

THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2010. MINUTE NO. 92 IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN".

CABINET MEMBER - TECHNICAL SERVICES

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE
ON WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor Fairclough

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Jones, Porter, Preece, Tonkiss and Weavers

87. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

89. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 OCTOBER 2010

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

**90. SOUTHPORT CYCLE TOWN - PROPOSED CYCLE TRACK -
BIRKDALE TO AINSDALE**

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director on the outcome of the recently completed consultation exercise in respect of the proposed cycle track - Birkdale to Ainsdale (the Cycle Track); and advising of the decision of the Southport Area Committee in respect of the Cycle Track.

The report indicated that at the end of the consultation exercise, 956 responses had been received and produced the following result:

Those in favour of the Cycle Track 604 (63%)

Those not in favour of the Cycle Track 352 (37%)

A number of respondents also made comments on their consultation returns and their comments were detailed in Annex C to the report.

The Southport Area Committee considered a report on the Cycle Track at its meeting held on 6 October 2010, a copy of which was attached as Annex A to the report. The Area Committee resolved that:

"The Cabinet Member - Technical Services be recommended to not proceed with the proposal."

Prior to the meeting the Planning and Economic Development Director had provided the Cabinet Member and Spokespersons with a copy of Minute No. 88 of the Southport Area Committee.

In accordance with Rule 27 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules of the Constitution, two petitions had been submitted in the following terms:

"We object to any plans to create a 3m wide cycle highway across the Sefton Coast SSSI, one of the most highly designated coastlines in the UK and a site of considerable international importance.

We believe there are more suitable options for a cycle path, which avoid the destruction of the SSSI areas, maintain the amenity value of the Dunes for the interest of the diverse users current and future. The proposed scheme through the Dunes is not sustainable, is not an effective use of money, will add to the annual maintenance budget of the Council over many years.

In addition, we are opposed to any other plan that would impact on the natural beauty of the landscape or wildlife that inhabits the Ainsdale and Birkdale Nature Reserve."

One petition contained 678 signatures whilst the other contained 537 signatures.

Mrs. L. Hilton and Mr. M. Nelson, on behalf of the petitioners, addressed the Cabinet Member in support of the terms of the petitions.

The Cabinet Member also heard representations from Councillors Porter, Preece and Weavers on the proposal.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director, the two petitions and the resolution (Minute No. 88) of the Southport Area Committee be noted;
- (2) the Birkdale to Ainsdale Cycle Track scheme be progressed to the planning application stage and should the planning application be successful, the scheme be referred back to the Cabinet Member - Technical Services seeking authorisation for the scheme to be constructed; and
- (3) the views of the Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism, as portfolio holder with responsibility for the land, be sought on the proposal.

**91. ENVIRONMENTAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES - SERVICE
PLAN 2010/11**

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Environmental and Technical Services Director on the Environmental and Technical Services Service Plan for 2010/11.

The report indicated that following corporate re-organisation resulting from the Major Service Review a new Department had been formed involving the merger of parts of the former Environmental Protection Departments and parts of the former Technical Services functions. The Environmental and Technical Services Department Service Plan was appended to the report and Action Plans 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in respect of Flood and Coastline Management; Improve the Condition and Safety of Local Roads; Support Regeneration in Sefton; Asset Management and Capita Client functions of the former Environmental Protection Department, fell specifically under the portfolio of the Cabinet Member - Technical Services.

RESOLVED:

That the elements of the Environmental and Technical Services Service Plan 2010/11 that fell within the Technical Services Portfolio be approved.

**92. TOWARDS A LOW CARBON AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
NETWORK FOR THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION**

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities providing details for developing a Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Network for the Liverpool City Region and seeking consent for Sefton Council to be the accountable body for the sub-regional bid.

The report indicated that funding had been offered through the Department of Communities and Local Government to support the Climate Change Local Area Support Programme (CLASP), inviting sub-regional bids by 30 September 2010. The programme would conclude in June 2011 so all necessary outputs and outcomes would need to be delivered within that period. Agreement had been reached across the Liverpool City Region (LCR) that there should be a single co-ordinated bid.

The project would build community, Member and officer ability in/support for renewables installations/climate adaptation through co-learning and shared services that allowed LCR to do more with less through joint action to reduce costs whilst improving performance. The concept behind this work was to build the LCR ability to make progress on the substantial opportunities the low carbon economy offered but to do it in a way that developed an efficient approach and use of the capacity available.

It was proposed that Sefton Council act as the accountable body, given that the LCR Board for Environment and Waste would like the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) (who are hosted by Sefton) to be

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the project manager. The project would simply be added to the existing partnership arrangements between MEAS/Sefton and the other 5 Districts by identifying this specific project as a priority within the work programmes.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet be recommended to:

- (1) support the proposal to begin to develop a Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Network for the Liverpool City Region funded through the DCLG; and
- (2) agree to Sefton Council being the accountable body for this sub-regional approach, to be hosted and project managed by MEAS.