

CABINET

14 MARCH 2006

Present: Councillor M Radulovic, Chair

Councillors S Doo
S Foster
M Garrett
S Heptinstall MBE
R I Jackson
M G Rich

24. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2006 were confirmed and signed.

25. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor S Doo declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item no. 8.6 – revenue grants - Beeston Hockey Colts in view of his membership of the club – minute no. 30.6 refers. Councillor R I Jackson declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item no. 5 – references – area action plan for Beeston due to his employer's interest in the land – minute no. 27.2 refers. Councillors S Foster and R I Jackson declared a personal interest in agenda item no. 5 – references – area action plan for Beeston in view of the conservative club being within the plan area – minute no. 27.2 refers.

26. **CABINET WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED that the work programme, including key decisions be approved.

27. **REFERENCES**

27.1 **Disability Working Group – 22 February 2006**

Min. No 3 – **Disability Strategy**

A suggestion was made that the strategy be renamed to embrace all types of disability. Officers advised that a variation in the title could cause confusion, the Disability Working Group had consulted widely and the issue had never been raised.

RESOLVED that the revised Disability Strategy and Action Plan be adopted.

27.2 Beeston Town Centre Working Group – 28 February 2006

Min. No. 3 - Area Action Plan For Beeston

RESOLVED that the Beeston Masterplan consultation leaflet, as amended, be approved for public distribution.

(Councillor R I Jackson having declared a prejudicial interest in this matter left the meeting before discussion or voting thereon.)

28. **RESOURCES**

28.1 Disability Discrimination Act – Work Programme

The Corporate Property Group had co-ordinated work on Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) issues in relation to non-housing stock, managed and controlled by the Council. The cabinet considered proposals for DDA work to be undertaken to a range of Council properties together with the financial implications.

RESOLVED that the allocation of £50,150 to DDA works as specified in the appendix to the report submitted be approved and carried forward into 2006/07.

28.2 Lyons Review into the Functions and Financing of Local Government

Sir Michael Lyons had been commissioned by the government to enquire into the functions and financing of local government. The cabinet considered a summary of Sir Michael Lyon's initial consultation paper and a list of questions on which he was seeking to engage debate amongst local authorities and local communities. Comments about the issues raised and the financial implications were also considered. Particular discussion turned on the democratic representation of communities.

RESOLVED that:

1. **The comments contained in the report be supported.**
2. **Meetings be arranged for the issues within the consultation paper to be debated by the local community and a separate meeting for discussion by all members and officers.**

28.3 Preferred List of Printing Contractors

The cabinet considered an amendment to the preferred list of printing contractors.

RESOLVED that Colourview Design 4 Print Limited be added to the preferred list of printing contractors in place of Cushion Print Management.

28.4 Disposal of Land to Rear of 1 The Sidings, Kimberley

The cabinet considered disposal of 4 square metres of land to the rear of 1 The Sidings, Kimberley.

RESOLVED that 4 square metres of land at The Sidings, Kimberley be sold for the sum of £500, plus the Council's reasonable legal and surveyors costs, on condition that the land is restricted to garden use only.

28.5 Conferences

RESOLVED that:

1. **The Labour/Liberal Democrat groups have four places at the conferences together with three places at the Town and Country Planning Summer School.**
2. **The Conservative group has one place at one of the above conferences and one place at the Town and Country Planning Summer School.**

28.6 Local Area Agreement (LAA)

The cabinet considered the current position regarding the establishment of a LAA for Nottinghamshire.

The Chief Executive advised that meetings had been held with the partners and it had been agreed to institute a strategic board comprising elected members to determine key strategic arrangements and funding within the LAA. Partners had agreed to a number of decisions regarding existing funding commitments and the recognition of individual partners' responsibility of financial issues. Whilst the current legal framework was not satisfactory for local area agreements, officers had done their best to protect the Council's legal interests and a memorandum of understanding had been agreed.

RESOLVED that the improvements and amendments being made to the democratic arrangement be supported and that the Council signs the memorandum of understanding.

29. **HOUSING, HEALTH AND LEISURE**

29.1 Housing Capital Schemes

An amount of £3,405,750 had been included in the approved capital budget for 2006/07 in respect of modernisation to houses and bungalows, a new housing build programme and security works.

RESOLVED that the schemes detailed be approved.

29.2 Smoke Free Nottinghamshire

Partner organisations of Smoke Free Nottinghamshire had been approached for a contribution to continue the work of a Tobacco Alliance Co-ordinator throughout Nottinghamshire, initially for a 12 month period. The total annual cost of the coordinator post for 2006/07 was estimated at £30,000. For the district councils and their respective PCTs a contribution of £1,250 was anticipated. The balance would be made up by a greater level of contribution by the County Council, the City Council and the city PCT. The cabinet considered the aim, objectives and recent alliance work of Smoke Free Nottinghamshire and financial assistance towards the co-ordinator post.

RESOLVED that a supplementary revenue estimate of £1,250 be approved for part funding of a Tobacco Alliance Co-ordinator, with resources being allocated from revenue contingencies.

29.3 Association of Retained Council Housing Membership

The Association of Retained Council Housing (ARCH) aimed to represent the interests of stock-retaining housing authorities at a national level. The cabinet considered details of ARCH and the benefit to the Council of becoming a member of the organisation.

RESOLVED that membership of the Association of Retained Council Housing be approved.

