

## COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2004

### DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 26 February 2004. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Susan May.

#### **PRIORITIES AND SPENDING PLANS 2004/05 - 2006/07 (MINUTE 4, CABINET 8TH JANUARY 2004)**

Council **RESOLVED**:

- (a) That the following be adopted as a three-year programme of annual priorities from 2004/05:
  - i. Electronic Service Delivery (ESD) and customer service
  - ii. Affordable homes
  - iii. Decent homes
  - iv. Reducing the fear of crime
  - v. Youth provision
  - vi. Cleaner villages
  - vii. Sustainable development and the new settlements at Northstowe and Cambridge fringes
  - viii. Rural Transport
  - ix. Recycling and waste minimisation
  
- (b) Approval of the three-year strategy to:
  - i. address the following annual priorities in 2004/05:
    - 1. Continuing the programme towards electronic service delivery and improved customer service;
    - 2. Establishing objectives and an effective Council-wide approach to Northstowe and other major developments;
    - 3. Affordable housing;
    - 4. Completion of the current integrated recycling / refuse collection scheme;
  - ii. focus more on achieving change in the following areas in 2005/06 and 2006/07:
    - 5. Developing the capacity of the organisation;
    - 6. Addressing the concerns of the public in recent and previous consultation and in the Community Strategy; and
  - iii. to request Management Team to prepare a more detailed three-year programme to enable Members to plan for 2005/06 onwards.

#### **MANAGEMENT TEAM - TERMS OF REFERENCE (MINUTE 4, CABINET 22ND JANUARY 2004)**

Council **RESOLVED** that the Management Team terms of reference as amended by Cabinet be included in the Constitution.

#### **PRIORITIES AND SPENDING PLANS 2004/05 - 2006/07 (MINUTE 2, CABINET 29TH JANUARY 2004)**

Council **RESOLVED** that the draft budget incorporate:

- (a) a Band D Council Tax of £70 for 2004/05;
- (b) £503,000 additional spend for 2004/05 with recurring costs of £457,000 in subsequent years (both figures gross of the identified savings of £146,000), reflecting:
  - i. only the inescapable funding bids of £94,000, comprising:
    - Bed and Breakfast costs (£20,000);
    - Licensing Officer (cost neutral);
    - Environmental Health Private Sector Housing Officer (£22,000);
    - Development Control consultancy budget for land drainage (£5,000);
    - Networking Costs – Cambourne and Cambridge Offices (£33,000);
    - Implementation of single status (£14,000);
  - ii. the CASCADE bid of £224,000 and the Land and Property Gazetteer bid of £20,000;
  - iii. the senior Strategic Housing Officer bid of £43,000; and
  - iv. the plastics recycling banks bid of £50,000, subject to:
    - £50,000 costs in 2004/05 being funded by the DEFRA grant; and
    - the ongoing revenue costs of £42,000 being funded from “savings” within the Environmental Health portfolio;
- (c) the additional expenditure on refuse collection and street cleansing service estimated at £76,000.

**CAPITAL AND REVENUE ESTIMATES AND COUNCIL TAX (MINUTE 3, CABINET 16TH FEBRUARY 2004)**

Council **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) the capital programme up to the year ending 31st March 2007 be approved as submitted, including the sum of £34.189 million to be spent on affordable housing for the years from 2004/05 to 2006/07;
- (b) the revised revenue estimates for the year 2003/04 and the revenue estimates for 2004/05 be approved as submitted;
- (c) the District Council demand for general expenses for 2004/05 be £3.821 million;
- (d) the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2004/05 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
  - i. £58,698,201 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act (gross expenditure including parish precepts and the Housing Revenue Account);
  - ii. £46,710,100 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act (gross income including the Housing Revenue Account and use of the reserves);
  - iii. £11,988,101 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a)

