



**NORWICH**  
City Council

**MINUTES**

## **CABINET**

**5.30pm to 6.50pm**

**11 July 2012**

Present: Councillors Arthur (Chair), Waters, Bremner, Brociek-Coulton, Driver, Gihawi and MacDonald

Also present: Councillor Stephenson, Councillor Lubbock

Apologies None

### **1. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2012.

### **2. PUBLIC QUESTIONS / PETITIONS**

A public question was received in advance of the meeting.

#### **Mr Poynton to Portfolio holder for environment and development**

“David Lock Associates have already identified the Lincoln Ralphs Sports hall in King Street as an “important community asset” and Sport England have stated that “sports provision in the area is underprovided for”. Will the cabinet therefore ensure this valuable community asset is saved, by supporting the views of the Sustainable Development Panel and confirm the need for any future plans to include sports facilities on this site?

#### **Councillor Bremner replied:-**

Thank you for your question. As you are aware this matter will be considered later in the meeting and the cabinet will take this into account when making its decision.

The following petition was presented by **Councillor Haynes** :-

## Housing Development Proposed at Hanover Road –

“We are all strongly opposed to this proposal and request that the cabinet does not approve development for the following reasons:

- The area in question is a permit parking car park for local residents and their visitors, and any loss of parking spaces would have a detrimental impact on the already congested S Zone
- The proposal would increase traffic along an already congested cul-de-sac, narrowed by parking down one side, with two sharp 90 degree bends and a blind exit
- There is a high volume of pedestrians and cyclists of all ages who use Hanover Road as access to the park and as a thoroughfare to Newmarket Road and the doctor's surgery, so that an increase in traffic and the possibility of irresponsible parking would constitute a further safety risk
- The proposed buildings would potentially mean that the dwellings surrounding the car park would be overlooked, overshadowed and suffer an infringement of privacy

### **Councillor MacDonald, portfolio holder for housing, responded:-**

Thank you for your petition. As you are aware this matter will be considered later in the meeting and the cabinet will take this into account when making its decision.

### **3. SITE ALLOCATIONS AND SITE SPECIFIC POLICIES DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Councillor Bremner, portfolio holder for environment and development, introduced the report.

He referred to the to the recommendations of the sustainable development panel detailed in Annex A and recommended that cabinet accept the panel's recommendations relating to sites CC09 and R45, but not site R6. CC09 and R6 related to the public question and petition minuted above.

Councillor Lubbock welcomed the new recommendations for sites R45 and R6 as there were more appropriate sites for housing and retention of green space was important for resident's quality of life.

Councillor Stephenson agreed that site R45 was unsuitable for development and there was considerable public support for retaining sports provision at site CC09. She considered site R6 was suitable for some development but would not wish for the whole site to be built on.

**RESOLVED to :-**

- (1) note the extensive evidence base that is available in support of the emerging Site Allocations and Site Specific Policies Development Plan Document in particular:
  - a) the representations made to date on the emerging site allocations plan and how they have been addressed;
  - b) the Sustainability Appraisal of the emerging plan and reasonable alternatives to it;
  - c) the report setting out justifications for the allocation of each of the preferred sites.
- (2) accept the recommendations of the Sustainable Development Panel to remove sites CC09 and R45 from the plan but not accept the panel's recommendation on site R6 and to also remove this site from the plan. (see Annex 2)
- (3) endorse the emerging Site Allocations and Site Specific Policies plan, amended as in (2) above for pre-submission consultation under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 and to give delegated authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Operations) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Development to make consequential and further minor changes for clarity to the draft plan and policies map prior to consultation, and to finalise and publish all relevant supporting information.

**4. DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Councillor Bremner, portfolio holder for environment and development, introduced the report and welcomed the valuable contribution of the people of Norwich during consultation.

Councillor Stephenson welcomed much of the report and said she would like to see sustainable development as a driver for the economy, not the other way around.

**RESOLVED to:-**

- (1) note the extensive evidence base that is available in support of the draft Development Management Policies DPD in particular:
  - the representations made to date on the emerging site allocations plan and how they have been addressed;
  - the Sustainability Appraisal of the emerging plan and reasonable alternatives to it;
  - the update to the POSe report (May 2012) about the emerging plan.

- (2) accept the changes recommended by the sustainable development panel (Annex 3)
- (3) endorse the emerging plan (Annex 1 as amended by Annex 2 and policies map amended by (2) above for pre-submission consultation under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 and to give delegated authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Operations) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Development to make consequential and further minor changes for clarity to the draft plan and policies map prior to consultation, and to finalise and publish all relevant supporting information
- (4) thank the public for their contribution to the plan.

## **5. HRA DISPOSALS**

Councillor MacDonald, portfolio holder for housing, introduced the report.

