

DECISION SHEET

MEETING NO 5 OF THE CABINET HELD ON 7 NOVEMBER 2006

1. **MINUTES**

CABINET DECISION

That the Minutes of Meeting No 4 of the Cabinet held on 3 October 2006 be confirmed.

2. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

CABINET DECISION

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act.

3. **FUNDING THE FORWARD CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

*Resources and Efficiencies Portfolio Holder
All Overview and Scrutiny Committees*

CABINET DECISION

- (i) That Cabinet adopts the principles and criteria set out in Section 9 of this report to achieve the potential Forward Capital Programme outlined in Appendix 5 to the report.
- (ii) That Cabinet notes that a report will be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Community Services) at its meeting on 14 November 2006 specifying the 40 sites from the Council's property portfolio which could be considered for their disposal suitability to assist the funding of the Forward Capital Programme.
- (iii) That Cabinet:
 - a) Agrees that the asset referred to in paragraph 8.4 of the report be placed on the market for sale when the present tenant vacates the property and that the Valuer and Estates Surveyor in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Efficiencies be authorised to complete the sale.
 - b) Agrees that work currently in progress to consider and evaluate the sites referred to in (ii) above be reported to Cabinet at their meeting in January 2007 for consideration based on the Asset Assessment Matrix and Site Assessment Scoring Criteria set out in Section 9.2 and Appendices 3 and 4 of the report with the addition of 9.2.3 e) (Environmental Impact) in Appendix 3.
 - c) That Cabinet requests the Valuer and Estates Surveyor to investigate further the possible disposal of the sites set out at paragraphs 8.3.2 and 8.3.4 of the report, and to report on these to the January 2007 Cabinet on

the basis of the asset assessment matrix site assessment scoring criteria set out in Section 9 and Appendices 3 and 4 of the report.

4. **1-8 ST PAUL'S PLACE, HATFIELD ROAD, ST ALBANS**

Resources and Efficiencies Portfolio Holder

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Community Services)

CABINET DECISION

- (i) That Members select Aldwyck Housing Association as the preferred partner for this site.
- (ii) That Aldwyck Housing Association be asked to work up the scheme in consultation with the Housing Department's Development Officer for submission to planning. The scheme should be used to house older tenants, with priority being given to those with mobility problems for the ground floor flats.
- (iii) That the site at 1-8 St Paul's Place be transferred to Aldwyck Housing Association for the sum identified in Part II to this decision sheet, subject to vacant possession and planning permission for a suitable development being obtained and implemented.
- (iv) That a nominations agreement is agreed between the Council and Aldwyck Housing Association in relation to the letting of the new homes before the transfer of the site proceeds, on terms satisfactory to the Head of Housing in consultation with the Housing Portfolio Holder.

5. **ELECTRICAL REWIRES TO HILLDYKE AND COTLANDSWICK ESTATES**

Housing Portfolio Holder

CABINET DECISION

- (i) That Members note the contents of the report, in particular the reason for not accepting the lowest tender.
- (ii) That budget figures and specifications for future rewiring projects are required to allow for ensuring the integrity of the new installations to subject properties and communal areas for a minimum of 35 years.

Note: The meeting resumed in Part 1 on the conclusion of the above item.

6. **.ITEM REFERRED FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CORPORATE SERVICES) 26 SEPTEMBER 2006 – BUDGET AND POLICY AIMS**

Resources and Efficiencies Portfolio Holder

Overview and Scrutiny (Corporate Services)

CABINET DECISION

That the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Corporate Services) regarding a Challenge Board and the use of scoring methodologies be noted but that no action be taken by Cabinet further to the current budget process.

7. **ITEM REFERRED FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (COMMUNITY SERVICES) 19 OCTOBER 2006 – ST ALBANS CITY AND DISTRICT LEISURE FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Sport and Healthy Living Portfolio Holder

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Community Services)

CABINET DECISION

That Cabinet note the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and confirm that they have been accepted and taken on board.

8. **POSSIBLE HEMEL HEMPSTEAD EXPANSION: CONSULTATION ON OPTIONS FOR GROWTH**

Planning and Conservation Portfolio Holder

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Enterprise and Civic Environment)

CABINET DECISION

- (i) That this Council wishes to work closely with Dacorum Borough Council on considering possible options for the expansion of Hemel Hempstead as part of the Local Development Framework process.
- (ii) That this Council agrees with Dacorum Borough Council that a joint Dacorum/St Albans Core Strategies consultation paper on Hemel Hempstead growth options should be published in November 2006.
- (iii) That the 'Core Strategy Supplementary Issues and Options Paper: Growth at Hemel Hempstead', as attached at Appendix 1 to Appendix A in the officer report, be approved as the basis for public consultation, with the proviso that authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development Control in consultation with the Portfolio Holder (Planning and Conservation) to agree minor amendments.

