



## SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### COUNCILLORS' BULLETIN – ISSUE DATE 1 NOVEMBER 2001

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#### 1. Portfolio Holder Decisions

##### 1. Portfolio Holder for Resources and Staffing

##### **Staff repayment of professional training costs on resignation**

On 30 October 2001, the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Staffing agreed to waive repayment of professional training costs in this case.

Further information is available **for Members only** from Susan May, Committee Manager on (01223) 443016.

##### **Insurance Policies Renewal**

The Portfolio Holder was advised of the proposed increase in premiums for the Council's annual renewal of the insurance policies and the following options were considered:

- i) the Council could continue with the current insurers for non-vehicle insurance until the end of the five year period;
- ii) quotations for non-vehicle insurance could be obtained from other insurance companies. The market for local authority insurance seemed to be quite limited and by the time quotations had been obtained and assessed, there would probably only be nine months of the insurance year left; or
- iii) an excess could be placed on the non-vehicle insurance policies so that claims below the excess amount were met by ourselves. Initial enquiries with the current insurers had indicated that an excess would have to be substantial to have any significant effect on premiums.

Option i) was rejected because of the significant increase in premiums of 35% and iii) was rejected because the level of excess would be unacceptable due to the risk factor. It was therefore **AGREED** to

- i) investigate whether Zurich Municipal would quote for all liability policies and
- ii) report to Cabinet and Council if quotations cannot be obtained which fall within the budget framework.

##### **Banking Services**

The contract for the Council's banking services was due to expire on 31st March 2002 and consideration was given to the following options in order to determine the future provider:

- i) negotiate with the Council's present Bank;
- ii) go out to tender; or
- iii) engage consultants who had worked with other local authorities and

who had detailed knowledge of the charges of various Banks.

Consideration was given to the various options and it was noted that when a previous exercise had been undertaken the hidden costs of tendering had proved to be excessive. It was therefore

**AGREED** that consultants be engaged to undertake a benchmarking exercise that would then would form a basis for negotiating lower charges with the Council's present bank.

### Information Items

1. In the last month the following items have been added to the Statutory list:
  - Pair of Cemetery Chapels, The Causeway, **Bassingbourn** - Grade II
  - Iron Gates at Berghane Hall, **Castle Camps** - Grade II
  - Fowlmere School and Schoolhouse, The Butts, **Fowlmere** - Grade II
  - Firs Farmhouse, St Peters Street, **Caxton** - Grade IIIn addition, English Heritage has notified SCDC that Croxton Park has been reassessed for the Register of Parks and Gardens. Further, as the site falls within the exceptionally high category of historic interest, it has been upgraded from Grade II to Grade II\*.
2. Would Members emailing Cllr Mrs DSK Spink also cc. those emails to the 'Council Leader' address to enable her to read her mail while in the office?
3. Records of Officer decisions for grants under £1,500 through the Talented Young Sports Performers and Sports Development Grants schemes are attached.
4. At the joint meeting of the Cabinet and Co-ordinating Group, it was agreed that future meetings would be Chaired by Councillor Mrs DSK Spink, with Councillor Tim Wotherspoon taking the post of Vice-Chairman.
5. The Joint meeting also agreed to establish a Working Party to review the working of the Constitution. The Working Party will consist of two representatives from each Group – one from the Cabinet and one non-Executive Member.

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### 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 **9th November 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.

Grant Aid Scheme		Talented Young Sports Performers		
Lead Officer		Jane Lampshire		
Authorised by		Jane Thompson		
Date		26 <sup>th</sup> October 2001		
Application Number	Applicant	Project	Benefits	Award
TYSP 2	Heidi Clark <b>(Melbourn)</b>	BALL ROOM DANCING	Funding towards travel abroad When competing.	£500
TYSP 3	Laura Oates <b>(Comberton)</b>	TENNIS	Funding towards attending LTA Talent Identification programme.	£300
TYSP 4	Clare Rogers <b>(Fulbourn)</b>	ATHLETICS (HURDLES)	Funding towards specialist one to one coaching at Crystal Palace	£500
TYSP 5	Charlotte Spelzini <b>(Cottenham)</b>	ATHLETICS (SHOT PUT)	Funding towards travel expenses when competing	£250

Grant Aid Scheme		Sports Development Grants		
Lead Officer		Jane Lampshire		
Authorised by		Jane Thompson		
Date		26 <sup>th</sup> October 2001		
Application Number	Applicant	Project	Benefits	Award
SD03	<b>Linton</b> Village College	To work with Linton Badminton Club to promote Badminton to local primary schools and develop a new junior section.	To provide a fun introduction to Badminton to young people, with links to the club to help provide a sustainable future for Badminton within the Village.	£400.00