

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CABINET
THURSDAY, 19 OCTOBER, 2006 AT 4.30 P.M.
CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Stanley, N.K.	(Policy & Resources Leader)
Butler, R.D.	(External Partnership Leader)
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	(Health Leader)
Ansell, Mrs. P.A.	(Access to Skills & Economic Development Leader)
Grocott, M.R.	(Culture & Sport Leader)

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor B. Williams (Social Inclusion & Housing Leader) and D.N. Davies (Environment Leader)).

50. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September, 2006 be approved as a correct record.

51. Updates from Portfolio Leaders

Access to Skills and Economic Development Leader

Councillor Mrs. P.A. Ansell reported on the recent meeting of the Access to Skills and Economic Development Select Committee held on 18 October, 2006, at which presentations were received by the Principal of Cannock Chase Technical College and the Coalfields Community Campaign.

She also reported on the outcome of the recent Destination Management Partnership.

Culture and Sport Leader

Councillor M. R. Grocott reported on the success of the Schools Open Day held on 18 and 19 October, 2006 at Rugeley Leisure Centre. He also reported on the Indoor Sports event held at the Chase Leisure Centre where 22 local schools participated.

52. Equality of Access for People with Disabilities

Consideration was given to a report of the Social Inclusion and Housing Select Committee (Enclosure 5.1 – 5.25 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The former Chairman of the Social Inclusion and Housing Select Committee, Councillor C. Collis attended the meeting to present the recommendations of the Select Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Council develops a Disability Equality Scheme in line with legislation and actively encourages and involves disabled people in developing the Scheme. That the Council continues to work with the County Council to share ideas, expertise and establish common ground on which to base recommendations to be put forward for inclusion in the Council's respective Disability Equality Schemes.
- (B) That the Council's budget provision for disabled grants adaptations continue to be provided for 2008-2009 at the same level of service as is currently provided and if possible every effort be made to increase this resource to meet local needs.
- (C) That the County Council be lobbied to ensure that disabled facilities grant assessments be resourced to enable assessments to be completed within agreed timescales.
- (D) That the Council develops a comprehensive database of adaptations made to Council properties and reviews the Allocation Policy to improve the reallocation of properties with adaptations to those tenants requiring adaptations.
- (E) That the Council encourage developers to build new residential properties to the Life Time Homes standard through local planning policy and building control processes.
- (F) That the introduction of a Shopmobility facility in the District's three main town centres be investigated proactively and that Cabinet first consider the viability of a Shopmobility scheme in Beecroft Road car park together with the inclusion of Shopmobility schemes in Hednesford and Rugeley as a matter of urgency as part of the regeneration proposals for these town centres.
- (G) That Council works with the Town Centre Manager and other partners from the private and business sectors to raise awareness of their responsibilities with regards to the DDA and investigate ways of sharing good practice around access issues and in particular looks at the possibility of developing an effective monitoring system. That the Town Centre Manager investigate the possibility of establishing an accreditation/merit scheme or the like for businesses that demonstrate high standards of accessibility for the disabled.
- (H) That an Access Group be set up to be consulted on service provision and developments as well as planning and building access issues.
- (I) That the Council continues to work with the County Council in particular to improve the provision of disabled parking in the town centres and to determine how to deter those that park in disabled parking spaces.

- (j) That the Council continues to provide training to employees on customer care for people with disabilities and reviews the effectiveness of such training in the near future.

53. Forward Plan

Consideration was given to the Forward Plan of decisions to be taken by the Cabinet for the period October 2006 – October 2007 (Enclosure 5.1 – 5.2 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the Forward Plan for the period October 2006 to October 2007 be approved.

54. Recommendations from the Culture & Sport Select Committee held on 11 October, 2006

Consideration was given to the recommendations of the Culture and Sport Select Committee on 11 October, 2006 in relation to "A Cultural Strategy for Cannock Chase District".

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Strategy be approved for consultation with key stakeholders, organisations and agencies listed in Section (4.1) of the report.
- (B) That a report be submitted to a future meeting of Culture and Sport Select Committee to consider the consultation, findings and to recommend to Cabinet the adoption of the Cultural Strategy.

55. Hednesford Brickworks/Keys Park – Future Management

Consideration was given to a joint report of the Chief Executive and Director of Public Health and Policy (Enclosure 8.1 – 8.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the present status of the site be noted.
- (B) That approval be given to enter into an agreement with the Land Restoration Trust for the Council to become the lead managing partner for the Brickworks Site, based on the principles set out in Section 2 of the report.
- (C) That a variation of the S106 Agreement to reflect the fact that the open space areas will not be adopted by the Council be approved.

56. Housing Health and Safety Rating System and Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupancy

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 9.1 – 9.12 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the proposed process of housing enforcement action under the Housing Act 2004, as set out in Section 2 of the report – Proposed process of Enforcement Action (a) to (k) be approved.
- (B) That the principles of charging as set out within Section 2 of the report – charging for enforcement work be applied in accordance with the Council's approved fees and charges.
- (C) That Council be recommended to approve the proposed HMO licensing charging policy as set out within Section 2 of the report – HMO Licensing.
- (D) That the Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion & Housing, to apply for authorisation from a Residential Property Tribunal to make an interim or final Empty Dwelling Management Order in respect of a property.

57. Chase Heritage Trail – Application for Permission to Spend

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 10.1 – 10.10 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the current progress position relating to the entire Chase Heritage Trail project be noted.
- (B) That, subject to further Planning Control Committee approvals, and the cost of the project being within budgetary provision, permission be granted to spend to enable the project to move forward to the next stages.

58. 2006-07 Section 106 Capital Programme – Application for Additional Scheme Approvals

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 11.1 – 11.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That Council be recommended to approve the scheme additions outlined in the report and included in the Council's 2006-07 Section 106 Capital Programme, and
- (B) That subject to the approval of (A) above by the Council, expenditure be authorised on these schemes.

59. Rugeley Swimming Pool – Permission to Spend

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 12.1 – 12.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the current progress position relating to the new Rugeley Swimming Pool be noted.
- (B) That the cost of the project being within budgetary provision and approved by Council, permission to spend be granted to enable the project to move forward to the next stages.

60. Best Value Performance Indicator Priorities

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Policy and Performance (Enclosure 13.1 – 13.12 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the list of Best Value Performance Indicators be noted and approval be given to the priorities identified in the report.

LEADER