

Item 3

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL CABINET

Conference Room 1,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Thursday, 14 July 2005

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor R.S. Fleming (Chairman) and

Councillors Mrs. A.M. Armstrong, Mrs. B. Graham, A. Hodgson,
M. Iveson, K. Noble, J. Robinson J.P and W. Waters

In Attendance: Councillors W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. K. Conroy, Mrs. J. Croft, V. Crosby,
A. Gray, B. Hall, D.M. Hancock, J.E. Higgin, J.G. Huntington, J.P. Moran,
G. Morgan, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, A. Smith, Mrs. I. Jackson Smith,
Mrs. C. Sproat and J. Wayman J.P

Apologies: Councillors D.A. Newell

CAB.30/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

CAB.31/05 MINUTES
The Minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CAB.32/05 DISCUSSION PAPER - CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW: MEMBER INVOLVEMENT
Consideration was given to a report detailing proposals to engage Members in the Council's processes for reviewing its Constitution. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was pointed out that there was a number of areas where Members could have a legitimate expectation to be engaged in the review of the Council's Constitution e.g. Rules of Procedure at meetings, call-in arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny Committees etc.

Members' attention was drawn to paragraph 3.5 of the report, which detailed how an opportunity could be provided within the working arrangements between Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees to establish a formal review mechanism.

RESOLVED : *That Cabinet approves the report.*

CAB.33/05 CHILDREN'S FIXED PLAY EQUIPMENT 2005/07 (KEY DECISION)
The Lead Member for Culture and Recreation presented a report regarding the above. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was explained that Management Team at its meeting on 22nd December 2005 had considered a report commissioned from the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) into the state of fixed play equipment within the Borough and had agreed to remove 42 pieces from 21 sites in Newton Aycliffe as part of a safety programme.

It was reported that since then, discussions had been held with partner organisations, Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 and local Members to establish an investment plan for fixed play equipment for the period 2005/2007. Work had also commenced on an open space needs assessment, however, it was not scheduled for completion until 2007. Ideally, an investment strategy dealing with equipment should also reflect the findings of the needs assessment, however, key issues of play value, safety and overall suitability needed to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Member's attention was drawn to paragraphs 4.1 and 5.3 of the report, which detailed the proposed rationale for future investment in play sites and the five areas of the Borough that had been identified for investment in 2005/06.

It was proposed that it would be reasonable to allocate £350,000 in 2005/06 for investment in Eldon, Newton Aycliffe (Agnew 2), Chilton, Spennymoor, Middlestone Moor and Trimdon Colliery and for a similar amount to be earmarked for investment in 2006/07.

- RESOLVED :*
- (1) That the criteria for investment detailed in the report be approved.*
 - (2) That the Investment Plan Programme detailed in the report covering the period 2005/06 be approved.*
 - (3) That a capital allocation of £700,000 be approved to deliver a 2 year programme.*
 - (4) That a further report be submitted to Cabinet outlining the details of the NPFA Audit Study.*

CAB.34/05 IMPLEMENTING ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT STATEMENT (IEG 4.5)

Consideration was given to a report regarding the Council's I.E.G 4.5 Statement and the ICT Capital Programme for 2005/06. (For copy see file of Minutes). A presentation was also given by the e-Government Manager.

It was explained that this was an interim report which had to be submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on 18th July, 2005. The report would be submitted to Council at its meeting on 29th July, 2005 and any changes to the version submitted would be referred to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

It was explained that the modernisation programme was concerned with reviewing ways in which services were delivered with a view to achieving service improvements. The programme was linked to the Council's Corporate Plan and Community Strategy through Service Improvement Plans at departmental level

The report gave details of the progress being made in respect of the delivery of the 73 Priority Service Outcomes that authorities were responsible for implementing and the Council's performance against BVPI 157, which set a 100% target for the delivery of customer facing services through electronic means.

Members' attention was drawn to Appendix 2 of the report, which gave an update on projects and expenditure to date.

- RESOLVED :*
- (1) That the contents of IEG4.5 Statement (Appendix 1) be agreed.*
 - (2) That the e-Government and ICT Programme 2005/06 as set out in Appendix 2 be approved.*
 - (3) That IEG4.5 Statement be recommended to full Council for approval.*

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: *That in accordance with Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 7 and 9 of Schedule 12a of the Act.*

CAB.35/05 ASSET MANAGEMENT - LAND SALE AT DEAN AND CHAPTER INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, FERRYHILL

The Lead Member for Regeneration presented a report seeking approval to sell for 0.12 hectares of land at Dean and Chapter Industrial Estate, Ferryhill. (For copy see file of Minutes).

RESOLVED : *That the recommendation detailed in the report be adopted.*

CAB.36/05 ASSET MANAGEMENT: LAND SALE AT FURNACE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, SHILDON

The Lead Member for Regeneration presented a report seeking approval to sell 0.17 hectares of land at Furnace Industrial Estate. (For copy see file of Minutes).

RESOLVED : *That the recommendation detailed in the report be adopted.*

Published on 15th July 2005

The key decision contained in these Minutes will be implemented on Monday 25th July 2005 five working days after the date of publication unless it is called in by five Members of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the call in procedure rules.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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