

## COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2008

### DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 27 November 2008. 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 Richard May, telephone (01954) 713016 e-mail [Richard.may@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.may@scambs.gov.uk).

### COUNCIL AIMS, APPROACHES AND ACTIONS

Council **RESOLVED**:

- A) That the Aims, Approaches and Actions set out in the report at Agenda pages 11-14 be adopted with effect from 1 April 2009;
- B) That the Corporate Plan, existing service plans and strategies based on the current Corporate Objectives remain in force until they would normally be revised;
- C) That, for the remainder of the current financial year, new and revised policies and strategies should be tested for compatibility with the Aims, Approaches and Actions agreed in (A) above, and also with the existing Corporate Objectives.

### REVIEW OF MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Council **RESOLVED** that Option B, attached at agenda page 15, and the following assumptions, be approved as the basis for the Medium Term Financial Strategy and planning of the budget for 2009/10 onwards:

- a) The base budget and carry forward of expenditure approved for 2008/09 being rolled forward;
- b) An increase in pay inflation to 3% from 2.5% for 2008/09;
- c) Inflation at 2.5% for 2009/10 onwards and increased employer's pension contributions of 2.1% each year (cumulative) until 2010/11;
- d) From 2010/11 a further increase of 3% on the pay budget as an estimation of the effect of the pay and grading review;
- e) 2.5% for non-pay budgets (officers are reviewing actual inflation requirements rather than applying the general increase to all budget areas. This will lead to increases in some areas based on contract increases and inflation pressures, off-set by no increases in some budget headings);
- f) The substantial efficiency savings targets (of which some are still unidentified) will be achieved;
- g) The maintenance of debt free status;
- h) The continued use of capital receipts to finance capital expenditure not met by grants, contributions and reserves;
- i) Formula grant increases from 2008/09 to 2010/11 based on the three year settlement. From 2011/12 an estimated increase of 2.5%, plus allowance for growth at half the rate of increase in the tax base;

- j) A revised tax base, based on the current tax base growth in 2008/09 and taking into account the slow down in the housing market;
- k) No allowance for LABGI;
- l) Increases of Council Tax at 4.9% per annum (at Band D);
- m) The Housing and Planning Delivery Grant will continue at the same level as the 2007/08 allocations, as the additional grant received in 2008/09 is unlikely to continue in future years. The additional grant received will be used to offset the lower income projections for planning and land charges over the next few years contributing to a balanced budget.

**HOUSING FUTURES: DEVELOPING THE COUNCIL'S OFFER TO TENANTS  
RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Council will make the best possible transfer offer to tenants by reflecting tenants' aspirations as expressed through the extensive Housing Futures consultation activities, while having regard to the financial impact on the Council.
- (b) That the outline proposals set out in paragraph 33 of the report are supported as Cabinet considers that transfer to South Cambridgeshire Village Homes, a new local not for profit Housing Association, is in the best interests of the Council's tenants.
- (c) That officers be instructed to develop the details of those proposals, in consultation with tenants, staff and the shadow board of South Cambridgeshire Village Homes for inclusion in the formal consultation (or 'offer') document for presentation to the Housing Portfolio Holder and Council early in 2009.
- (d) That the Council is prepared to consider reducing its places on the board of South Cambridgeshire Village Homes from five to three, in order to allow for a higher number of tenant board members, if principles from the Community Gateway Association model are incorporated in future.
- (e) That the Council supports in principle, a commitment that the housing transfer proposal should deliver an increase in the supply of affordable homes in the district's villages.

**PAY AWARD 2008/09**

Council **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That a 3% increase be implemented to conclude the annual pay negotiations (*backdated 1 to April 2008*).
- (2) That the matter of future negotiating frameworks be referred to the Staffing and Finance Portfolio Holders for consideration.

**RECRUITMENT OF ADDITIONAL INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE STANDARDS  
COMMITTEE**

Council **RESOLVED** that Mr. Alan Charles Hampton be appointed to the Standards Committee as an Independent Member to serve a four-year term ending 27 November 2012.

**PROCEDURE FOR INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF COMPLAINTS**

Council **RESOLVED** that the recommendation be referred back to the Standards Committee for further consideration.

