



CONTENTS

1. Minutes of Cabinet Meeting on 18th May 2001

- 1) Virement rules
- 2) Naming arrangements
- 3) Appointment of deputy Leader
- 4) Allocation of portfolios
- 5) Remit of portfolio holders
- 6) Training and development for the Cabinet
- 7) Delegation scheme
- 8) First four-month forward programme
- 9) Links with Select Committees
- 10) Role of the Chairman of Council
- 11) Extraordinary Council meeting
- 12) Meeting arrangements
- 13) Reserved car parking.

2. Minutes of Cabinet Meeting on 24th May 2001

- 1) Appointment of representatives to outside bodies
- 2) Budgets for Select Committees
- 3) Working Parties advising Cabinet members
- 4) Joint bodies exercising executive powers
- 5) Employment Committee
- 6) Appointment to the LGA Annual Conference
- 7) Historic buildings grants – Weston Colville and Fulbourn
- 8) Meeting date
- 9) Draft contaminated land strategy
- 10) Training sessions
- 11) Working arrangements for the Cabinet
- 12) Health and safety – refuse freighters
- 13) Exclusion of public
- 14) Break-in at South Cambridgeshire Hall
- 15) Office accommodation.

3. Information Bulletin

- 1) Planning Policy Guidance Note 7 – The Countryside: Environmental Quality and Economic and Social Development – March 2001 amendments
- 2) Consultation paper - revision of Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 – Sport, Open Space and Recreation
- 3) Historic buildings grant administration – **Haslingfield** and **Little Wilbraham**
- 4) Documents placed in the library.

Call in arrangements

Any executive decision recorded in this bulletin may be called in for review by the relevant Select Committee, either by the Chairman of that Select Committee or by any five other Councillors. The Committee Manager must be notified of any call in by **6th June 2001**. All decisions not called in by this date will be implemented.

The call in procedure is set out in full in Part 4 of the Council's constitution, 'Select Committee Procedure Rules', paragraph 16

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE NOTE 7 – THE COUNTRYSIDE: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT – MARCH 2001 AMENDMENTS**

Amendments have been made to PPG7, following commitments made in the Rural White Paper of November 2000. They relate to promoting greater flexibility in the re-use of redundant farm buildings to assist farmers in setting up new, diversified businesses.

Changes to the guidance acknowledge the importance of farming to the economy of rural areas, and that farmers are increasingly having to diversify into non-agricultural activities. Local planning authorities should be supportive of well conceived farm diversification schemes for business purposes that are consistent in their scale with their rural location. It is preferable for schemes to re-use good quality existing buildings and put them into a new business use, rather than new buildings in the countryside. Any new buildings or replacement buildings may be acceptable provided they satisfy sustainable development objectives, and are of a design and scale appropriate to the rural area.

Guidance is also amended for considering developments on areas of best and most versatile agricultural land. Greater emphasis is placed on local authorities to make decisions about the development or protection of this land, after they have sought proper advice from MAFF and other relevant bodies. The guidance stresses that previously developed land, and areas of poorer quality land should be used in preference to it, unless other sustainability considerations indicate otherwise.

These changes will be a material consideration in development control decisions, and will be considered by the inspector when considering representations on the Local Plan review. It will also have implications for policy as part of the second review of the Local Plan.

Contact Officer: Jonathan Dixon, Planning Assistant, Local Plans (01223) 443194

2. **CONSULTATION PAPER - REVISION OF PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE NOTE 17 – SPORT, OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION**

PPG 17 was published in September 1991. The Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions have published a consultation paper, suggesting how it might be updated, and are asking for comments.

The paper adopts the 'plan, monitor and manage' approach detailed in PPG12. This means placing a greater importance on assessing the range of existing facilities, including their quantity, quality and accessibility, and adopting a strategic approach to providing for future needs.

A greater emphasis is placed on Authorities setting their own standards for provision of recreation facilities, rather than relying on national standards like the National Playing Field Association's. This means standards can take greater account of demographic structure, the needs of people who are socially excluded or rurally isolated, the needs of those working in or visiting in the area, and the needs of any specific locally significant sporting or recreational groups.

Such standards can also be used to establish the circumstances in which contributions will be sought towards new or improved facilities, in relation to new development. The guidance states that Local Plans should clearly state any sport and recreation facilities they will be seeking as part of major planning applications, and when contributions will be required as part of smaller applications.

Where shortfalls in provision are identified, local authorities are encouraged to plan positively for new facilities, through allocating land for recreational uses. Development should be located on previously used sites, accessible by cycling, walking or public transport, with more intensive recreational uses in or on the edges of town centres. Local facilities are also to be located with good accessibility, and where this is not possible in rural areas, dual use of school facilities is recognised as the most appropriate way to provide facilities.

If these ideas are adopted in a new version of this PPG, there will need to be greater detail in future Local Plan recreation policies. There may also be resource implications, due to increased monitoring requirements. The draft guidance does not contain much detail on how to carry out assessments of provision and future requirements. Officers have prepared appropriate response, to request a guide to good practice when the final version of the policy guidance is released.

Contact Officer: Jonathan Dixon, Planning Assistant, Local Plans (01223) 443194

3. HISTORIC BUILDINGS GRANT ADMINISTRATION

Members are asked to note the following information about historic buildings grants offered under delegated powers:

- A grant of £1,384 - 25% of the total cost - has been offered for The Manor, High Street, **Haslingfield**, for rebuilding and repairs to the first floor balcony (grant reference G/27/00). The approved budget for historic building grants currently has a balance of £90,600, from which this grant will be taken.
- A grant of £286 offered for works to Kettles Cottage, **Little Wilbraham** has not been accepted (grant reference G/22/00).

Contact Officer: Robert Walker, Conservation Manager (01223) 443180

4. DOCUMENTS PLACED IN THE LIBRARY

The following documents are available for Members' reference in the library on the third floor of South Cambridgeshire Hall:

- Minutes of the meeting of the Needingworth Quarry Local Liaison Committee held on 2nd October 2000
- Minutes of the meeting of the Bus Policy County Advisory Group held on 22nd March 2001
- Minutes of the meeting of the Duxford Airfield Management Liaison Committee held on 23rd March 2001
- Minutes of the meeting of the Cambridge Airport Consultative Committee held on 26th April 2001
- Minutes of the meeting of the Cambridge City Centre Management Executive Group on 14th March 2001
- Agenda and minutes of the meeting of the Cambridge City Centre Management Executive Group held on 2nd May 2001.

Contact Officer: Alison Sawalhi, Librarian (01223) 443175