

CABINET

Thursday, 6th April, 2006

Councillor I.S. Gollop (Chairman)

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Councillors: | P. Feeney | W.H. Golland |
| | V. McCrossen | R.J. Nicholson |
| | R.A. Poynter | R.F. Spencer |
| | A.J. Gillam (Observer) | G.J. Griffiths (Observer) |
| | J.M. Parr (Observer). | |

191 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 MARCH 2006.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

192 HOUSING STOCK OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Keith Finch from Tribal HCH Consultants gave a presentation on the Housing Stock Options available to the Council.

The Head of Housing Services also submitted a report that updated the Housing Stock Options Appraisal completed by the Council's appointed Consultants Tribal HCH. (Submitted at Appendix 1), which had been completed in March 2006.

The tenants had also appointed Independent Tenant Advisors (ITA), and PS Consultants who had carried out further consultation, details of which were included in the report. A summary report was submitted at Appendix 2.

The report proposed that the Cabinet recommends to Council that an application be made to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) for inclusion on the Annual Disposals Programme for Large Scale Stock Transfer and to agree the commencement of the process to pursue this option.

After consideration it was: -

RESOLVED:

- i. To recommend to Council that an application be made to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) for inclusion on the 2006 Annual Disposals Programme for Large Scale Stock Transfer.
- ii. To recommend to Council the agreement to pursue stock transfer.

**193 ARNOLD MASTER PLAN - 4TH OPTION
PRESENTATION BY ANDREW BALLINGER - WHITE YOUNG GREEN.**

Further to the March 16 meeting of the Cabinet, Andrew Ballinger from White Young Green gave a Presentation on a further option in respect of the Arnold Master Plan proposal, which would involve the demolition and replacement of the Arnold Leisure Centre and Library. He advised the Cabinet that it was estimated that this option would cost the Council between £15 million - £20 million to implement.

RESOLVED:

To agree to proceed to public Consultation on all of the options considered but to advise the public that the proposal for a re-development of the whole site had been rejected because it could not be afforded.

194 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Councillor P.G. Barnes referred to the continuing problem of the poor acoustics in the Council Chamber, particularly when members of the public were present at meetings of the Planning Committee.

The Portfolio Holder for E Government and Member services, Councillor Poynter advised that a sum of money was now in the 2006/07 estimates for replacement of the system and work would be proceeding in the future.

RESOLVED:

To note the information

195 CORPORATE EQUALITY PLAN

The Head of Personnel and Organisational Development submitted a report that sought approval for the Council's revised Corporate Equality Plan.

RESOLVED:

To agree the Corporate Equality Plan.

196 REVISED EMERGENCY PLAN

The Head of Direct Services submitted a report that advised Cabinet of the proposed changes to the Gedling Borough Council Emergency Plan. The report sought cabinet's approval for the adoption of the proposals.

RESOLVED:

To approve the revisions to the Council's Emergency Plan as detailed in the report submitted.

197 AUDIT COMMISSION ANNUAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION LETTER

The Senior Management Team submitted a copy of the Audit Commission's Annual Audit and Inspection letter covering the period 1 April 2004 – 31 March 2005 for Members' information at Appendix A.

The letter showed that the Audit Commission believed the Council continued to perform well and that its financial management arrangements were strong.

It also indicated that the Council's direction of travel was positive and that performance overall was improving.

The letter also included the auditor's Use of Resources scored judgement for the Council. The Council had scored 3 overall on this assessment, which meant that the Council was performing well in its use of resources, consistently above minimum requirements.

This was a very good assessment for the Council and was likely to be amongst the best results for district councils in the country. It once again demonstrated independently that the Council uses resources well and secured good value-for-money for its council taxpayers.

A full copy of the Use of Resources report, including scores for sub-categories, was submitted at Appendix B.

RESOLVED:

i. To accept the annual Audit and Inspection letter, and accompanying Use of Resources report.

ii. To note that a presentation on the findings would be made at Audit Sub-Committee on 24 April 2005.

198 FORWARD PLAN 1 MAY TO 31 AUGUST 2006

RESOLVED:

To approve the Forward Plan.

199 PROGRESS REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

The following progress reports on items within their purview were received from Portfolio Holders: -

Finance

- i. The Accountancy section had been commended for their work.
- ii. Council Tax bills had been sent out on time.
- iii. Success of the 'One Stop'
- iv. £230,000 saving in 05/06 on the Highway Contract.

E. Government and Member Services

- i. Scrutiny Training for Members
- ii. Report on Mayoral support - recommendations to proceed.
- iii. Continuing problems with 'Valid'
- iv. Procurement Officer realising savings.

Development & Economic Regeneration

- i. Survey for Shops on Mapperley Plains
- ii. Formation of Arnold Town Centre Action Group

Housing

- i. Housing had achieved accreditation for Quality of Service delivery.
- ii. Homelessness targets achieved
- iii. Killisick Court - further meetings with tenants.

Leisure

- i. Standhill Skateboard park now completed.
- ii. Application for electricity sub-station on Westdale Lane
- iii. Edison Way - talks with school regarding play area.
- iv. College Road play area - Consultations.

Direct Services.

- i. Letter to be sent to Member of Staff injured in attack at Calverton.

Agenda 21 Crime and Community Development

- i. Public meetings at Vale Road Colwick – possible ASBO
- ii. CCTV progressing for Arnold, to be 'rolled out' to Carlton and Calverton.

RESOLVED:

To note the reports.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm