

Time Commenced – 09:01
Time Finished – 09:50

Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Board

16 May 2016

Present: Councillor Stanton (Chair)
Councillors Bayliss, Dhindsa, Jackson, J Khan, Webb and Williams

In Attendance: Paul Robinson, Janie Berry, Christine Durrant, Amanda Fletcher, John Sadler

116/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carr, Poulter, Whitby and Wright.

117/15 Late Items

There were no late items.

118/15 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Webb declared a non-pecuniary interest as the Council-appointed Chair of the Derby Homes Board.

119/15 Council Cabinet Agenda

The Board considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Communities and Strategic Director for Communities and Place on the Council Cabinet Agenda for Monday 16 May 2016 on the Cattle and Wholesale Market – Property Rationalisation Update.

The report stated that a service review of the Cattle and Wholesale Market was undertaken in June 2015 as part of the Property Rationalisation Programme. Members were informed that following a recommendation made by the Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board that tenants, businesses and other parties be given the opportunity to make viable business proposals which offered a sustainable future for the markets, Council Cabinet had completed an Expressions of Interest (EOI) exercise. Members were informed that interested parties were asked to submit their proposals in a consistent and structured way. Notice was also served on the relevant tenants, allowing the Council to obtain vacant possession of the site if no suitable expressions of interest were submitted.

It was resolved to recommend that full discussions and the agreement of any recommendations of the board would be dealt with following the exclusion of press and public under Key Decision Item 8, Cattle and Wholesale Market – Property Rationalisation Update.

20/15 Exclusion of Press and Public

The Board considered and agreed a resolution “that under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information”.

21/15 Council Cabinet Agenda – Part 2

Item 8 - Cattle and Wholesale Market – Property Rationalisation Update

The Board considered exempt information in relation to the Council Cabinet report on the Cattle and Wholesale Market – Property Rationalisation Update.

Members queried the urgency and confidential nature of the report and expressed concerns about the lack of information provided to the public on the detail of the decision. Members requested that the final public version of the report and agreed recommendations should include detail on the reasons for bids being unsuccessful as outlined in paragraphs 4.10, 4.11 and 4.12 of the exempt report, without revealing the names of those bidders, in order to better explain the council's position. Members also requested that the report should offer a clearer recommendation in relation to paragraph 4.12 of the exempt report.

The Board discussed the options considered and recommended that should no bids be considered successful to maintain operation of the Cattle and Wholesale Markets, a further option to consider sale of the site with the buildings remaining in situ be considered prior to any demolition works. Members also requested splitting the sale of the wholesale and cattle markets into two separate redevelopment opportunities is considered. Furthermore, it was recommended that planning conditions, terms or obligations should be included in any agreement to encourage timely completion of works if the site is sold for redevelopment.

Members also requested that any future reports on property rationalisation should have any policy/strategy document amended for consideration alongside relevant decisions.

It was resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that:

- 1) The final public version of the report and agreed recommendations should include detail on the reasons for bids being unsuccessful as outlined in paragraphs 4.10, 4.11 and 4.12 of the exempt report, without revealing the names of those bidders, in order to better explain the council's position;**
- 2) The report should offer a clear recommendation in relation to paragraph 4.12 of the exempt report.**
- 3) Should no bids be considered successful to maintain operation of the Cattle and Wholesale Markets, a further option to consider sale of the site with the buildings remaining in situ be considered prior to any demolition works;**
- 4) Splitting the sale of the wholesale and cattle markets into two separate redevelopment opportunities is considered.**
- 5) Planning conditions, terms or obligations should be included in any agreement to encourage timely completion of works if the site is sold for redevelopment; and**
- 6) Any future reports on property rationalisation should have any policy/strategy document amended for consideration alongside relevant decisions.**

MINUTES END