- above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year (net expenditure);
- iv. £5,943,620 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant increased / decreased by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from / to its collection fund to / from its general fund in accordance with Section 97(3) (Council Tax transactions) and Section 98(4) (Community Charges transactions) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988;
- v. £110.74 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of council tax for the year (average Council Tax for a band D property for the District including parishes)
- vi. £2,223,811 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (parish precepts)
- vii. £70.00 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates (average Council Tax for a Band D property for the District excluding parishes), the amounts being for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
£46.67	£54.44	£62.22	£70.00	£85.56	£101.11	£116.67	£140.00

- viii. in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, the basic amounts of council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a special item relates are shown by adding the amounts for band D in paragraph (vii) and Appendix 'A';
- ix. in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands are shown by adding the amounts for each band in paragraph (vii) and Appendix 'A';
- (e) it be noted that for the year 2004/05 the Cambridgeshire County Council and the Cambridgeshire Police and Fire Authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

#### **Valuation Bands – County Council**

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
£542.16	£632.52	£722.88	£813.24	£993.96	£1,174.68	£1,355.40	£1,626.48

#### **Valuation Bands – Police Authority**

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
£86.22	£100.59	£114.96	£129.33	£158.07	£186.81	£215.55	£258.66

#### **Valuation Bands – Fire Authority**

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
£30.66	£35.77	£40.88	£45.99	£56.21	£66.43	£76.65	£91.98

- (f) the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts set out in Appendix 'B' as the amounts of council tax for the year 2004/05 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in Appendix 'B'; and
- (g) the prudential indicators from the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities be approved.

#### **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT, RENTS AND CHARGES (MINUTE 4, CABINET 16TH FEBRUARY 2004)**

Council **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revised revenue estimates for 2003/04 and estimates 2004/05 be approved;
- (b) the HRA rents for 2004/05 be increased by 50 pence per week (i.e. this means a maximum plus or minus variation of 50 pence per week);
- (c) the following proposed charges be adopted:

#### **Services and Facilities – Charges to Tenants**

Service or Facility	Current charge per week £.p	Proposed charge per week £.p
<b>Sheltered Housing Service Charge for Tenants</b>		
• support element		
those in residence prior to 01/04/03	7.92	8.12
other tenants	14.42	14.78
• other (communal facilities etc)	5.50	5.64
<b>Garage Rents</b>		
• up to two garages rented to a Council house tenant	5.50	5.64
• other garages rented to a Council house tenant	5.50 +VAT	5.64 +VAT
• garages not rented to a Council house tenant	6.50 +VAT	6.66 +VAT
Rent reduction for tied accommodation occupied by wardens, deputy wardens or rangers	(12.13)	(12.43)

#### **Services and Facilities – Sheltered Housing Service Charges to Equity Shareholders**

Service or Facility	Current charge per week £.p	Proposed charge per week £.p
<b>Sheltered Housing Service Charge for Shareholders</b>		
• schemes with all facilities		
those in residence prior to 1/04/03	16.20	16.61
other shareholders	22.70	23.27
• schemes without a common room		
those in residence prior to 1/04/03	10.70	10.97
other shareholders	17.20	17.63

- (d) the Portfolio Holder for Housing be given delegated authority to vary any charges that qualify for aid from the Supporting People Pot in order to bring such charges in line with the level of financial assistance available in 2004/05.

<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
SJ Agnew	Dr DR Bard	
JD Batchelor	CC Barker	
RF Bryant	RE Barrett	
NN Cathcart	EW Bullman	
JP Chatfield	Mrs MP Course	
RF Collinson	NS Davies	
G Elsbury	R Driver	
TJ Flanagan	CJ Gravatt	
Dr SA Harangozo	R Hall	
Mrs SA Hatton	Mrs JM Healey	
Dr JA Heap	Mrs J Hughes	
Mrs EM Heazell	LCA Manning	
MP Howell	RM Matthews	
SGM Kindersley	CR Nightingale	
Mrs JE Lockwood	Mrs DP Roberts	
Mrs CAED Murfitt	J Shepperson	
JA Nicholas	RGR Smith	
Dr JPR Orme	Mrs DSK Spink	
R Page	RT Summerfield	
DJ Regan	Mrs LM Sutherland	
WH Saberton	Mrs BE Waters	
NJ Scarr	LJ Wilson	
Mrs GJ Smith		
JH Stewart		
Mrs VM Trueman		
DALG Wherrell		
AW Wyatt		
<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>

