

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CABINET
THURSDAY, 19 APRIL 2007 AT 4.30 P.M.
CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Butler, R.D.	(External Partnerships Leader)
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	(Health Leader)
Grocott, M.R.	(Culture & Sport Leader)
Davies, D.N.	(Environment Leader)
Williams, B.	(Social Inclusion and Housing Leader)

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N.K. Stanley (Policy and Resources Leader) and Mrs. P.A. Ansell (Access to Skills and Economic Development Leader)).

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Deputy Leader, Councillor R.D. Butler, reported that he had agreed to consider as a matter of urgency a report relating to "Good Practice Scheme (GPS) – Portmore, Jamaica".

140. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2007 be approved as a correct record.

141. Updates from Portfolio Leaders

Culture and Sport Leader

Councillor M.R. Grocott reported that work to demolish the existing swimming pool at Rugeley had commenced.

Environment Leader

Councillor D.N. Davies reported that the in-vessel composting scheme had been rolled out across the District from 16 April 2007.

142. Forward Plan

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

RESOLVED:

That the Forward Plan for the period April 2007 to September 2007 be approved.

143. Recommendations from the Culture and Sport Select Committee held on 13 March 2007

Consideration was given to the following recommendations referred from the Culture and Sport Select Committee held on 13 March 2007.

Vision into Reality Consultation – Feedback

- (i) That Cabinet be recommended that the Civic Offices should not be moved to the Leisure Village site.
- (ii) That Cabinet be recommended to consult with the Charity Commission and CISWO regarding the proposed development.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That in view of the results of the public consultation and having considered the views of the Culture and Sport Select Committee, it be determined that the Civic Offices should not be moved to the proposed Leisure Village site.
- (B) That Council officers consult with the Charity Commission and CISWO regarding the proposed development.

144. Corporate and Performance Plan

Consideration was given to a Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That Scrutiny Committee be consulted on the contents of the draft Corporate and Performance Plan prior to consideration by Council on 27 June 2007.

145. Spend to Save Initiatives 2007-08

Consideration was given to a Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 8.1 – 8.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the following "spend to save" initiatives be adopted for 2007-08:-

- (i) That £1,000 be allocated to Staffordshire County Council as a contribution to the training flat, to provide "life skills" training to young people from the Cannock Chase area.
- (ii) That £2,000 be allocated to develop a family mediation scheme through an external organisation to assist in resolving cases where family members cause nuisance on Council estates.
- (iii) That £6,000 be allocated for debt counselling through an external organisation in respect of households with rent arrears who have multiple debt problems.
- (iv) That £1,000 be allocated to support referrals from Council tenants who have suffered domestic violence or hate crimes to the "safe as houses" scheme.
- (v) That £2,000 be allocated to support the work of the Community Development Officer and the Community Partnership Team in relation to the involvement of schools and young people based in community projects on Council estates.

146. Choice Based Letting Scheme

Consideration was given to a Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 9.1 – 9.48 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Council confirm its participation in the development and implementation of a Choice Based Lettings Scheme for Southern Staffordshire and North Warwickshire, following the successful bid for additional resources from the Department for Communities and Local Government.
- (B) That the draft proposed Choice Based Lettings Scheme as set out in the draft proposed Allocations Policy Statement (attached as Annex 1 of the report) and the draft "Somewhere to Live" booklet for housing applicants (attached as Annex 2) of the report be agreed for a 12 week period of written consultation with service users and other stakeholders.
- (C) That the views of the Healthier Communities, Housing and Older People Select Committee be requested on the proposed Choice Based Lettings Scheme.
- (D) That the results of the consultation exercise and the views of the Healthier Communities, Housing and Older People Select Committee be reported to a future Cabinet meeting, together with a final draft of the proposed Choice Based Scheme which reflects the outcomes of the consultation exercise as appropriate.

147. Structural Reinstatement of Precast Reinforced Concrete Dwellings – Braemar Road Area, Norton Canes and Larch Road Area, Brereton

Consideration was given to a Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 10.1 – 10.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the scheme for the structural reinstatement of the Council's Precast Reinforced Concrete Dwellings at Braemar Road/Red Lion Crescent, Norton Canes and Larch Road/Oak Tree Road/The Green, Brereton be approved.

148. Draft Supplementary Planning Document on Open Space, Sport and Recreation

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 11.1 – 11.17 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Draft Supplementary Planning Document on Open Space, Sport and Recreation be approved for consultation in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004.
- (B) That the Head of Planning and Regeneration in consultation with the Environment Leader be authorised to make any minor amendments to the draft in response to informal consultation with Sport England prior to the start of the formal consultation process.
- (C) That a report be submitted to a future meeting considering the consultation responses and proposals for finalisation and adoption of the above document as an SPD which will form part of the Cannock Chase Local Development Framework.

149. Notes of the Meetings of the Community Forums

Consideration was given to the notes of the meetings of the Community Forums (Enclosure 12.1 – 12.16 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

- (i) Cannock Community Forum – 6 November 2006
- (ii) Hednesford Community Forum – 7 November 2006
- (iii) Heath Hayes, Norton Canes and Rawnsley Community Forum – 13 November 2006
- (iv) Rugeley and Brereton Community Forum – 14 November 2006

RESOLVED:

That the notes of the meetings of the Community Forums be noted.

150. Good Practice Scheme (GPS) – Portmore, Jamaica

Consideration was given to an urgent Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 12A of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Deputy Leader agreed to this matter being considered as an urgent item due to the fact that following the last meeting of the Cabinet discussions with the Commonwealth had resulted in the requirement for 4 officers to attend the exchange visit in May/June and the next meeting of the Cabinet was not scheduled to take place until 14 June 2007.

RESOLVED:

That the additional officer (total four) to participate in the Commonwealth Local Government Good Practice Scheme and exchange visit during May/June 2007 be approved.

151. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, Part I, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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PART 2

152. Former Tenants' Arrears Recommended for Write Off

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 14.1 – 14.11 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the former tenant arrears as detailed in Annex 1 of the report be approved for write off.
- (B) That the former tenant rent arrears as detailed in Annex 2 of the report which have been authorised for write off by the Head of Financial Management be confirmed.

153. Estate Security – Replacement of Door Entry Systems

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 15.1 – 15.15 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the scheme for the replacement of door entry systems to certain blocks of flats at the Walsall Road Estate, Cannock be approved and implemented.

154. Financial Management of the District Centre Management Initiative Project

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 16.1 – 16.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the request from Southern Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry (the Chamber) for Cannock Chase Council to provide financial support relating to District Centres Management Initiative (DCMI) salaries from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007 be accepted, subject to the Chamber indemnifying the Council for repayment of all monies expended in providing financial support to the DCMI project.

155. **Hednesford Town Centre Regeneration – Rugeley Road Scheme Proposed Leases and Car Parking**

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 17.1 – 17.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That a variation on the Council's Development Agreement with St. Modwen Developments to provide for free car parking for up to 50 spaces, to be used in association with the pub/restaurant development, on terms and conditions and in accordance with a scheme to be agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Cabinet Leaders for Access to Skills and Economic Development and Resources be approved.

LEADER