

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

13 MARCH 2007 AT 6.30 P.M.

PRESENT: MRS. M.L. SHERWIN - MAYOR
MR. K.W.P. LYNCH - DEPUTY MAYOR

Mrs. M. Aldridge, Mr. P.R. Batty, Mr. M.O. Bevins, Mr. D.C. Bill, Mr. C.W. Boothby, Mr. J.C. Bown, Mrs. R. Camamile, Mrs. C.M. Claridge, Mrs. M.A. Cook, Mr. D.S. Cope, Mr. N.B.L. Davis, Mr. R.D. Ellis, Mrs. D. Finney, Mrs. S. Francks, Mr. R.J. Furniss, Mr. M.A. Hall, Mr. D.E. Hinton, Mr. K.A.J. Hunnybun, Mr. C.G. Joyce, Mr. M.R. Lay, Mr. D.W. Thorpe, Mr. R. Ward and Mrs. R.W. Wright.

Also in attendance: Representatives of Hinckley and Bosworth Youth Council Executive.

Officers in attendance: Mr. S. Atkinson, Mr. P.F. Cash, Mr. Michael Brymer, Mr. B. Cullen, Ms. L. Horton, Mr. S. Kohli, Ms. C. Lambert, Mr. D. Moore, Mr. R. Parkinson, Mrs. P.I. Pitt and Ms. L. Simpson-Ward.

565 PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Robert Stephen of St. Catherine's Church, Burbage offered prayer.

566 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mr. D.R. Bown, Mr. J.F. Collins, Ms. J.E. Price and Mr. K. Vessey.

567 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Interests were declared as follows:

Mr. Bill – a personal and prejudicial interest in report number C63 as an unpaid director of Sparkenhoe Business Centre.

Mr. Boothby – a personal non-prejudicial interest in report number C68 as a tenant of this Authority.

Mr. Cope – a personal and prejudicial interest in report number C63.

Mr. Davis – a personal, non-prejudicial interest in report number C63 as a ward member, a trustee of Hinckley Civic Society, Borough Youth Champion and a business mentor for an organisation backed by EMDA.

568 RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

Following an introduction by the Mayor tributes were led on behalf of the respective political groups by Mr. Lay, Mr. Bevins and Mr. Bill to place on record the Council's appreciation of the service rendered to Local Government by Mr. J.C. Bown. Mr. Bown responded and was presented with a clock, glassware and a voucher.

569 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor referred to the visit to the Council Offices on 12 March 2007 of a party of students from Herford, who with students from John Cleveland and North Warwickshire and Hinckley Colleges, had attended a fashion workshop.

A reminder was issued that the Civic Service was to be held at 3 p.m. at St. Catherine's Church, Burbage on 25 March 2007.

The Mayor also reported that arrangements for her charity event at the Paramount Hinckley Island Hotel on 28 April 2007 were going well with only four tables remaining.

Finally the Mayor referred to the valuable donations already made by some Members towards her main charities and indicated that further donations would be very welcome.

570 PETITION

On behalf of persons residing in the Brodick Road area of Hinckley Mr. Bill presented a petition containing 430 signatures strongly objecting to the sale of Brodick Road play area for housing purposes.

571 PRESENTATIONS

Youth Council

The various Youth Council Executive Members reported on the Youth Council's achievements over the last 12 months, highlighting the following:-

- Continuing development of the Pyramid of Participation
- The holding and organisation of two conferences
- Circulation of a facilities questionnaire (the findings from which call for a cinema, ice arena and swimming pool)
- Development of a Youth Bank to fund young persons' projects
- Creation of 'the jitty' website
- Continued links with Le Grand Quevilly

Leader of the Council

In presenting his 'state of the borough' 2006/07 address the Leader of the Council summarised the Authority's corporate achievements over the last 12 months and outlined plans for 2007/08 and the five years beyond. In making his statement the Leader formally moved the adoption of the Council's Corporate Performance Plan for 2007/12.

