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**REPORT OF CABINET**


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**MEETING HELD ON 10 APRIL 2008**


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Chairman: \* Councillor Chris Mote

Councillors: \* David Ashton \* Janet Mote  
 \* Marilyn Ashton \* Paul Osborn  
 \* Mrs Camilla Bath \* Mrs Anjana Patel  
 \* Miss Christine Bednell \* Eric Silver  
 \* Susan Hall

\* Denotes Member present

[Note: Councillors Mrs Margaret Davine and Mrs Rekha Shah also attended this meeting to speak on the item indicated at Minute 399 below].

**PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS - NIL**

**PART II - MINUTES**

392. **Declarations of Interest:**

**RESOLVED:** To note that the following interest was declared:

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>
8a. Scrutiny Review of Obesity in Harrow	Councillor Silver	The Member declared a personal interest in that he was a pharmacist within the Borough. He remained in the room whilst the matter was considered and voted upon.

393. **Minutes:**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2008 and of the special meeting on 17 March 2008, be taken as read and signed as correct records.

394. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

**RESOLVED:** That all business be considered with the press and public present with the exception of the following item for the reason set out below:-

<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
12. Framework Agreement for the disposal of co-mingled recyclables - Appendix	The appendix contained exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, in that it contained information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding the information).

395. **Petitions:**

Councillor Silver presented a petition containing 750 signatures. He read the terms of the petition to the meeting, which were as follows:-

"We the undersigned hereby oppose the closure of Headstone Gardens Post Office as part of the Area Plan for London.

Its closure will affect:

1. Old aged pensioners who are unable to travel far to send post/parcels etc, and buy stamps
2. Disabled people (who have protection under the Disability

- Discrimination Act)
3. Young mothers and families
  4. Local Traders who need their facilities for banking, posting and sending parcels.”

**RESOLVED:** That the petition be received and referred to the Corporate Director of Community and Environment for consideration.

396. **Public Questions:**

**RESOLVED:** To note that the following public question had been received:

1.

**Questioner:** Brian Stoker

**Asked of:** Councillor Chris Mote, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Overview, HSP, External Affairs and Property

**Question:** The Council now states that the officers' report on the future options for Cedars Hall will be published on the evening of the proposed public meeting, just one week before the next Cabinet meeting, with a summary the of points raised at the meeting being circulated to the Cabinet.

There is no opportunity for the public to present considered written inputs, over a period of weeks, as they would in the case of a planning application.

We know, and we would expect, that the Cabinet would not take a view on papers presented to them only at the start of a meeting, but the public only afforded a one hour opportunity to comment on a the officers' paper, verbally, and then only if they are able to be physically present at a meeting and can understand the implications in that time?

Therefore the public needs a mechanism to put considered written views to the Cabinet. A verbal Question Time will obviously be inadequate, so can a suitable mechanism please be created?

Thank you.

**Councillor Mote:** Consultation with local residents regarding the development of the Cedars Hall site has been ongoing for some considerable time.

Residents' views were clearly heard by Cabinet when we made our decision in December 2007.

The various options, which Council Officers are currently considering for the development of this important site, were advised to residents at the meeting chaired by Andrew Trehern, and attended by Councillors Tony Ferrari and Paul Scott, at the Cedars Youth Centre on 20 February 2008. As agreed with residents, the notes of this meeting have been published on the Council website. Additionally, those local residents who left their email addresses were provided with a copy of the notes directly. The notes of the meeting clearly set out the options that will be considered at Cabinet.

The Deputy Chair of the Harrow Weald Tenants and Residents' Association has engaged with Andrew Trehern in respect of the community hall option. A number of residents have, in fact, submitted written comments and I am sure that officers will reflect these views in an appropriate way within their report to Cabinet.

The next meeting with residents is scheduled to take place on the 7 May 2008, and due to the large amount of business that Cabinet needs to transact in May, we are calling a second meeting which will be held on Wednesday 21 May and we are intending that the Cedars Hall item will now be considered on this date. This therefore provides nearly two weeks for residents to submit their views for Members' consideration. I do not therefore accept your assertion that there has been insufficient time for residents to put considered written views to Cabinet.

Mr Stoker, your views, the views of local residents and the Tenants and Residents' association are very important to us, and any comments that you make or will make regarding the options that have been advised to you can be addressed to Andrew Trehern at any time between now and the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup>. You have then still got further time until the 21 May.

I can assure you that a member of our Democratic Services team will be in attendance at the meeting with residents on the 7 May, thereby ensuring that we have an appropriate record of the meeting, the key points of which I can assure you, will be advised to Cabinet Members prior to any decision being made at the second May meeting.

