

## CABINET

THURSDAY, 13 APRIL 2006

### DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday, 13 April 2006. 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 Holly Adams.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

##### 1. COMPUTERISATION OF LOCAL LAND CHARGES SYSTEM

Cabinet **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** that:

- (a) The local land charges / local search process be fully computerised at the earliest opportunity, starting 1 May 2006;
- (b) The following variance to cash limits and the budget for 2006/07 be approved to implement and support an electronic Local Land Charges system:

<b>Supplier</b>		
<b>Northgate / MVM M3</b>		
Software and Implementation	£77,000	<i>Capital one-off</i>
Data Conversion / Additional Costs	£50,000	<i>Revenue</i>
Annual maintenance	£2,500	<i>Revenue on-going</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£129,500</b>	

- (c) And that a contract to be placed with Northgate / MVM for the M3 system under the provisions of Contract Standing Order 4.5 (the Council considers it desirable in the best interests of the Council that a tender be negotiated with a contractor already engaged by the Council).

##### 2. USE OF BALANCES AND RESERVES UNUSED OVER TWO YEARS

Cabinet **NOTED** that the shopping car parks balance of £36,850 would be returned to the overall General Fund Reserve and **AGREED** that the following uncommitted reserve balances over two years old be carried forward into the 2006/07 financial year:

Dual Use Capital Grants (£890,095 in total)	£575,295
Heritage Initiatives Grants	£9,511
Historic Buildings Preservation Fund (estimated)	£54,390

#### DECISIONS MADE BY CABINET

##### 3. MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN - CONSULTATION

Cabinet **AGREED** to respond to the Minerals and Waste Issues and Options consultation 2 as follows:

- (a) To object in principle to the consultation being conducted without a Core Strategy and policy framework against which to assess the sites specified;
- (b) To express concerns about the apparent lack of consultation with local residents and Parish Councils;
- (c) To comment that it is unsuitable to locate Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facilities in residential areas; and
- (d) To comment that:

“There is no clear strategy included in the Waste Local Plan or proposed in the issues and options report for provision of major waste management facilities. A strategy is essential to provide a clear framework for site specific allocations for all scales of waste management facilities, from major waste management facilities to household waste recycling centres, and also any supporting uses such as waste transfer stations. This should made clear the number, nature and scale of uses proposed and their intended catchment. It should also identify the broad locations for such facilities to meet the objectives of the strategy. This will enable a more detailed site selection process to be undertaken within the context of clear strategy.

“It is understood that the County Council intends that the next stage in the Waste Local Development Framework process will include preferred options for specific sites. The District Council is concerned that this is a big step from the general approach being explored here without an intermediate consultation stage on both the overall strategy and site options. The District Council would hope to be consulted on both the strategy and options for site specific allocations before preferred sites are identified that affect South Cambridgeshire, including the major developments.

“Whilst fully endorsing the proposal to carry out a full sustainability appraisal of this plan in the future, all environmental impacts should be considered and any potential health impacts identified so that mitigation measures can be implemented where appropriate.

“As a waste collection authority the District Council would wish to ensure that the sites are suitably located in order that South Cambs can deliver its waste collection responsibilities with minimal additional cost to the authority.

“The Plan should include a sufficient number of sites as is appropriate and those sites are located to enable effective delivery of the PFI contract.

“Combined Heat and Power plant using waste derived fuel from a local source, in line with government policy, has not been identified as a possible additional option. We would welcome the addition of this option in the growth areas within the policy.

“There is concern that this consultation on specific sites is taking place in the absence of a clear strategy for minerals and waste, making comments on the suitability of some sites difficult. Also, these sites are put forward by the industry and there is no commentary from the minerals and waste authority to help provide a context for consultees to provide their comments.”

Cabinet thanked Members for the time and effort they had put into researching the issue and preparing reports.

#### **4. CAMBRIDGE CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAUX GRANT**

Cabinet **AGREED** to award a grant of £52,060 to the Cambridge and District Citizens' Advice Bureau for 2006/07.

Cabinet **NOTED** the grants awarded by the Community Development Portfolio Holder to the other CABs and the Cambridge Independent Advice Centre for their work in South Cambridgeshire.

**5. LINTON: FUTURE OF PUBLIC CAR PARK, COLES LANE**

Cabinet **AGREED** to support in principle the decision of the Housing Portfolio Holder to offer a long-term lease of the car park site off Coles Lane, Linton at nominal rent, subject to

- (a) The leaseholder being responsible for on-going maintenance and payment of National Non-Domestic Rates;
- (b) The site remaining in use as a free public car park, and
- (c) Retention of recycling facilities, either at the car park or elsewhere in the village.

**6. MELBOURN: HIGH STREET - SALE OF SCDC CAR PARK TO MELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL**

Cabinet, with five in favour, one against and one abstention, **AGREED** to offer the car park site off High Street, Melbourn for sale to Melbourn Parish Council at the price of £100,000 plus legal costs, subject to the following:

- (a) That the portion of the site to be designated for parking is to remain in use as a free public parking area in perpetuity;
- (b) That the Parish Council be responsible for maintenance of the site and payment of National Non-Domestic Rates; and
- (c) That recycling facilities be retained on the site or the Parish Council provide an alternate site for their location within the village.

**7. PARISH COUNCIL CHARTERS**

Cabinet **ENDORSED** the attendance of the Head of Community Services at the next South Cambridgeshire District meeting of CALC, to clarify expectations CALC, parish councils and the District Council had of each other as a basis on which to consider the provisions of a Quality Charter for Parish Councils.

**8. RESOURCES FOR CHOICE BASED LETTINGS**

Cabinet **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** that an 18-month fixed-term post of Choice Based Lettings (CBL) Project Officer be established to support the implementation of CBL, to be funded from a mix of Housing General Fund and Housing Revenue Account sources.

**9. PREVENTATIVE TECHNOLOGY GRANT FOR LIFELINES / TELECARE OFFICER POST**

Cabinet **AGREED** to accept the offer of grant from Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trusts for the purposes of creating a full-time post of Lifelines / Telecare Officer, initially on a fixed-term basis until 31 March 2008.

**10. RENT SERVICE STAFFING STRUCTURE**

Cabinet **AGREED** to approve an increase in the authorised establishment of the Finance and Resources Department to provide for an additional 22 hours per week to be worked on the Rent Collection Service.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**11. HISTON: FUTURE OF CAR PARK - UPDATE**

Cabinet **NOTED** the result of recent discussions with Histon Parish Council regarding the future of the car park at High Street, Histon.

**12. SAWSTON: FUTURE OF CAR PARK - UPDATE**

Cabinet **NOTED** the current situation regarding the public car park off High Street, Sawston.

**13. IEG STATEMENT**

Cabinet **NOTED** the IEG Statement 2006 and the success of the IEG programme.

**14. TRAVELLERS ISSUES - UPDATE ON SPENDING**

Cabinet **NOTED** the report.

**15. HOUSING CAPITAL ALLOCATION 2006-07**

Cabinet **NOTED** the report and the associated variation to the capital estimates.

**16. QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS (TO 31 MARCH 2006)**

Cabinet **NOTED** the projected expenditure position and the monitoring of prudential indicators, and **REFERRED** the report to the next meeting of the Resources and Staffing Portfolio Holder for more detailed consideration.

**17. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION**

Cabinet **NOTED** the report.

**CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

**18. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE REORGANISATION**

Cabinet **AGREED** to:

- (a) Delete the Operations Manager (General Works) post and make the current postholder redundant; and
- (b) Delegate authority to the Housing and Environmental Services Director to implement alternative supervisory arrangements.