Councillor Stephenson felt that the consultation had been an improvement on earlier consultations, but could be further improved by holding consultation events closer to the communities affected by proposals, to which Councillor Arthur responded that lessons had been learned this time around which would be applied to future consultation events.

**RESOLVED** to :-

- (1) approve disposal for the development of new affordable housing at the following sites:

Bland Road, Bowers Avenue, Edward Street, Gamewell Close, Rosary Road and Watling Road.

- (2) not to take forward the following sites for the development of new affordable housing as part of this initiative;

Armes Street, Bluebell Road, Hanover Road, Gertrude Road, Ivory Road, Ketts Hill, Northumberland Street, Palmer Road, Quebec Road, Rose Valley, Vancouver Road, Waddington Street and West End Street

- (3) ask officers to invite members to identify other council owned sites that could be considered for inclusion in future development programmes.

## **6. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING**

Councillor Waters, Deputy leader of the council, introduced the report.

**RESOLVED** to note the financial position as at 31 May 2012 and forecast outturn 2012/13.

## **7. COUNCIL BLUEPRINT**

Councillor Arthur, leader of the council, introduced the report.

Councillor Stephenson welcomed cross-party collaboration on this important piece of work.

**RESOLVED** to :-

- (1) approve the new blueprint for the council
- (2) establish a cross party working group to inform the roll out of the new blueprint through the transformation programme and development of the necessary savings for 2013/14

## **8. APPLICATION TO WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION UK HEALTHY CITIES NETWORK**

Councillor Arthur, Leader of the council, introduced the report.

**RESOLVED** to:-

- (1) authorise an application for UK Healthy Cities membership
- (2) endorse the Zagreb declaration attached as Annex 1
- (3) delegate authority to the Chief Executive to approve the final application, in liaison with the Leader of the council

## **9. PUBLIC PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

Councillor Driver, portfolio holder for environment and neighbourhoods, introduced the report.

**RESOLVED** To approve the updated Public protection enforcement policy

## **10. FUTURE PROVISION OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE, STREET CLEANING AND ARBORICULTURE SERVICES**

Councillor Waters, Deputy leader of the council, introduced the report. He explained that the contracts working party agreed to recommend that Cabinet accept recommendation for public sector shared service provision. A representative of UNISON said that, whilst disappointed by the decision not to go with the in-house option, shared service was the next best option. He added that it was important to ensure that a living wage was paid to those working within the shared service.

**RESOLVED** to :-

- (1) approve the strategy to seek provision for grounds maintenance, street cleansing and arboriculture services through public sector shared services provision.
- (2) authorise the Deputy chief executive (operations) to review the options for the provision of depot premises and report the outcome to cabinet.

## **11. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the items below on the grounds contained in the relevant paragraphs of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

## **12. CNC BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP (PARA 4)**

Councillor Bremner, portfolio holder for environment and development, introduced the report.

**RESOLVED** to approve the implementation of the outcomes of governance the review of the CNC building control partnership and to delegate to the Executive head of business relationship management, in consultation with the portfolio holder for environment and development, authority to make the necessary arrangements to implement the proposal.

## **13. REVIEW OF COLLECTION AGREEMENT FOR WATER CHARGES FOR COUNCIL TENANTS (PARA 3)**

Councillor MacDonald, portfolio holder for housing, introduced the report.

**RESOLVED** to :-

- (1) approve the commitment to enter a new agreement with Anglian Water for the payment of water rates on council dwellings in return for a commission payment
- (2) delegate authority to the deputy chief executive (operations) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder (Housing) to sign the agreement subject to agreement of acceptable terms.

#### **14. MANAGING HOUSING ASSETS (PARA 3)**

Councillor MacDonald, portfolio holder for housing, introduced the report.

**RESOLVED** to:-

- (1) approve the disposal of one void property detailed in this report
- (2) approve the disposal of an area of housing land as detailed in this report
- (3) approve the capital receipt from disposals to be used for investment in the housing capital programme
- (4) approve the purchase of the dwelling highlighted in the report under the mortgage rescue scheme subject to confirmation from mortgage rescue's agent that the council would be able to;
  - Issue an introductory tenancy and then a secure tenancy
  - Charge target rents rather than 80% of market rent
- (5) approve the demolition of a shop unit to enable a development of affordable housing
- (6) delegate to the deputy chief executive (operations) to take all necessary and ancillary steps to achieve the above including the method of disposal and the funding to be used in the purchase of the mortgage rescue property

#### **15. DELETION OF POST AND REDUNDANCY PAYMENT TO POSTHOLDER (PARA 3)**

Councillor Waters, Deputy leader of the council, introduced the report.

**RESOLVED** to approve the deletion of the post and the award of redundancy related payments.

CHAIR