29.4 Review of Supporting People Charges

The Council introduced charges from 1 April 2005 for supporting people services. The supporting people partnership in Nottinghamshire had considered the level of charges in respect of warden's services and had proposed an increase of 2.25% in the level of charges in 2006/07. The cabinet considered a proposal to increase Broxtowe's supporting people charges by that amount.

RESOLVED that, with effect from 1 April 2006, the supporting people charges for warden's services as set out in the appendix to the report be approved.

29.5 New Primary Care Trust (PCT) Arrangements

The Housing, Health and Leisure Select Committee at its meeting on 1 February 2006 expressed concerns over the proposed configuration of the boundaries of the Primary Care Trusts. The cabinet considered a proposed response to the consultation paper published by the Trent Strategic Health Authority.

The Leader of the Council advised that following consultation of all councillors, the Broxtowe and Hucknall PCT Board had met and it had been agreed that the North/South Nottinghamshire divide with the inclusion of Hucknall configuration be recommended.

RESOLVED that support be given to a North/South PCT configuration for the county.

30. PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

30.1 Anti-Social Behaviour Funding

The County Council had allocated an additional £30,000 in 2005/06 and for each of the next two years to the Broxtowe Safer Communities Partnership. The allocation was for use on local anti-social behaviour issues as prioritised by the Partnership for 2005/06 to 2007/08. The cabinet considered details of the proposed projects and the financial implications for 2005/06 and 2006/07 arising from the funding.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. A supplementary revenue estimate of £30,000 be approved in 2006/07 using funding provided by Nottinghamshire County Council.**
- 2. The funding be allocated towards young person's mediation service (£10,000) and groundwork diversionary work (£20,000).**

30.2 Multi-Purpose Games Area – Leyton Crescent Recreation Ground, Beeston Rylands

The cabinet considered proposals and financial implications to upgrade the current kick-about area and to create a multi-purpose games area at Leyton Crescent Recreation Ground, Beeston.

RESOLVED that, subject to local consultation, the upgrading of a multi-purpose games area at Leyton Crescent Recreation Ground, Beeston Rylands be approved in principle at a cost of £9,500. Funded by the 2005/06 capital budgets for neighbourhood pride (£1,000), parks and recreation grounds (£3,500) and the South Broxtowe Regeneration fund (£5,000) with funding carried forward to 2006/07.

30.3 Eastwood Age Concern Alterations to Frontage

Eastwood Age Concern had requested financial assistance towards alterations to the frontage of the premises at Council owned premises at Edward Road, Eastwood. The cabinet considered the proposals and a contribution to the works estimated at £8,000.

RESOLVED that a supplementary capital estimate of £8,000 for alterations to the premises occupied by Eastwood Age Concern be approved.

30.4 Beeston Square
Replacement of Flag Poles

An assessment of street furniture within The Square, Beeston had revealed that the condition of the flag poles and the internal mechanism was such that it was not cost effective to repair them. The cabinet considered the replacement of the poles with three vandal proof units together with the financial implications.

RESOLVED that an allocation of £3,450 towards the replacement of three flag poles within The Square, Beeston be approved, with this funding carried forward into 2006/07.

30.5 Nottingham Playhouse

The cabinet considered a request from the Nottingham Playhouse for sponsorship from the Council.

RESOLVED that a grant of £6,150 be approved.

30.6 Revenue Grants

The cabinet considered five applications for grant aid.

RESOLVED that the applications be dealt with as follows:

	£
*Beeston Hockey Club	200
Beeston Shopmobility	4,000
Beauvale Songsters	350
The D H Lawrence Society	200
Nicola Bamford	**100

****A further £100 to be awarded if the individual attends international competitions.**

*(Councillor S Doo, having declared an interest in this matter, left the meeting before discussion or voting thereon.)

30.7 Disability Grant Applications

The cabinet considered four applications for grant aid to assist people with disabilities.

RESOLVED that the applications be dealt with as follows:

	£
Beeston Shopmobility	1,000

	£
Vitalise	500
Disability Matters	350
Eastwood Volunteer Bureau	800

30.8 Enterprise Grant Aid

RESOLVED that the application for grant aid to Tribbles Gift Store be deferred for further information.

31. **TECHNICAL AND WORKS SERVICES**

31.1 Play Strategy

The big lottery fund had announced details of a new £155 million children's play initiative to be launched in March 2006. A bid to the fund required a portfolio of projects to be submitted that focused on areas of greatest need and formed part of the Council's local play strategy.

The cabinet considered a proposal for the Council to work jointly with Gedling Borough Council to appoint Pinpoint Consultants to produce a play strategy.

RESOLVED that a supplementary revenue estimate of £10,000 be approved to appoint Pinpoint Consultants to prepare a play strategy with funding being allocated from the revenue contingency.

32. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public and press 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 1,2,3 and 6 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

33. **RESOURCES**

33.1 Shilo North Site, Eastwood

RESOLVED that 5.67 hectares of land be acquired, that authority be given to the Director of Legal and Administrative Services to take steps to regularise occupation of the land in question and a bio-diversity survey of the site to be undertaken.

33.2 Counsel Advice

RESOLVED that a supplementary revenue estimate of up to £40,000 be approved to cover costs incurred, with funding to be provided from within the Council's overall budget.

33.3 Irrecoverable Arrears

RESOLVED that the arrears in excess of £750 on national non-domestic rates, council tax, rents, housing/council tax benefit overpayment and sundry debtors as set out in the report be written off and to note the exercise of the Director of Finance's delegated authority under financial regulation 5.9.