**INVESTMENT STRATEGY (TREASURY MANAGEMENT) (MINUTE 5, CABINET 16TH FEBRUARY 2004)**

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the investment strategy.

**REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES - REFUSE DESIGN GUIDE (MINUTE 4, DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION CONTROL COMMITTEE 4TH FEBRUARY 2004)**

Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Refuse Design Guide, with the amendment on flexibility of capacity, as Council policy and, in due course, as a Supplementary

Planning Document.

### **SWAVESEY BYEWAYS RATE**

Council **RESOLVED** to:

- (a) maintain the current level of Swavesey Byeways maintenance for the period 2004/05; and
- (b) levy a rate of 90 pence per hectare to fund the required maintenance for the period 2004/05.

### **CAMBOURNE OFFICE - RECORDED VOTING SYSTEM**

Council **RESOLVED**

- (a) that a recorded voting system should be purchased in advance for the Cambourne office; and
- (b) that the New Offices Working Group be given delegated authority to incur the additional expenditure of £15,400 for the smart card readers and £5,154 for the software.

### **PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2004/05**

Council **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) meetings for the conduct of business for the whole Council be programmed for once each month other than (normally) August and December;
- (b) for 2004 only, an extraordinary meeting of Council be held in August to approve the Draft Statement of Accounts; in other years approval be taken to a regular meeting;
- (c) meetings be programmed for the 4th Thursday in each month;
- (d) timings of meetings be reviewed one year after the office move to Cambourne;
- (e) the Council agenda contain a slot for questions to Portfolio Holders, notification of questions being received in advance if possible; and
- (f) the minutes of meetings of Cabinet and Committees be presented at Council by title and date only, rather than page by page.

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Council **RESOLVED**:

- (a) To amend Section B-6, Policy Framework, to read:
  - a. Policy Framework. The policy framework means the following plans and strategies and such others as the Council shall determine to be included in the policy framework:
    - Best Value Performance Plan;
    - Financial Strategy;
    - Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy;
    - Plans and strategies which together comprise the Development Plan;
    - Council's Corporate Strategy;

- Food Law Enforcement Service Plan;
  - The plans and strategies which comprise the Housing Investment Programme, including the Housing Revenue Account strategy and Business Plan;
  - Community Strategy
- (b) That the title of the Scrutiny Committee be changed to “Scrutiny and Overview Committee” and any consequential amendments be made; and
- (c) That, with effect from the 2004/05 municipal year, the position of Conservation Portfolio Holder be amalgamated into the Sustainability and Community Planning Portfolio Holder remit and any consequential amendments be made.

#### **DESIGNATION OF LOCAL NATURE RESERVES AT GREAT SHELFORD AND AT TRUMPINGTON & HASLINGFIELD**

**RESOLVED** that the delegation of South Cambridgeshire District Council's functions under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1972, as amended, to Cambridge City Council be confirmed to enable designation of the areas known as Nine Wells and Byron's Pool as Local Nature Reserves, and instructions be given to the Head of Legal Services to complete the Deed of Delegation of Functions.

#### **RECORDING OF MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED** that legal and other implications for officers and the financial and practical implications of recording meetings be investigated and that a report be brought to the 29th April 2004 meeting of Council.

#### **STANSTED AIRPORT EXPANSION**

**RESOLVED** that the Deputy Prime Minister be informed that this Council is totally opposed to the current unsustainable plan for the expansion of Stansted Airport and considers the new runway to be environmentally and socially unacceptable.