572 APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL'S VISION – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2007/12 AND BUSINESS DELIVERY PLANS (B.D.P's) 2007/10 (C60)

Having been formally moved by Councillor Bevins at the conclusion of the preceding item it was seconded by Mr. Davis and

RESOLVED –

- (i) the Corporate Performance Plan 2007/12 and the B.D.P'S 2007/08 – 2009/10 be agreed;

- (ii) a revised Corporate Performance Plan 2007/12 including actual outturn information to 2006/07 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2000 be received at the Council meeting on 26 June 2007; and
- (iii) any final amendments to the Corporate Performance Plan 2007/12 and B.D.P. 2007/08 – 2009/10 be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

573 HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH COMMUNITY PLAN 2007/12 (C61)

Approval having been sought to the above and to the endorsement of the Year One Action Plan for Hinckley and Bosworth Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) it was moved by Mr. Thorpe, seconded by Mr. Bevins and

RESOLVED –

- (i) the revised Hinckley and Bosworth Community Plan 2007-12 as the Council's shared strategic policies with its LSP partners be adopted;
- (ii) the Year One Action Plan for Hinckley and Bosworth Local Strategic Partnership (that will be regularly updated as the work programme develops) be endorsed; and
- (iii) it be noted that the Community Plan and the Year One Action Plan were approved by the LSP board on 22 January 2007 and endorsed by the Scrutiny Commission on 8 February 2007.

574 PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2007/08 (C62)

In accordance with the Code of Practice on Treasury Management presented were the Council's prudential indicators for 2007/08 – 2009/10, together with the expected treasury operations for that period.

On the motion of Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Bevins it was

RESOLVED –

- (i) the prudential indicators and limits for 2007/08 – 2009/10 contained within section 4A of the report of the Head of Finance and ICT be adopted;
- (ii) approval be given to the Treasury Management Strategy 2007/08, the Treasury Prudential Indicators contained within section 4B, the Investment Strategy 2007/08 contained in the Treasury Management Strategy (section 3B) and the detailed criteria included in section 4C of the report.

Messrs Bill and Cope, having declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in the following item withdrew from the meeting at 7.43 p.m.

575 FACILITATING THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW COLLEGE CAMPUS BY NORTH WARWICKSHIRE AND HINCKLEY COLLEGE (NWHC) AND A NEW CREATIVE INNOVATION CENTRE AT THE ATKINS SITE, LOWER BOND STREET, HINCKLEY (C63)

In presenting this report the Portfolio Holder for Strategy and Housing paid tribute to the officers concerned in developing and seeking external funding for this

initiative so expeditiously. In welcoming the project Mr. Thorpe moved, Mr. Bevins seconded and it was

RESOLVED –

- (i) a maximum £2.5 million capital investment (included in the current programme and approved by Council on 22 February 2007), subject to match funding of £2.5 million investment by the Leicester Shire Economic Partnership and 2.4 million pounds from East Midlands Development Agency in the Atkins site to help facilitate the relocation of North Warwickshire and Hinckley College, securing the redevelopment of the Strategic Masterplan site be affirmed;
- (ii) agreement be given to
 - the recruitment and running costs of a project manager to oversee the project development for the next three years (2007-2010), to be funded from the capital programme and part contributions (estimated costs £100,000-125,000)
 - the purchase of the Atkins site with East Midlands Development Agency support, to secure the strategic development of this key town centre site
 - gifting part of this land to North Warwickshire and Hinckley College for development of a new college campus facility
 - a staged process, subject to a feasibility study (as per (iii) below) securing further external funding, for the re-use of the Goddard building for an innovation centre for creative industries;
- (iii) further feasibility work be undertaken and considered on options for development of the Goddard building prior to a commitment on the implementation of phase 4 works as set out in paragraph 3.1 of the report of the Deputy Chief Executive;
- (iv) all associated risks in the delivery of this major project as set out in paragraph 5.1 and appendix 2 of the report be acknowledged;
- (v) negotiations take place with NWHC regarding the inclusion and delivery of a key consolidated car park to serve the new college facility and the innovation centre.

