

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING

OF THE EXECUTIVE

HELD ON TUESDAY 31ST JANUARY, 2006

Present: Councillor A Napier (Chair)
Councillors R Crute, Mrs J Freak,
J Goodwin, D Myers, G Patterson,
F Shaw and R J Todd

1. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on 10th January 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were confirmed.
2. **HOUSING ACT 1985, SECTION 438 AND SCHEDULE 16, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 SCHEDULE 11 - LOCAL AVERAGE RATE OF INTEREST**

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services which sought approval for the local average rate of interest to be applied to local authority mortgages, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

The purpose of the report was to re-determine the local rate of interest to be applied to advances and transfers and sums left outstanding on disposal of council owned dwellings.

The Council's local average rate was set at 7.61% from 1st October 2005.

RESOLVED that the local average rate of interest be set at 7.40% from 1st April 2006 for a further six months.

3. **BUDGET STRATEGY - 2006/2007 to 2008/2009**

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services which gave details of the Council's approach to the budgets for 2006/2007 and the Medium Term Financial Plan 2006/2007 to 2008/2009 together with the Council Tax and rent proposals for 2006/2007, the Medium Term Strategy and the Council's Annual Efficiency Statement for 2006/2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

Members were advised that the rent increase of 4.7% stipulated in the report was incorrect and should read 4.5%.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the strategy be approved as a basis for the 2006/2007 budgets and the Medium Term Financial Plan for the next three years.
- (ii) the proposed Council Tax and rent increases be approved.

Executive – 31 January, 2006

- (iii) the Medium Term Financial Strategy, outlined in Appendix 1, be approved.
- (iv) the proposals be included in the budget proposals submitted to Full Council for adoption.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Paragraphs 7, 8 and 9, Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

5. BANKING ARRANGEMENTS FROM 1st APRIL 2006

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Financial Management which sought approval to extend the current contract for banking arrangements for a further three years, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED that Contract Standing Order 4(ii) be waived and the quotation provided by the Council's current bankers be accepted with a start date of 1st April 2006.

6. URBAN AND RURAL RENAISSANCE INITIATIVE

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Member for Regeneration which gave details of the County Council Programme, the Urban and Rural Renaissance Initiative and highlighted the impact the programme would have on town and village centres within the District of Easington, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

The report also outlined budgets for each of the schemes that would be undertaken in the District of Easington and highlighted allocations that the County Council had profiled as contributions from the District Council across the programme.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) approval be granted to support the Urban and Rural Renaissance Initiative and an indicative allocation of £150,000 over the period 2004/2005 to 2007/2008 be agreed.
- (ii) the Council's participation in the programme be undertaken on the basis of the conditions detailed in Section 4 of the report.

7. LAND AT SEA VIEW INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, HORDEN

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Member for Regeneration which sought approval to dispose of two separate areas of land at Sea View Industrial Estate to independent coach operators, Jayline Travel and Style Travel, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED that approval be granted for the disposal of land at Sea View Industrial Estate for the purpose of coach depots.

8. LAND AT PATTISON GARDENS, BLACKHALL ROCKS

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Member for Regeneration which sought approval to dispose of land at Pattison Gardens, Blackhall Rocks to Barratt Homes, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED that approval be granted to dispose of 4.17 acres of land at Pattison Gardens, Blackhall Rocks to Barratt Homes on the basis of the terms outlined in the report.

9. LAND AT HARTLEPOOL STREET SOUTH, THORNLEY

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Member for Regeneration which sought approval to dispose of 1.06 acres of land at Hartlepool Street South to Three Rivers Housing Association, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) approval be granted to dispose of 1.06 acres of land to Three Rivers Housing Association for the amount specified in the report plus nomination rights in favour of the Council, subject to the provision of an overage clause in the Conveyance.
- (ii) approval be granted for the sale at the undervalued amount specified in the report by using powers in relation to the disposal of land for less than best consideration (Local Government Act 1972 General Disposal Consent (England) 2003) on the basis that the land would be used for the provision of social housing and contribute to the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of persons resident within Thornley and its immediate area.