

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the CABINET held in the Council Chamber, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Thursday, 5 April 2007.

PRESENT: Councillor I C Bates – Chairman.

Councillors P L E Bucknell, Mrs J Chandler, A Hansard, Mrs P J Longford, Mrs D C Reynolds, T V Rogers and L M Simpson.

174. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15th March 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

175. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor Bates declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minutes Nos. 181 and 182 by virtue of his family relationship with the company involved and his membership of the Cambridgeshire County Council respectively. Councillor Bucknell declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute No 181 by virtue of his friendship with the applicant. Both Councillors left the meeting for the duration and voting on the respective items of business.

176. INTERIM PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT

Further to Minute No. 06/170 and by way of a report by the Head of Planning Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet was invited to consider the content of an interim planning policy statement.

Having been reminded that the statement would provide the framework for continuity of the development control function, whilst changes to the core strategy were made, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that Council be recommended to endorse the content of the Interim Planning Policy Statement.

177. GENDER EQUALITY SCHEME

By way of a report by the Head of Policy and Strategic Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet was invited to consider the contents of the Gender Equality Scheme together with an associated action plan..

Members were advised that the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 (as

amended) would place a duty on public bodies to promote gender equality with effect from 6th April 2007. Having been informed that the scheme would integrate with current Race and Disability and Equality Schemes, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the contents of the draft Gender Equality Scheme and associated Action Plan be approved.

178. MEDIUM TERM PLAN: REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF FUNDS

With the aid of a report by the Head of Financial Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet considered a request for the release of funding for three Medium Term Plan schemes.

In considering a request to release £67,000 for flexible working, Executive Councillors intimated that they would welcome further information to be circulated separately on revenue costs for this project. Having referred also to the need to ensure that spending projections for projects were regularly reviewed, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the relevant funding be released for the installation of broadband for Members and the award of disabled facilities and discretionary housing repair loans/grants.

179. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that the public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains exempt information relating to negotiations for the disposal of land or property.

180. PRIORY PARK, ST. NEOTS

The Cabinet considered a report by the Head of Legal and Estates (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book) seeking approval for the proposed disposal of Council-owned land at Priory Park, St Neots as part of the Urban Design Brief and Masterplan for the Longsands Quarter. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the disposal of the land at Priory Park, St Neots be approved and the Director of Central Services authorised, after consultation with Members of the Cabinet, to approve terms for the sale.

181. STUKELEY ROAD, HUNTINGDON

The Cabinet considered a report by the Head of Legal and Estates (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book) seeking approval for the proposed disposal of Council-owned land at Stukeley Road, Huntingdon.

RESOLVED

that the Director of Central Services, after consultation with the Executive Councillors for Resources, Welfare and IT and for Finance and for Leisure, be authorised to approve terms for the sale of land at Stukeley Road, Huntingdon.

182. WESTWOOD ROAD, ST. IVES

By way of a report by the Head of Legal and Estates (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book) the Cabinet considered the proposed disposal of Council-owned land at Westwood Road, St Ives.

RESOLVED

that the disposal of the land at Westwood Road, St Ives be approved and the Director of Central Services authorised, after consultation with Members of the Cabinet, to approve terms for the sale.

Chairman