

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**CABINET**  
**TUESDAY, 22 JANUARY 2008, AT 4.30PM**  
**IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**  
**PART 1**

PRESENT: Councillors

Stanley, N.K.	Leader of the Council Access to Skills, Economic Development and Enterprise Leader
Grocott, M.R.	Children and Young People Leader
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Healthier Communities, Housing & Older People Leader
Collis, C.	Safer & Stronger Communities Leader
Williams, A.	Environment Leader
Williams, B.	Supporting Member for the Housing Function of the Healthier Communities, Housing and Older People Portfolio
1 Vacancy	

(Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Members paid tribute to the former Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Reg Butler who sadly passed away recently. Sympathies were forwarded to his family and friends at this time).

**80. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>	<b>Type</b>
Grocott, M.R.	Minute 94 – Land at Station Road, Rugeley – Member's relative is employed by the organisation that leases the land	Personal

**81. Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2007 be approved as a correct record.

## 82. Forward Plan

Consideration was given to the Forward Plan of decisions for the period January – March 2008 (Enclosure 5.1 – 5.3 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

The following amendments were reported in respect of the Forward Plan:

- (i) Play Strategy – The date for the Cabinet decision would be March 2008 and not January 2008.
- (ii) The words “Select Committee” to be deleted from the name of the Portfolio Leader in respect of the following items:
  - Future Options for PRC Dwellings
  - Interim Strategy for the Council’s Housing Stock
  - Private Sector Housing Strategy
  - Revised Tenancy Agreement
  - Redevelopment of Land at Former Cornwall House and Cherry Tree House Sheltered Housing Schemes

RESOLVED:

That the Forward Plan of decisions for the period January – March 2008, as amended, be approved.

## 83. Notes of the Meetings of Community Forums

The Notes of the meetings of the Community Forums were received for information (Enclosure 6 of the Official Minutes of the Council):-

- (i) Cannock Community Forum – 17 September, 2 July, 14 May and 29 January 2007
- (ii) Hednesford Community Forum – 11 September, 3 July, 9 May and 30 January 2007
- (iii) Heath Hayes, Norton Canes & Rawnsley Community Forum – 3 September, 9 July, 8 May and 5 February 2007
- (iv) Rugeley & Brereton Community Forum – 19 September, 11 July, 15 May and 28 March 2007

## 84. Car Parking Usage Interim Strategy

Consideration was given to the report of the Report of the Director of Service Improvement (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.8 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

RESOLVED:

- (A) That approval be given to the development of an interim car parking usage strategy.
- (B) That approval be given to delegate a new framework of car park charges to the

Director of Service Improvement, designed to increase usage of Council owned car parks based on the needs and turnover of each car park, within the income parameters and requirements of the Council budget.

- (C) That approval be given to undertaking a revised charging policy on selected car parks as set out in Section 4 of the report, for a trial basis of 3 months from 1 April, 2008.
- (D) That a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet on the outcome of the trial and further development of the car parking usage interim strategy.

**85. Cannock Chase Local Development Framework – Main Road, Brereton Conservation Area Appraisal: Draft**

Consideration was given to the report of the Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 8.1 – 8.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Main Road, Brereton Conservation Area Appraisal be approved for consultation, in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004.
- (B) That a report be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet to consider the consultation responses and proposals for the finalisation and adoption of the above document as a background document to the Local Development Framework.

**86. Budget Process 2008-09**

Consideration was given to the report of the Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 9.1 – 9.6 Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the revised Budget Process 2008-09 be noted and that possible areas of service growth and reductions be presented for consultation in accordance with the process.

**87. Draft General Fund Revenue Budget 2008-09 to 2010-11**

Consideration was given to the report of the Report of the Director of Governance (Enclosure 10.1 – 10.11 Official Minutes of the Council).

