

City of Durham

At a Meeting of the **CABINET** held in the Town Hall, Durham, on Wednesday, 16th April, 2008, at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Reynolds (in the Chair)
and Councillors Bell, Dickie, Jackson, Southwell, van Zwanenberg, Thomson and Woods.

Also Present: Councillors Colledge, Howarth, Kellett, Marsden, Robinson, M.J.A. Smith, Turnbull, Wilkes and Wilkinson.

590. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Bell, Reynolds, Southwell and the Executive Director declared a personal interest in Minute Nos. 595, 596, 597 and 607 Durham Villages Regeneration Funding, Masterplan/Regeneration Scheme at Esh Winning – Interim Report – Allocations Policy: Phase 1 Properties and Report of Valuation, and remained in the Meeting during consideration thereof.

Councillor Southwell declared a personal interest in Minute No. 602 Report of the Economic Scrutiny Panel - Review of CCTV and remained in the Meeting during consideration thereof.

591. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Pitts.

592. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 5th March 2008 and 19th March, 2008, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

593. PRESENTATION

‘Seizing the Future’ Developing a Strategic Direction for the Next Five Years

Edmund Lovell, Head of Corporate Affairs County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust gave members a presentation.

Following a question and answer session, the Chairman thanked Edmund Lovell for a very informative presentation.

Portfolio Member Recommendations or Items Requiring a Cabinet Decision

594. CHARTER MARK FOR BUILDING CONTROL

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning & Regeneration and the Head of Planning Services submitted a comprehensive report to publicise the successful outcome of the 2008 Charter Mark inspection by Charter Mark Assessment.

Resolved: (i) That the outcome of the inspection by Charter Mark Assessment Services be noted.

(ii) That the staff of Building Control section be commended on their efforts to retain Charter Mark accreditation.

(iii) That the Building Control Manager make the necessary amendments to his Service Improvement Plan to reflect the inspector’s recommendations.

COUNCILLOR REYNOLDS VACATED THE CHAIR

COUNCILLOR WOODS (IN THE CHAIR)

595. DURHAM VILLAGES REGENERATION FUNDING – NEW BUILD MULTI PURPOSE PARISH HALL

The Leader of the Council and the Head of Community Services submitted a comprehensive report to consider proposals to build a multi purpose parish hall offering worship facilities for the whole community of Bowburn and surrounding villages, and to note and approve the release of Durham Villages Regeneration Company Limited funding of £100,000 towards the project.

Resolved: (i) That the regeneration project and the release of the £100,000.00 funding from Durham Villages Regeneration Company Limited be approved, subject to the balance of the funding being secured.

(ii) That it be noted that the scheme would not form part of the Council's 2008/09 Budget Framework.

596. DURHAM VILLAGES REGENERATION FUNDING – PARKHILL PLAY AREA

The Leader of the Council and the Head of Community Services submitted a comprehensive report to consider proposals for the regeneration of Parkhill Play Area and approve amendments to the 2008/09 Capital Programme, funded via the release of Durham Villages Regeneration Company (DVRC) Funding of £208,777.00 towards the project.

Resolved: That subject to appropriate written consent from the County Treasurer: -

- 1) That the amendment to the 2008/09 Capital Programme in relation to the inclusion of the Parkhill Play Area and Community Facilities – fully funded from external capital resources be approved.
- 2) That the release of the £208,777.00 from DVRC to provide the gap funding shortfall to the proposed project be noted.
- 3) That in the event that full funding was not received from external resources, the scheme be amended accordingly.

COUNCILLOR REYNOLDS RESUMED THE CHAIR

597. MASTERPLAN/REGENERATION SCHEME AT ESH WINNING – INTERIM REPORT – ALLOCATIONS POLICY : PHASE 1 PROPERTIES

The Portfolio Holders for Strategic Planning & Regeneration and Communities and the Head of Community Services submitted a comprehensive report to formalise arrangements for the rehousing elements associated with the Masterplan Phase 1 Schemes at Esh Winning.

Resolved: (i) That with immediate effect no further letting takes place of properties at The Oaks, Rowan Court and Pine Tree Esh Winning. Vacant properties to be made secure pending further consultations and development of detailed proposals.

