

**MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
CABINET
TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2011**

Held at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

PRESENT:

Councillors J N Clarke (Chairman), J A Cranswick, D G Bell, J E Fearon, Mrs D J Mason, Mrs Jean Smith

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors S J Boote, Mrs D Boote, R M Jones, A MacInnes and G R Mallender.

OFFICERS PRESENT:

A Graham	Chief Executive (AG)
C Bullett	Deputy Chief Executive (CB)
S Griffiths	Deputy Chief Executive (SG)
P Randle	Deputy Chief Executive (PR)
S Goodrich	Head of Revenues and ICT Services
N Morton	Head of Financial Services
C McGraw	Head of Community Shaping
D Swaine	Head of Corporate Services

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

There were no apologies.

5. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mason declared a personal interest in item 7 'Cotgrave – Strategic Acquisitions' as a Spirita Board Member.

6. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24 May were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. Carbon Management Plan

Councillor Mrs D Mason presented the report of the Head of Community Shaping setting out the background to the development of the Carbon Management Plan. She explained that 'sustainability' was one of the six priorities within the Council's Corporate Strategy. In support of this a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan had been developed and approved by Cabinet in March 2010. One of the key actions arising in that action plan had been the development and implementation of a Carbon Management Plan.

Commenting further Councillor Mrs D Mason explained that in September 2010 the Council began work with Climate East Midlands to put together a Carbon Management Plan with the support of the Carbon Trust. She added

that under the Climate Change Act 2008, the government had certain obligations to meet to reduce carbon emissions across the UK. Subsequently local authorities had been encouraged to act as community leaders in this area of work and lead by example by working to reduce carbon emissions from their operations. Therefore the Carbon Management Plan set out the Council's intentions to reduce carbon emissions from its own estate, thereby leading by example.

Councillor Mrs D Mason went on to explain that the plan set out a target for the reducing the Council's carbon emissions by 15 percent by 2015. It also set out projects and actions in order to deliver this target with an underpinning objective being to change attitudes, cultures and behaviours. She explained that paragraphs three and four of the plan set out its financial impact both in terms of reduced costs from better carbon management and also the costs of some of the actions planned to assist with meeting the target. She outlined the main areas of impact within the plan adding that the Council would continue to work with the leisure providers on the issue of carbon management and this would assist and inform the work being undertaken on the Leisure Facilities Strategy.

Councillor Mrs D Mason stated that the plan set out design standards for the refurbishment or replacement of Council property and the chart at page 17 of the report detailed the projected savings arising from implementing carbon management actions. She also stated that she fully supported the plan and recommended it to Cabinet for approval.

Councillor Cranswick welcomed the report and the plan and sought clarification of the savings as set out in the chart at page 17. In response Councillor Mrs D Mason confirmed that the figure of £263,680 was based on present market value for energy costs and therefore this could increase over time.

Councillor Bell also welcomed the report and the plan adding that it was a detailed and comprehensive document clearly evidencing the Council's commitment and aspirations. He stated that he was pleased with the 15 percent target within the plan, however he recognised that further reductions would be harder once this initial reduction had been achieved.

In conclusion Councillor Clarke stated that he supported the plan and welcomed the actions within it. He added that he recognised the significant financial benefits of effective carbon management and how important this was in view of the challenges facing the Council and the need to continue to save Council tax payers money. However, he also recognised the important environmental benefits of plan and the wider importance of reducing the environmental impact of the Council's operations.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:-

- a. endorses the attached Carbon Management Plan and approves the target of reducing the Council's carbon emissions by 15 percent by 2015

- b. approves a budget allocation to the projects in table 4.2 of the attached Carbon Management Plan
- c. makes a commitment to design standards for refurbishment or replacement buildings wherever possible as laid out in Appendix C of the plan
- d. supports the work with the leisure service providers to identify a reduction in carbon emissions from leisure centres in the Borough

8. Local Government Act 1972

RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of the following items of business pursuant to section 100A (4) of the above Act on the grounds that it is likely that exempt information may be disclosed as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

9. The Future use of the Old Gresham Pavilion, Wilford Lane, West Bridgford

Councillor Cranswick presented the report of the Head of Revenues and ICT Services regarding the future use of the old Gresham Pavilion site and an adjacent area of land. The report indicated that the old pavilion had been replaced by a new facility and therefore it was important to determine its future. It also indicated that part of the site remained leased from the Council.