**ORCHARD PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL - AMENDMENT TO REORGANISATION ORDER**

Council **RESOLVED** that the Reorganisation Order approved at the last meeting be amended to reflect that Orchard Park Parish will come into effect on 1 April 2009 and that the Council elections will be held on 4 June 2009, being the ordinary date of elections for 2009.

**JOINT PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE: CONSULTATION ON DRAFT REGULATIONS**

Council **RESOLVED** that the draft regulations set out at Appendix 3, with the addition of a requirement that a joint Local Development Scheme be submitted to the Secretary of State within 6 months of the order coming into effect, be agreed.

**APPOINTMENTS TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY REVIEW PANEL (CRESSP)**

Council **RESOLVED** that the following Members be appointed to the Cambridgeshire Regional Spatial Strategy Review Panel (CRESSP), in accordance with the political proportionality of the Council:

- Councillor Dr DR Bard (as Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Regional Planning)
- Councillor RMA Manning
- Councillor SGM Kindersley

**Substitutes:**

- Councillor AG Orgee (Conservative Group)
- Councillor NIC Wright (Conservative Group)
- Councillor JD Batchelor (Liberal Democrat Group)

**COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2009-2010**

Council **RESOLVED** that meetings during the 2009-2010 Civic Year be scheduled as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Type of meeting</b>
16 July 2009 at 7pm	Ordinary
24 September 2009 at 2pm	Ordinary
26 November 2009 at 7pm	Ordinary
28 January 2010 at 2pm	Ordinary
25 February 2010 at 2pm	Budget
22 April 2010 at 2pm	Ordinary
27 May 2010 at 2pm	Annual

**APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

Council **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Appointments Panel of the Employment Committee to undertake the following steps:

- (1) To make an appointment to the position of Executive Director for Corporate Services, the detailed terms and conditions to be agreed by the Chief

Executive.

- (2) To designate the successful candidate as Chief Finance Officer of the Council in accordance with the requirements of Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- (3) To designate the successful candidate as the Council's Lead Officer in respect of Risk Management, Procurement and Electronic Service Delivery, future appointments to these roles to be delegated to the Chief Executive as an operational staffing matter.

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT**

Council **RESOLVED** that Mr. GJ Harlock be appointed to the positions of Chief Executive, Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer for an indefinite period from 1 July 2009, with access to the previously-agreed termination package at the expiry of six months' notice in writing by Mr. Harlock.

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

Council **RESOLVED**:

- (1) That Councillor PW Topping be appointed to the Planning Committee;
- (2) That Councillor CR Nightingale be appointed to the Licensing Committee,

These appointments filling vacancies created by the resignation of former Councillor Mrs CA Hunt.

#### **APPOINTMENT TO THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP**

Council **RESOLVED** that Councillor SM Edwards be appointed to the Climate Change Working Group in place of Councillor JA Hockney.

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE AND JOINT BODIES**

Council **RESOLVED**:

- (1) That Councillor Ms FAR Amrani be appointed as the Council's representative on the Cambridge Airport Consultative Committee to serve until the date of the Annual Meeting of Council in 2011, or until she is no longer a district councillor, whichever is the sooner.
- (2) That Councillor PT Johnson be appointed as the Council's representative on the Farmland Museum Trustees, to serve until the date of the Annual Meeting of Council in 2011, or until he is no longer a district councillor, whichever is the sooner.
- (3) That Councillors Ms FAR Amrani and CR Nightingale be appointed to the Cambridge East Joint Member Reference Group in place of Councillor Mrs HM Smith and former Councillor Mrs CA Hunt.

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

Council **RESOLVED** that the following Notice of Motion be agreed:

'In the village of Dry Drayton, the local pub, the Black Horse, has recently closed and residents are concerned as to the long-term future of its school. This Council, therefore, welcomes proposals to build affordable housing for local people in our villages so that they will continue to be inhabited by people across the age range and village facilities will remain open and viable.'

#### **APPOINTMENT TO THE SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**

Council **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs JM Guest be appointed to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee in place of Councillor PW Topping.