(ii) That appropriate arrangements be established for further consultation with affected residents, and subsequent rehousing be administered through the Council's Allocations Policy and in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Communities.

(iii) That further reports be brought forward in due course once the redevelopment programme had been prepared and that these proposals be fully discussed with Durham County Council

(in accordance with the Business As Usual Protocols established by the Implementation Executive).

598. CREATION OF A WORKING PARTY TO UNDERTAKE A COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The Leader of the Council and the Head of Legal and Strategic Services submitted a comprehensive report to inform Cabinet of the procedure by which a community governance review was to be undertaken, and to seek confirmation for the creation of a working party to conduct preliminary work in anticipation of a community governance review being commissioned.

Resolved: That a working party be formed to conduct a preliminary exercise to determine the potential scope and extent of a community governance review within the City of Durham Area.

599. CITY CENTRE PREMISES LICENCE

The Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture and the Head of Cultural Services submitted a comprehensive report to seek approval to make the application for a new Premises Licence for the City centre under the Licensing Act 2003 to the City Council's Licensing Section.

Resolved: (i) That the application for a City Centre Premises Licence covering the area shown on the circulated map for activities in the circulated operating schedule be agreed.

(ii) That the Head of Cultural Services be approved as the Designated Premises Supervisor for the purposes of the Licence application.

(iii) That the Council ensure that the mitigation measures requiring applicants to ensure proper training for staff selling alcohol at a licenceable event, bring the proposals for the event to the Safety Advisory Group and that suitable training be given to the Head of Cultural Services and proposed deputising staff.

600. ESH WINNING MINERS MEMORIAL HALL: URGENT WORKS

The Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture and the Head of Cultural Services submitted a comprehensive report that outlined the current poor structural state of the Esh Winning Miners Memorial Hall, Esh Winning and suggested possible courses of action to remedy the threat to public safety and the building.

Resolved: (i) That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to serve a Section 54 Notice on the Owner and Lease of Esh Winning Miners Memorial Hall.

(ii) That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to Serve a Section 55 Notice on the Owner and Lease of Esh Winning Miners Memorial Hall to recover the costs of implementing the Section 54 Notice.

Reports from Scrutiny Panels

601. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL REVIEW OF HOMELESSNESS

The Scrutiny Committee on 25th March, 2008, considered the above report where it was recommended that the report be referred to Cabinet. A copy of the report had been circulated.

Resolved: That the report be approved and adopted.

**602. REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC SCRUTINY PANEL
REVIEW OF CCTV**

The Scrutiny Committee on 25th March, 2008, considered the above report where it was recommended that the report be referred to Cabinet. A copy of the report had been circulated.

Resolved: That the report be approved and adopted.

**603. REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL
CLIMATE CHANGE**

The Scrutiny Committee on 25th March, 2008, considered the above report where it was recommended that the report be referred to Cabinet. A copy of the report had been circulated.

Resolved: That the report be approved and adopted.

Reports for Information

**604. NORTH EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY – SECRETARY OF STATES FURTHER PROPOSED CHANGES – FEBRUARY 2008
(MINUTE 123, 18th JULY 2007)**

The emerging Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) set out a broad development strategy for the region to 2021. The Council had made representations at earlier stages of consultation, most recently to the Secretary of States Proposed Changes of May 2007. Resulting from that previous consultation the Secretary of State had published Further Proposed Changes to the RSS with comments requested by 2nd April 2008, the timing of which prevented reporting to an earlier Cabinet meeting and had resulted in comments being prepared and presented to the Secretary of State in consultation with the Deputy Leader as Portfolio Holder for Regional Strategy. These comments were summarised, with an indication of those that had been the subject of formal responses to the Secretary of State. Full copies of the response forms were available in the Members Room.

Resolved: That the report be noted and the positive benefits of the Further Proposed Changes to RSS be welcomed.

605. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN CASES

The Executive Director submitted a schedule of successful defences of complaints referred to the Commission for Local Administration in England.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

606. IN PRIVATE

Reports for Information

607. REPORT OF VALUATION

The Head of Legal and Strategic Services submitted a report to advise Cabinet of the agreed net land value reported by the City Council's retained local Valuer.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

The Meeting terminated at 3.10 p.m.

Chair