

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Planning Portfolio Holder's Meeting held on
Tuesday, 25 January 2011 at 10.00 a.m.

Portfolio Holder: Nick Wright

Councillors in attendance:

Scrutiny and Overview Committee monitors: Roger Hall

Opposition spokesmen: John F Williams

Also in attendance: David Bard

Officers:

Gemma Barron	Partnerships Manager
David Bevan	Conservation Manager
Andrew Beyer	Building Control Manager
David Grimster	Accountant
Gareth Jones	Head of Planning
Nicole Kritzinger	Development Officer
Jo Mills	Corporate Manager, Planning and New Communities
Ian Senior	Democratic Services Officer

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

29. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Planning Portfolio Holder agreed that the Minutes of the Planning Portfolio Holder meeting held on 14 December 2010 were a correct record.

30. CAPITAL AND REVENUE ESTIMATES 2011/12: PLANNING PORTFOLIO

The Planning Portfolio Holder considered a report on the Revenue Estimates up to the year 2011-12 and the Capital Programme up to the year 2015-16.

Those present noted an amendment to Appendix A that was distributed at the meeting. This related to legal costs awarded to South Cambridgeshire District Council in relation to the Linton Wind Farm appeal which, though unlikely to be received until 2011-12, had now been shown as income during 2010-11.

The Portfolio Holder noted the loss of Horizons Grant and Housing and Planning Delivery Grant monies in 2011-12, but that the New Homes Bonus, payable into the General Fund, would help mitigate that loss in due course. He also noted the financial implications of transferring the administration of concessionary bus fares to Cambridgeshire County Council.

The Planning Portfolio Holder reported that South Cambridgeshire District Council continued to receive good value for money from the County Council's tourism office.

The Portfolio Holder instructed officers to use their best endeavours to dispose of St. Denis' Church, Hatley on the open market, thus relieving the District Council of an ongoing

financial liability.

Those present noted that responsibility for the subscription paid to Horizons had been transferred from New Communities to the Planning estimates for 2011-12 so that provision could be made for contributing to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). In addition, the money paid to the Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership in previous years might also be allocated to the LEP. At this stage, no formal request had been made to fund the LEP.

The Planning Portfolio Holder

1. **Endorsed** the Revenue Estimates as shown at Appendix A (as revised and circulated at the meeting), Capital Programme as shown at Appendix B, and associated proposal forms at Appendix C1 to C4.
2. **noted** the capital estimate for the Building Control System, which is for endorsement by the Policy and Performance Portfolio Holder.
3. **requested** that Cabinet include, on the list of precautionary items for 2011-12, £50,000 for possible additional expenditure on Appeals and Inquiries.
4. **instructed** officers to identify the appropriate method for transferring to the Housing Portfolio the budget for the Open Space Agreement (Cherry Hinton).
5. **recommended** that Cabinet send the revised estimates on to Council for final approval.

31. **COMMUNITY TRANSPORT PLAN AND ACTION PLAN**

The Planning Portfolio Holder **received** a report enabling him to monitor progress made with the Community Transport Strategy 2010-12 following implementation of the action plan in February 2010.

The Portfolio Holder congratulated officers for the success of the scheme to date, and highlighted the important role it would have in continuing to provide transport for vulnerable residents if bus services were withdrawn as a result of the likely reduction in subsidies.

32. **SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2010/11: THIRD QUARTER**

The Planning Portfolio Holder **received and noted** a report detailing the progress made by the Planning Service in meeting its targets, as set out in the published 2010-11 Service Plan.

33. **ADDRESSING THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN - QUARTERLY REPORT**

The Planning Portfolio Holder **received and noted** a progress report about the delivery of actions proposed to mitigate the impact of the recession on the South Cambridgeshire district, and about the formation of the Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (GC-GP LEP). Those present noted that the Council had made provision to

Those present noted that, in paragraph 18 (Implications – Financial), the figure in the first line should have been £100,000 (one hundred thousand pounds).

34. **FORWARD PLAN**

Those present **noted** the Forward Plan for the Planning Portfolio attached to the agenda.

35. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Those present **noted** that the next Planning Portfolio Holder meeting would take place on Tuesday 8 March 2011, starting at 10.00am.

The Meeting ended at 11.35 a.m.
