

# **SPECIAL EXECUTIVE**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 MAY 2004**

**Councillors:** Phil Barnett (P), Billy Drummond (P), Denise Gaines (P), Mrs Sally Hannon (P), Owen Jeffery (AP), Mrs Mollie Lock (P), Dr Royce Longton (P), Mike Rodger (AP)

**Also present:** Councillors Roger Hunneman, Graham Jones, Graham Pask, Emma Webster, Keith Woodhams

### **PART I**

#### **14. APOLOGIES.**

Apologies for the inability to attend the meeting were received from Councillors Owen Jeffery and Mike Rodger.

#### **15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Councillors Mollie Lock and Royce Longton declared an interest in Agenda Item 3 but reported that as their interest was personal they were permitted to take part in the debate and vote on the matter.

#### **16. CONCESSIONARY FARES TRAVEL TOKENS**

*(Councillors Mollie Lock and Royce Longton declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 3 by virtue of the fact that they received Concessionary Fares Travel Tokens. Councillors Lock and Longton remained in the Chamber and took part in discussions and voted on this item.)*

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 3) outlining recommendations from the meeting of the Environment and Public Protection Select Committee that was held following the call-in of the Executive decision, taken on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2004, relating to Concessionary Fares Travel Tokens.

During consideration of this item Councillor Mollie Lock presented a petition on behalf of 522 residents from the Mortimer area who were objecting to the proposed reduction in Band C travel tokens from £62 to £30. The petition was taken into account during discussions of this item.

Members were informed that the Executive were in agreement with the Select Committee's recommendations and in particular that it was necessary to undertake a review of Concessionary Fares Policy as the bands used were actually historical and did not bear much resemblance to what was required now. One area that would need to be included in the review was seeing how people with disabilities could best be helped.

The Portfolio Member for Highways and Transportation reported that she would undertake the review in consultation with the Transport Services Manager which would need to involve the Transport Action Group and the Countryside Agency.

#### **RESOLVED that:**

- (1) The previous proposal to move a flat rate for tokens be amended to the following interim bands for travel tokens:

<b>Band</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
A	£28.00	£20.00
B	£44.50	£40.00
C	£61.50	£60.00

- (2) An urgent review be undertaken of the whole Concessionary Fares Policy within the next year by the Executive Member. The review would include consideration of whether to target tokens to those

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who needed them most. The review would ensure consultation with all groups likely to be affected by any proposed significant change;

- (3) The Executive would fund any failure to meet the £150,000 savings target from the “tokens fund” for this financial year only, accepting that this introduced an element of risk to this ‘insurance’ against all tokens being cashed in.

*(The meeting commenced at 6.30 p.m. and closed at 6.35 p.m.)*

**CHAIRMAN** .....

**Date of Signature:** .....