Councillor Cranswick stated that the old pavilion site was located on Wilford Lane, and its location was set out in a plan within the report. Commenting further he stated that the old pavilion occupied one third of the site and was in a poor state of repair, having suffered from vandalism in recent months.

Councillor Cranswick also stated that the report set out options for the future use of the site and an appraisal of each of these options had been undertaken. He added that the Council's acquisition and disposals policy set out criterion to establish if an asset was deemed to be surplus to the Council's requirements and these criteria were set out within the report. Furthermore options for the sites future use had been appraised against the Council's Priorities and further detail of this appraisal was also set out in the report.

In conclusion Councillor Cranswick stated that the Council's Asset Management Group had also made an assessment of the options taking into account the criterion within the Council's acquisition and disposals policy and the appraisal against the Council's priorities.

RESOLVED that :-

- a) the old Gresham pavilion and adjacent area of land are declared surplus to the Council's requirements, in accordance with the Council's Acquisition and Disposal Policy, and are disposed of at market value, and

- b) the Council will assist in attempting to find alternative accommodation for the existing tenant.

10. **Cotgrave Strategic Acquisitions**

Councillor Cranswick presented the report of the Chief Executive which indicated that at its meeting in February 2011 Cabinet had considered a report on the Cotgrave Masterplan. At that meeting Cabinet had agreed a number of actions including the submission of a further report detailing how the acquisition of the shopping centre would fit in to the Cotgrave regeneration scheme.

Councillor Cranswick went on to state that report now presented to Cabinet detailed proposals for the acquisition of the shopping centre together with details of the risks associated with such an the acquisition and how these could be managed and mitigated.

At the request of Councillor Cranswick the Chief Executive provided more details of the report particularly in respect of confirmation of the regeneration money from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), the legal agreement for this and the proposals in respect of the allocation of Councils capital programme. The Chief Executive also explained that the government had recently announced the site was an 'acceleration site' and as such the money received from the HCA had restrictions in respect of the timescale for it being spent.

Arising from the report and the information provided by the Chief Executive Cabinet made a number of comments particularly how the masterplan and the strategic acquisitions supported the long term sustainable development of Cotgrave. Furthermore it evidenced the Councils aspirations for the area and how a managed and planned approach would lead to long term benefits for the residents of Cotgrave. In conclusion members of the Cabinet acknowledged the long term nature of the project but recognised the significant work done to get to this important and significant formative stage.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:-

- a) notes the written confirmation of the £2million regeneration money from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and authorises the Chief Executive to clarify and negotiate the terms and conditions attached to this funding;
- b) in the interests of securing the best value for Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave residents, authorises the Chief Executive to approve the utilisation of the HCA funds in consultation with the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Resources;
- c) in the interests of securing best value for Rushcliffe Borough Council, including maximising any potential return on investment, authorises the Chief Executive to investigate the potential opportunity for utilisation of the Council's own capital funds within the project and negotiate any associated relevant appropriate terms and conditions which would then be submitted to full Council for approval;

- d) supports the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order for the purchase of the shopping centre and other land properties within the red line area of the Cotgrave masterplan for the purposes of the regeneration project, should that be required to bring the landholdings into public sector ownership; and
- e) Recognises and accepts the risks associated with the proposal as set out in the report and the measures and actions to mitigate and reduce these and tasks the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Chief Executive, with monitoring and reporting back to Cabinet any emerging issues associated with the risk register that may have a detrimental financial impact on Rushcliffe Borough Council.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

CHAIRMAN