Messrs Bill and Cope returned to the meeting at 8.00 p.m.

576 DEVELOPMENT OF LANGDALE COMMUNITY PARK, HINCKLEY (C64)

Presented to Council were the results of the consultation exercise regarding the creation of Landgale Community Park, following which it was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Bevins and

RESOLVED –

- (i) the result of the consultation on the options for the provision of a new community park at Langdale recreation ground be noted and plans for Langdale Community Park be amended based on the results of such consultation;
- (ii) the 'Friends of Langdale Community Park' be formed and the Community Park developed in consultation with this group;
- (iii) Council delegate authority to the Head of Health and Environment and the Portfolio Holder for Health and Environment to implement this project; and

- (iv) before commencement of the project, a further report be brought to Council once the financial impact of design changes had been identified.

577 PROPOSED SALE OF BRODICK ROAD, HINCKLEY OPEN SPACE (C65)

Council considered the recommendation of Cabinet relating to the disposal of Brodick Road open space.

Mrs. Claridge left the meeting at 8.42 p.m., returning at 8.45 p.m.

On the motion of Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mr. Bevins it was

RESOLVED –

- (i) support be given to the disposal of Brodick Road open space and to ongoing negotiations to dispose of the Brodick Road site for the independently assessed market value of £1.7 million in accordance with the draft Heads of Terms included in the report of the Head of Culture and Development; and
- (ii) the Head of Culture and Development and Deputy Head of Corporate Services be granted delegated authority to agree disposal of the Brodick Road site for the agreed valuation (less agreed abortive development fees).

(Mr. Bill, Mr. Cope, Mrs. Finney, Mrs. Francks and Mr. Joyce requested that their names be recorded as having voted against the foregoing resolution).

578 FEASABILITY OF IMPLEMENTING AN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (C66)

Consideration having been given to the implementation of an eco management audit scheme to monitor, assess and review processes to ensure on-going environmental improvement it was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Bevins and

RESOLVED – agreement be given to the implementation of an eco management audit scheme, to be operational across the whole authority by March 2009.

579 MEMBERS ALLOWANCES PANEL – RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2007/08 (C67)

Circulated to Members at the meeting were amendments to the recommendations contained in and the revised scheme of allowances attached to this report of the Chief Executive.

It was emphasised that all of these late revisions had been endorsed by the Independent Panel.

On the motion of Mr. Bevins, seconded by Mr. Davis it was

RESOLVED – subject to the amendments contained in the supplementary agenda for this meeting:-

- (i) the recommendations of the Independent Panel on Members' allowances, contained in the report of the Chief Executive be approved, to be effective from 1 April 2007;

- (ii) the panel membership be revised with three new members being appointed to the vacant positions by appropriate means and retaining the two other members (if willing) for continuity; and
- (iii) a supplementary budget of £1,085 from 2007/08 onwards to fund the recommendations of the Independent Panel be agreed.

580 HOUSING STRATEGY (C68)

Following submission of the above to the Government Office for the East Midlands for formal assessment and subsequent amendments to the Strategy by that Body the 'signed off' document was presented to Council for approval.

Mrs. Finney left the meeting at 8.50 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Thorpe, seconded by Mr. Bevins and

RESOLVED – the following be agreed:-

- (i) the amendments to the Housing Strategy as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report of the Deputy Chief Executive; and
- (ii) the achievements made by the Council as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

(The meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.)

At the conclusion of the meeting the Mayor reminded Members of the forthcoming Freedom Parade through Hinckley. Additionally she indicated that this was the last occasion at which she would preside over the entire meeting and paid tribute to all of those Members not seeking re-election in May. The Deputy Mayor responded by thanking the Mayor for the courteous manner in which she had presided at Council meetings and the gracious way in which she, with her consort, had carried out her official mayoral duties.