9. **ST ALBANS CITY AND DISTRICT LEISURE FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Sport and Healthy Living Portfolio Holder

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

CABINET DECISION

- (i) That the final report of the St Albans City and District Leisure Feasibility Study be noted.
- (ii) That Cabinet agrees, in principle, and subject to the identification of appropriate funding, to the development of a new leisure facility in St Albans that:
 - a) is constructed within the development envelope at Westminster Lodge identified in the District Local Plan Review (1994) for new indoor sports facilities (ie Site 2);
 - b) incorporates provision in-line with the opportunities currently found on the site to a 21st Century standard with additional health and fitness provision and a dedicated youth facility as shown in Concept Design 6 on page 133 and referred to as Option A2 in the report, and is designed to allow the addition of a sports hall at some future date;

- c) is in-line with the estimated capital and revenue costs outlined in Table 9 of this report; and
 - d) is appropriately phased to maximise continuity of swimming provision in St Albans.
- (iii) That Cabinet authorises the Head of Finance to make appropriate arrangements to allow the Council to borrow funds (subject to the requirements of the prudential code) to help finance the development of the new facility identified in (ii) a) above.
 - (iv) That Cabinet determines to procure the new facility identified in (ii) a) above through a single stage Design, Build, Operate and Maintain (DBOM) contract.
 - (v) That Cabinet authorises the Head of Leisure Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sport and Healthy Living, to incur expenditure from existing budgets to appoint professional advisers and undertake any necessary preliminary work (including the submission of planning applications) to enable the Council to be in a position to tender the DBOM contract for the facility identified in (ii) a) above.
 - (vi) That Cabinet authorises the Council's Valuer and Estates Surveyor to conclude negotiations with existing tenants on the Westminster Lodge site to provide a solution for those impacted by the development of the new facility identified in (ii) a) above.
 - (vii) That Cabinet agrees to close Bricket Wood Sports Centre, London Colney Recreation Centre and Westminster Lodge Leisure Centre when alternative provision becomes operational.
 - (viii) That Cabinet authorises the Council's Valuer and Estates Surveyor, at the appropriate time, to reach a negotiated settlement with Hertfordshire County Council and HSBC for the termination of the leases for London Colney Recreation Centre and Bricket Wood Sports Centre respectively.
 - (ix) That Cabinet authorises the Head of Leisure Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sport and Healthy Living, to enter into negotiations for the withdrawal of the outdoor leisure areas within Verulamium Park from the existing Leisure Management Contract with Leisure Connection Ltd, to allow the management of these areas to be included in the contract for the new facility identified in (ii) a) above if it is determined that it will provide a more efficient and best value management solution for the Council.
 - (x) That Cabinet authorises the Head of Leisure Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sport and Healthy Living, to negotiate a Heads of Agreement with Hertfordshire County Council for the provision of facilities aimed at young people within the new facility identified in (ii) a) above, in return for a capital and annual revenue contribution towards the cost of the project.
 - (xi) That Cabinet agrees, in principle, and subject to the identification of appropriate funding, to the development of a new leisure facility on Cotlandswick Open Space and authorises the Head of Leisure Services, in

consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sport and Healthy Living, to look for innovative ways of developing such a project.

10. **REVENUE BUDGETS AND CAPITAL PROGRAMMES 2006/07 UPDATE**

*Resources and Efficiencies Portfolio Holder
All Overview and Scrutiny Committees*

CABINET DECISION

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the virements set out at paragraphs 9.2 and 11.2 of the report be reported to Council in accordance with the Virement Rules.

11. **2007/08 – 2009/10 BUDGET PROCESS AND STRATEGY – IMPLICATIONS OF ACHIEVING SERVICE BUDGET TARGETS AND PLANS**

*Resources and Efficiencies Portfolio Holder
All Overview and Scrutiny Committees (Corporate Services)*

CABINET DECISION

That Cabinet notes the potential implications set out in the report.

12. **STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE SUMMARY**

*Resources and Efficiencies Portfolio Holder
Overview and Scrutiny Committee*

CABINET DECISION

That a further report be submitted from the Chief Executive to Cabinet at its December meeting outlining the action that is proposed to address the areas identified in paragraph 8.2 of the report that are more than 10% below target, and to confirm that the provisional figures regarding the recycling and composting household waste are now firm.

13. **COMMUNITY STRATEGY, LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

*Planning and Conservation and Housing Portfolio Holders
Overview and Scrutiny Committees (Community Services and Enterprise and Civic Environment)*

CABINET DECISION

That the oral report of the Chief Executive be noted. A report reviewing progress will be submitted to Cabinet on 5 December 2006.

14. **NOTTINGHAM DECLARATION ACTION PLAN**

*Environment and Sustainability Portfolio Holder
Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Community Services)*

CABINET DECISION

That Cabinet approve the action plan set out in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the report.

15. **FORWARD PLAN DECEMBER 2006 TO MARCH 2007**

All Portfolio Holders

All Overview and Scrutiny Committees

CABINET DECISION

That the Forward Plan for the period December 2006 to March 2007 be approved as amended as follows:

December 2006

- Add item on Exit Strategy – Planning Delivery Grant
- Add item on Market Pay Supplements – Planning

Note: Report to 5 December Cabinet on Staffing Establishment and Organisational Development to include Communications

January 2007

Defer report on Risk Management Policy and Strategy Update to February

February 2007

Delete reference to items for Council on 21 February (these to be included instead in Council Forward Plan)

Published on **Thursday 9 November 2006**

The above decisions will come into force, and may be implemented on the expiry of, 5 working days after the publication of the decision (ie on **Friday 17 November 2006**) unless a request for call-in is made.

[**Note:** Any requests for a decision to be called in must therefore be received by 5.15pm on Thursday 16 November 2006.]