

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2006

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 23 November 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 Richard May.

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2007/08 TO 2010/11 (CABINET, 9 NOVEMBER 2006)

Council **RESOLVED** that the Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved.

LICENSING (GAMBLING) POLICY (CABINET, 9 NOVEMBER 2006)

Council **RESOLVED** that the Gambling Act 2005 Policy be adopted as Council policy.

FULBOURN: WINDMILL ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS (CABINET, 9 NOVEMBER 2006)

Council **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) formal approval be given for a redevelopment scheme for the Windmill Estate, subject to necessary planning consents and Secretary of State approval;
- (b) the existing Council-owned properties and land be transferred to Nene Housing Association at nil cost;
- (c) the scope of any redevelopment scheme should, as far as possible, include all the existing area of the estate subject to existing tenants and owner-occupiers being willing and / or able to participate. Where necessary, plans should be amended over time to cater for changing needs and to provide flexibility to accommodate as far as possible the wishes of all the existing residents;
- (d) the preferred tenure mix and house types be as outlined in Option A which will provide 65% as affordable housing (comprising 124 rented and 52 shared ownership units) together with 35% as open market sales within an overall target of 270 homes;
- (e) the following conditions be attached to the approval of a redevelopment scheme:
 - (i) that Nene Housing Association meet all legal costs and home loss / disturbance payments incurred by the Council in respect of the Windmill Estate since 2004/05 to date as well as any future payments and liabilities;
 - (ii) that any amendments to the scheme mix in terms of tenure and / or house types / sizes be agreed in consultation with the Council;
 - (iii) that the Council be entitled to receive nomination rights of 100% of initial lets and 75% of subsequent lettings of all social rented units provided through refurbished and new build affordable housing on the sites and that the Council receive 100% nomination rights in perpetuity to any shared ownership and / or other intermediate tenures;
 - (iv) that the Council not seek to use compulsory purchase powers to

- facilitate the redevelopment and that as far as possible the wishes of all residents (tenants, owner-occupiers and leaseholders) should be accommodated without compromising the wishes of others on the Windmill Estate;
- (v) that Nene confirm and make provision to meet contributions previously agreed in principle to the Special Projects Officer role for 2006/07 and 2007/08 and consider future contributions if this post were to be considered essential by both Nene and the Council to delivery of the project beyond 31 March 2008; and
 - (vi) that an acceptable "construction code of practice" be agreed with the contractor that takes regard of non-participating residents; and
- (f) the Council exercise its discretion to waive any discount repayment liability in respect of any Right to Buy sales caught within such provisions if this would enable affected owners to participate in the redevelopment scheme.

DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT POLICY AND FUNDING (CABINET, 9 NOVEMBER 2006)

Council **RESOLVED** that the release of up to £100K, if required, be supported to cover priority cases and cases where statutory duty may not be met and that the release of the additional £100k to be delegated to the Environmental Health and Resources, Staffing, Information & Customer Services Portfolio Holders.

SECOND TIER REORGANISATION (TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE, 21 NOVEMBER 2006)

Council **RESOLVED**:

- (a) That the revised second tier structure set out at Appendix A to the report to the Transformation Committee be noted and that the associated budget variances for the 2006/07 and subsequent financial years, estimated at £60,000 General Fund [best case scenario] and £5,000 Housing Revenue Account for 2006/07, and from 2007/08 ongoing revenue expenditure of £80,000 per annum and £45,000 per annum respectively, be approved.
- (b) That, with effect from 31 December 2006, the combined post of Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer be made redundant as part of the Second Tier restructuring proposals and that the role of Monitoring Officer be reallocated to the Executive Director with effect from 1 January 2007.

JOINT PLANNING SERVICES

Council **RESOLVED**:

- (a) That the contents of correspondence from the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), set out at appendices A and B to the report, be noted and that it be noted that discussions with Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, and Cambridgeshire Horizons are ongoing and that any formal proposals arising from those discussions in relation to joint planning arrangements will be referred to the Council for decision.
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Leader, Planning Portfolio Holder, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Planning Committee, to continue discussions with the above partners, in consultation with the Leaders / Convenors / representative of opposition groups, all members of Cabinet and affected Local Ward members.

DISABILITY EQUALITY SCHEME 2006-2009

Council **RESOLVED** that the Disability Equality Scheme 2006-2009 be adopted.

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the previous decision that the recording of meetings be pursued be rescinded for the following reasons:

- (a) The requirement under the Freedom of Information Act that recordings would be disclosable for the periods during which they are held.
- (b) There is no available budget to meet installation costs; Officer and financial resources could be better directed elsewhere.

REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE INDEPENDENT PANEL ON MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

Council **RESOLVED** that Mrs Ruth Rogers be appointed to the Independent Panel on Members' Allowances for a three-year period to 23 November 2009.