- Supplemental Question:** Can you please have a wider consultation, because when you consulted on community care you sent out 2,354 packs? Public meetings have a maximum of 81, which is 3.44%. Cedars Hall, we think, we don't know, our tenants housing sent out it's about 300 we guess, at the public meeting we had 75 people - that's 25%. I'd have suggested that you cover the people who put in interest and objections to the original planning application, which is far wider than what's actually put forward. So can you please have a wider consultation?
- Councillor Mote:** I think what I'll say is I go by the answer I've given at first, there is now a longer period of consultation. It gives time...
- Mr Stoker:** It's about the distribution, as it is about the time.
- Councillor Mote:** Distribution? As I say, I'm not aware of the exact facts of distribution and therefore I cannot pass comment on it because I have not got those facts in front of me. It would be wrong for me to comment without full knowledge.
- Mr Stoker:** But you could comment on the...
- Councillor Mote:** I hear what you say now, then I can make a comment at a later point if so needed.
- Mr Stoker:** What will the later point be? Will it be in the minutes, in a meeting? How will I know?
- Councillor Mote:** Can I say, I can only tell you, I can tell you one thing, I have given you an answer tonight. I am not going to go into a discussion. This is a question time not a discussion time. What I... Can you just let me finish, please? What I will say is, this is my last meeting so you will not have a reply from me after this date. It will be the new leader, at that time, when it comes up at May. I can only suggest that you ask that question of him at that first May meeting.
- Mr Stoker:** It will be too late then. I've asked for a wider distribution...
- Councillor Mote:** My answer is no. Social Services covered the whole borough. This is covering one small area, therefore that is a different way of consultation.
- Mr Stoker:** The area has not ...
- Councillor Mote:** I am not going into any further debate. No, the consultation stands as it stands now.
- Mr Stoker:** There's a road closer to...
- Councillor Mote:** I'm not going into any more debate over it. I'm sorry. You've asked a question, I've given you the answer which is no, we will do no further consultation based on what we've told you now.
- Mr Stoker:** Thank you. I will relay the information. I am very disappointed.

397. **Councillor Questions:**

**RESOLVED:** To note that no Councillor Questions had been received.

398. **Forward Plan 1 April 2008 - 31 July 2008:**

**RESOLVED:** That the contents of the Forward Plan for the period 1 April – 31 July 2008 be noted.

399. **Reports from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committees - Scrutiny Review of Obesity in Harrow:**

Councillor Rekha Shah, the Chairman of the Review Group, and Councillor Margaret Davine introduced the report which set out the findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review of obesity in Harrow. The importance of multi agency and partnership working was highlighted as were a number of the recommendations.

Cabinet welcomed the report, made a number of comments on the Review and noted that the Primary Care Trust Board had agreed all the recommendations.

**RESOLVED:** That (1) the findings of the review be noted;

(2) the recommendations for Harrow Council be endorsed and their implementation monitored by Scrutiny.

**Reason for Decision:** To contribute towards the strengthening and development of multi-agency work on tackling obesity in Harrow. Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on 28 January 2008, had requested that Cabinet consider this report.

400. **Senior Management Structure:**

The Chief Executive introduced the report which proposed a revised senior management structure for the Council to better enable it to achieve its strategic objective to be recognised as one of the best London Councils by 2012.

The Chief Executive stated that good progress was being made and that the revised senior management structure was a necessary step to improve the Council. He added that he reserved the right to further review the structure.

Cabinet supported the proposals contained within the report of the Chief Executive and it was

**RESOLVED:** That the proposed senior management structure attached at Appendix 2 to the report of the Chief Executive be approved.

**Reason for Decision:** To enable the implementation of a more effective senior management structure.

401. **Framework Agreement for the Disposal of co-mingled recyclables:**

The Corporate Director of Community and Environment introduced the report which explained the requirement for a new 4 year framework agreement for the allocation and transport of co-mingled waste from the Civic Amenity Site to a bona fide Material Recycling Facility (MRF) for sorting and resale. He stated that the framework agreement would give resilience to this business critical service.

Members noted that a confidential appendix to the report appeared elsewhere on the agenda for their information.

**RESOLVED:** That the letting of a framework agreement to Grosvenor Waste Management, Green Star and Greencycle be approved.

**Reason for Decision:** The London Borough of Harrow needs to replace the existing interim agreement with a formal contract in line with EU requirements.

402. **Councillor Chris Mote:**

The Leader of the Council stated that, as this was his last meeting as Chairman of Cabinet, he would like to thank Portfolio Holders and officers for their work. He also thanked members of the public for their participation in the meetings of Cabinet and the press for their attendance.

The Deputy Leader of the Council, on behalf of Cabinet, thanked Councillor Mote for his work over the previous two years.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 8.08 pm).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR CHRIS MOTE  
Chairman