It was reported by the Leader that the decision would be urgent and therefore the call-in process would not apply due to the fact that any delay caused by the call-in would seriously prejudice the public's interest by way of reducing the period of public consultation prior to the Cabinet making a final recommendation to Council on 27 February 2008 in respect of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2008-09 to 2010-11.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That having regard to the financial position outlined in the Director of Governance report, consultation take place on the following:

- (i) Growth in the Council budget as set out in Annex 2a attached to these Minutes
  - (ii) Savings from the Council's standstill budget as set out at Annex 2b attached to these Minutes.
  - (iii) The level of Council Tax for 2008-09.
- (B) That Consultees be asked to note that:
- (i) It is not a proposed budget, but are asked to give their views on whether the growth and savings items set out in the annexes should form part of the Council's budget or not. They are also asked to identify other items they would wish to see either added to or removed from the Council's budget.
  - (ii) The growth and savings listed are based on a balanced three year budget with a Council Tax increase of 5% per annum. This does not mean that the Cabinet are recommending this level of increase, but consultees suggesting a lower level of tax are asked to identify what they would change to achieve it.
- (C) That it be noted that the call-in process would not apply due to the fact that any delay caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the public's interest.

**88. Old Hednesford Parkland**

Consideration was given to a Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 11.1 – 11.19 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the outcome of the consultation process be noted.
- (B) That the original scheme as proposed not be implemented.
- (C) That approval be given to an alternative scheme that would invest a maximum of £95,000 in Old Hednesford Parkland as set out in Section 2 of the report.
- (D) That the current name of Old Hednesford Parkland be reviewed in order that an alternative name would better describe the location.
- (E) That the need to develop an overall strategy for Parks and Open Spaces to guide development and investment be noted.

**89. Good Practice Scheme (GPS), Portmore, Jamaica**

Consideration was given to a Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 12.1 – 12.3 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

RESOLVED:

That the action of the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council be endorsed for the involvement of up to two Council officers to participate in the Commonwealth Local Government Good Practice Scheme dissemination event, as set out in the report, to be

held in February 2008 in Portmore, Jamaica.

**90. Shopmobility (Policy Option PP001)**

Consideration was given to a Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 13.1 – 13.16 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

RESOLVED:

- (A) That proposals for the introduction of a local Shopmobility Scheme (for a trial period of six months) as set out in the report be endorsed.
- (B) That the Chief Executive, (or anyone so authorised by him) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, be authorised to take all necessary steps conducive and incidental to implementing a local Shopmobility Scheme, including entering into a Service Level Agreement with Disable Aids (Cannock) Limited to run the Scheme on behalf of the Council throughout the trial period.
- (C) That the Chief Executive (or anyone so authorised by him) be authorised to undertake a detailed assessment and evaluation of the most appropriate methods/means of implementing a permanent Shopmobility Scheme in Cannock, Hednesford and Rugeley and to report such findings to a future meeting of Cabinet.

**91. Members Grants Initiative Scheme**

Consideration was given to Report of the Director of Governance (Enclosure 13A of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Leader agreed to consider this matter as an urgent item on the basis that the current deadline for the receipt of Members' Grant Applications was the 31 January 2008 and that the next meeting of the Cabinet was not scheduled until 21 February 2008.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the deadline (under clause 3.1 of the Scheme terms and conditions) for the receipt of Members' Grant Applications be extended to 1 March 2008.
- (B) That the application of clause 1.11 and 1.12 of the Scheme terms and conditions in this financial year be varied to allow the roll over of unallocated funds to the next financial year to enable Councillors to draw on unallocated funds in the next financial year.
- (C) That benefiting organisations be allowed to spend the grant anytime up to March 2009.

**92. 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 Paragraph 1 and 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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**PART 2**

**93. Provision of Additional Cemetery Land, Cannock**

Consideration was given to the following recommendation referred from the Healthier Communities, Housing and Older People Select Committee held on 4 December 2007:

"That Cabinet be recommended:

- (i) That the potential sites identified in the report in the Heath Hayes and Norton Canes areas be subject to a valuation by the District Valuers.
- (ii) That an investigation be undertaken in relation to the potential usage of part of the land currently used at the Cannock Golf Course.
- (iii) That a budget of £40,000 be set aside for future land purchase for burial purposes."

RESOLVED:

- (A) That recommendation (ii) above be referred to the Council's Golf Course Fundamental Service Review Panel for consideration and that the outcome of the Panel's review in respect of this matter be reported to a future meeting of the Cabinet.
- (B) That recommendations (i) and (iii) above be deferred for consideration until the outcome of (A) above is known.

**94. Land at Station Road, Rugeley**

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 16.1 – 16.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Deputy Chief Executive be authorised to negotiate the disposal of the freehold interest in the land identified in the report on terms and conditions to be agreed.
- (B) That the Capital receipt be set aside to replace the loss of investment income.

**93. Debt Recovery**

Consideration was given to a Not for Publication Report of the Director of Service Improvement (Enclosure 17.1 –17.4 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

It was reported that the total figure in Annex 3 of the report should be amended to read £7057.22.

RESOLVED:

That the amounts detailed in Annexes 1 to 4 of the report be written off.

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CHAIRMAN

**Table 2a**

**Financial Plan 2008-09 to 2010-11**  
**Growth Options subject to Consultation**

		<b>2008-09 Estimate £</b>	<b>2009-10 Estimate £</b>	<b>2010-11 Estimate £</b>
C1-09	Tackling Anti - Social Behaviour	21,510	28,560	30,210
D1-01	Improved Planning Application Processing Timescales	25,620	32,630	34,560
E1-01	Health & Safety - Cemeteries	20,120	20,840	21,470
E1-02	Promotion and Education for Recycling and Waste Minimisation	13,300	25,800	27,650
E1-04	Continuation of existing Xmas Lights Service	23,570	24,040	24,520
E1-06	Provision of Streetscene Response Team	47,420	63,670	64,940
E1-09	Provide Recycling Facilities - Town Centres	7,200	7,200	0
P1-04	Tackling Fuel Poverty - Decent Homes	6,540	8,400	9,290
P1-06	Provision of In-house Advice Service - Housing Needs	9,660	11,960	12,290
S1-01	Business Continuity and Emergency Planning	16,480	22,360	18,560
H1-01	Licensing and Enforcement of Houses in Multi Occupation - Private Sector	20,000	16,090	16,970
E1-07	Enhanced Maintenance of Street Furniture	16,720	17,050	17,400
C1-05	Implementation of Equality and Diversity Action Plan	30,000	20,000	10,000
H1-03	Appointment of Sustainability Officer	16,150	34,180	35,160



C1-10	Staffs and Stoke on Trent 2012 Olympics Co-Ordinator	4,500	4,500	4,500
		<u><b>278,790</b></u>	<u><b>337,280</b></u>	<u><b>327,520</b></u>

**Table 2b**

**Financial Plan 2008-09 to 2010-11**  
**Saving Options Taken From Budget**

		<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>
		<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
C2-02	Deletion - Press Cutting Collation Service	-6,500	-6,700	-6,900
C2-06	Cease Production of State of Cannock Chase	-7,100	-10,120	-10,380
C2-09	Amended Opening Hours - Contact Centre	-1,130	-1,190	-1,220
C2-10	Reduction in Grants to Voluntary Organisations - Other		-3,240	-3,300
C2-11	Rationalisation of Grants to Voluntary Organisations - Major		-13,290	-13,560
E2-01	Reduce Grounds Maintenance Closed Churchyards	-7,600	-7,750	-7,910
E2-02	Remove Subsidy - Allotments		-5,780	-5,900
E2-03	Closure of 2 Bowling Greens - Hednesford & Cannock Park	-22,300	-29,850	-30,420
E2-05	Hednesford Public Toilet	-13,620	-13,890	-14,160
E2-07	Rationalisation of Bus Shelter Provision	-5,810	-30,410	-31,020
E2-09	Removal of Subsidy - Shrub Beds	-11,920	-16,240	-16,560
E2-10	Reduce Maintenance - Non Pay and Display Car Parks	-14,060	-14,340	-14,630
E2-11-13	Extend Car Parking Charging - Station Car Parks	-4,730	-27,080	-27,620
H2-01	Rationalisation of Inspections Food Hygiene	-3,000	-4,080	-4,160
H2-02	Home Security Grants	-6,890	-9,580	-9,770

H2-05	Air Pollution	-2,930	-3,800	-3,880
H2-09	Private Sector Housing - Enforcement Action	-5,240	-6,870	-7,010
I2-01/I2-04	Remove Subsidy - Catering		-49,930	-50,930
L2-10	Reduction in Museum Visitors Services	-2,540	-8,120	-8,370
P2-01	Promotion of Local Economy	-20,000	-20,600	-21,220
P2-06	Reduction in Partnership Activities	-5,810	-5,980	-6,160
T2-01	Reduction in Discretionary Rate Relief		-8,000	-8,000
		<b><u>-141,180</u></b>	<b><u>-296,840</u></b>	<b><u>-303,080</u></b>