Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive held at Surrey Heath House on 10 January 2017

+ Cllr Moira Gibson (Chairman)

- Cllr Richard Brooks
- + Cllr Mrs Vivienne Chapman
- + Cllr Colin Dougan

- + Cllr Craig Fennell
- + Cllr Josephine Hawkins
 - + Cllr Charlotte Morley
- + Present
- Apologies for absence presented

In Attendance: Cllr Alan McClafferty, Cllr David Allen, Cllr Chris Pitt and Cllr Victoria Wheeler, plus Simon Hope of Montagu Evans.

64/E Minutes

The open and exempt minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

65/E Revenue Grants 2017/18

The Council funded a number of voluntary organisations which either worked in partnership with the Council or performed functions on the Council's behalf. The allocation of these grants in 2016/17 had been £140,000 for community organisations and £24,900 for leisure organisations, totalling £162,900.

The Executive considered a table providing a breakdown of these organisations' funding requests, together with supporting information. The table compared the funding requested against the grant awarded for 2016/17, the percentage of requested funding against annual running costs and, where appropriate, the inkind financial support given to the organisations.

Members were also provided with information relating to the achievement of targets contained in each of the Service Level Agreements (SLA).

It was reported that, during the course of the previous year, the External Partnerships Select Committee had invited a number of the revenue grant funded organisations to its meetings to explore their fundraising strategies and future financial sustainability.

Whilst most organisations were working hard to safeguard their future financial sustainability, a number of positive recommendations had been made and had been implemented, including Tringhams Lunch Club teaming up with Surrey Heath Age Concern to cross reference clients and enhance transport opportunities.

With regard to Tringhams Lunch Club, the organisation had already been consulted on the proposed grant reduction.

It was noted that, within the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership annual report for 2016, there had been few references to core works undertaken in Surrey Heath for public benefit, which the grant awarded by SHBC was meant to support. The Partnership would also now benefit from SANGS (Suitable Alternative Green Space) funding. It had been proposed that its grant be reduced from £10,000 to £5,000.

Resolved that, subject to the delivery of the service level agreements, revenue grants be allocated for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 as follows:

Organisation	Grant for 2017/18
Surrey Heath Citizens Advice	£80,000
Voluntary Support North Surrey	£30,000
Surrey Heath Age Concern	£10,000
Tringhams, West End	£13,000
Camberley Central Job Club	£7,000
Basingstoke Canal Authority	£10,000
Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership	£5,000
Surrey Heath Sports Council	£3,500
Surrey Heath Arts Council	£1,400

(Note: In accordance with the Council's Members Code of Conduct, Councillor Charlotte Morley declared a non-pecuniary interest as the Secretary and the Council's representative on the Surrey Heath Sports Council.)

66/E Camberley Crown Post Office Consultation

The Executive considered a draft response to the Post Office's consultation on proposals to relocate Camberley Post Office to within the curtilage of WH Smith, High Street, Camberley.

Members expressed concern at the proposal to vacate the Crown Post Office, particularly given the Council's aspirations for and investment in the Town Centre. It was noted that residents very much valued the existing outlet and concerns were expressed on accessibility in WH Smith, as well as the suitability of the building for an external ATM (automated teller machine).

The Executive agreed to amend the response at Annex A to the Officer report to emphasise the disappointment and concerns expressed at the meeting and the Chief Executive was asked to consider an appropriate revised response in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

RESOLVED, that

(i) the response attached as Annex A to the Executive report be amended to reflect the Council's concerns at the loss of the Crown Post Office and potential access issues in WH Smith; and

(ii) The wording of the letter to be submitted to the Post Office be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Council Leader.

67/E Exclusion of Press and Public

In accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the ground that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as set out below:

Minute	Paragraph(s)
68/E	3
69/E	3

Note: Minutes 69/E and 70/E are summaries of matters considered in Part II of the agenda, the minutes of which it is considered should remain confidential at the present time.

68/E Procurement of Developer for Ashwood House and Pembroke House

The Executive considered a report seeking approval to the award of the contract to redevelop Ashwood House and Pembroke House and authorised the actions proposed.

69/E Reference from the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee - Member Call-in

The Executive considered a reference from the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee following its consideration of a Member Call-in on procurement.

The Executive considered the recommendations of the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee and

Resolved, that

- (i) Wherever possible or practicable, for future purchases, the due diligence and red book data/reports considered by the Executive, be made available to the Performance and Finance Scrutiny Committee under exempt arrangements; and
- (ii) An annual report be made to the Committee providing a review of purchase and yields achieved across all the Council's properties.

70/E Review of Exempt Items

The Executive reviewed the reports which had been considered at the meeting following the exclusion of members of the press and public, as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Minutes 68/E and the associated agenda report remain exempt during the 'Stand Still Period', but that the decision be made public when the preferred bidder is announced; and
- (ii) Minute 69/E and the associated agenda report remain exempt, but that the decision be made public.

Chairman