.
2. Cabinet has previously received reports in respect of an outline Transitional Neighbourhood Renewal Plan and, inter alia, has noted that the work currently undertaken by the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel would be subsumed into the intended Wealdstone Neighbourhood Renewal Project and Forum (Minute 850 : 10.11.05).
3. It was set out in the outline Transition Plan that the handover process would be accomplished through January-March 2006 and the Neighbourhood Renewal policy would have a formal launch in March.
4. Accordingly, it is proposed that, in order to facilitate the handover arrangements and in preparation for the NR launch, Cabinet could now make a formal decision to dissolve the current Regeneration Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

5. That it be agreed to dissolve the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel following its meeting to be held on Thursday 19 January 2006.

FOR DECISION

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REPORT OF CABINET

MEETING HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2006

Chair: * Councillor N Shah

Councillors: * D Ashton
† Burchell
* Margaret Davine
* Dighé
* C Mote

* Marie-Louise Nolan
* O'Dell
* Bill Stephenson
* Thornton

* Denotes Member present
† Denotes apologies received

899. **Urgent Business - Role of the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel:**
Members received a report proposing the dissolution of the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel as its work would be subsumed into the intended Wealdstone Neighbourhood Renewal Project and Forum.

RESOLVED: That the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel be dissolved following its meeting on 19 January 2006.

Reason for Decision: To enable the Panel to be dissolved in compliance with the Outline Transition Plan timescales previously approved by Cabinet.

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Meeting:	Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel
Date:	19 th January 2006
Subject:	Role of Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel
Responsible Officer:	Graham Jones, Director of Strategic Planning
Contact Officer:	Graham Jones
Portfolio Holder:	Councilor Keith Burchell, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Development and Best Value
Key Decision:	
Status:	

Section 1: Summary

Decision Required

To note the decision of Cabinet of 12th January 2006 that the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel will be dissolved following its meeting of 19th January.

Reason for report

To inform members of the Cabinet decision.

Benefits

To keep members informed of the Neighbourhood Renewal Forum initiative.

Cost of Proposals

None

Risks

None

Implications if recommendations rejected

Report is for information only

Section 2: Report

2.1 Brief History

Members of WRAP will recall previous reports on the Neighbourhood Renewal initiative and that Cabinet has agreed to pilot Neighbourhood Renewal in Wealdstone. The initiative will be steered through a Neighbourhood Renewal Forum, including a broad range of local stakeholders from the Wealdstone and Marlborough Wards.

A report was considered by Cabinet on 12th January (copy attached at Appendix A) agreeing to dissolve WRAP and its role would be subsumed into the Terms of Reference of the Neighbourhood Renewal Forum.

Members are asked to note this decision and that the membership and Terms of reference for the Neighbourhood Renewal Forum will be developed in conjunction with stakeholders in the period up to and including the launch in March

2.2 Options considered

Not informing WRAP members of the Cabinet decision would not be in the interests of open government.

Consultation

Not applicable

Financial Implications

None

2.5 Legal Implications

None in respect of this report.

2.6 Equalities Impact

None

2.7 Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Considerations

None

Section 3: Supporting Information/Background Documents

Appendix A:

Report to Cabinet 12th January - Role of the Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel

CABINET

THURSDAY 12 JANUARY 2006

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FOR DECISION

Agenda Annex
Pages 13 to 14

**Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel January 19 – matters raised under
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