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CABINET

19 March 2008 – 6.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor B Coleman (in the Chair); Councillors Peck, Plant, Shrimplin, Smith and Stone.

Councillors Castle and Wainwright attended by invitation.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Williamson.

Mr R Packham (Managing Director), Mrs J Ratcliffe (Executive Director – Customers and Resources), Mr T Howard (Head of Regeneration and Environment), Mr R Hodds (Member Services Manager and Scrutiny Officer), Mr D Glason (Service Manager – Planning Policy) and Mr P Vickers (Service Manager – Financial Services).

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the 20 February 2008 were confirmed.

2. ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY, ADVISORY GROUPS AND REGULATORY COMMITTEES

No issues to report.

3. FORWARD PLAN – 1 MARCH TO 30 JUNE 2008

Cabinet received the Forward Plan for the period 1 March to 30 June 2008.

4. CABINET ADVISORY GROUPS

Cabinet considered the Member Services Manager and Scrutiny Officer's report with regard to the future operation of Cabinet Advisory Groups. Members were reminded that in 2007/08 Council had agreed to set up five Cabinet Advisory Groups under the headings of Strategic, Community, Environment, Resources and Regeneration and Tourism.

The Member Services Manager and Scrutiny Officer reported that in practice some Advisory Groups had been more proactive than others and hence the decision to review the Advisory Group's operation and Groups operation and effectiveness. Cabinet were informed that the options for 2008/09 would be to continue with the five Cabinet Advisory Groups for a further year, and then review their effectiveness at that time, or alternatively to consider replacing

the existing five Cabinet Advisory Groups with three Advisory Groups to be based around Directorates rather than Cabinet Portfolios.

Cabinet also gave consideration to the comments expressed by the Shadow Deputy Leader asking that consideration should be given to the re-establishment of the Policy Development Committee rather than continuing with the Cabinet Advisory Groups as at present.

RESOLVED:

That Council be recommended to agree to replace the existing five Cabinet Advisory Groups with three Advisory Groups to be based around Directorates rather than Cabinet Portfolios, with the terms of reference for the Advisory Groups to remain unaltered but with membership being increased from seven to twelve members (politically balanced), and that each Advisory Group to agree a timetable of meetings and work programmes for the 2008/09 Municipal Year.

5. FRONT LINE VISITS BY MEMBERS

The Managing Director reported on the current practice of Senior Officers undertaking front line visits to services at the point of delivery to services outside their own remit. Cabinet was asked to consider extending these front line visits to both Cabinet Members and Shadow Cabinet Members maybe twice a year on dates to be arranged.

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to front line visits by Cabinet Members and Shadow Cabinet Members on the lines detailed above.

6. ISSUES DETERMINED BY THE CABINET UNDER THE TERMS OF THE CONSTITUTION

(a) Arrangements for Leisure Service Provision at the Marina Centre and Phoenix Pool – April 2008 onwards

In discussing this item Cabinet noted comments expressed on the need to bring forward a strategy for dealing with the Marina Centre.

(Councillor Shrimplin declared a non-pecuniary interest in the above item in his capacity as the Borough Council's nominated representative on the Great Yarmouth Marina Centre Trust).

(b) Fees and Charges 2008/09

(i) Gambling Act Licences

(ii) Land Charges

(c) Delegation to spend Area Based Grants

(d) **Exclusion of Public**

RESOLVED:

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12(a) of the said Act.

(e) **Omni-Pac Site South Denes – Possible Surrender of Lease**

7. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 7.55 pm.