

Time began 6.00pm  
Time ended 6.42pm

## **COUNCIL CABINET**

**05 April 2005**

Present: Councillor Burgess – Chair  
Councillors Allen, E Berry, Care, Carr, Hickson, Samra  
and West

Also present: Councillor Williamson

This record of decisions was published on 7 April 2005. The key decisions set out in this record will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five clear days unless a decision is called-in.

### **349/04 Apologies**

There were no apologies.

### **350/04 Late items to be introduced by the Chair**

There were no late items.

### **351/04 Identification of Urgent Items to which Call-In will not Apply**

There were no urgent items.

### **352/04 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Williamson declared a personal interest in minute number 362/04 – Adult Social Care Modernisation Board as he was appointed to the Primary Care Trust by the Council.

### **353/04 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Part 1 minutes of the meetings held on 14 and 15 March 2005 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## Matters Referred to Council Cabinet

### 354/04 Education Commission School Place Planning Reviews – Consideration of the Commission’s Recommendation

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Education Commission regarding Education Commission School Place Planning Reviews – Adoption of the Commission’s Recommendation.

The Council Cabinet also considered a report from the Director of Education regarding Education Commission School Place Planning Reviews – Consideration of the Commission’s Recommendation.

#### **Decision**

1. To agree that proposals for a place planning strategy for primary schools would be brought to the Council Cabinet meeting on 12 July 2005.
2. To agree that proposals for secondary school place planning would be integrated into an updated vision for the ‘Building Schools for the Future’ programme, to be developed for consultation during the second half of 2005.

### 355/04 Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Strategy

#### **Decision**

To note that the Community Regeneration Commission noted the report and commended the officers involved for producing a good report.

### 356/04 Community Safety Action Plan

#### **Decision**

To note that the Community Regeneration Commission noted the report but expressed regret that it’s earlier views had not been accepted and incorporated.

### 357/04 Derbyloans

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Community Regeneration Commission regarding Derbyloans which requested that Council Cabinet acts upon the Commission’s previous recommendation 14 from Report 1362: Community Based Finance Institutions:

'Members conclude that a loan book of 2m can only be achievable in the long term and that external support for running costs may always be necessary; b) the City Council and other partners should anticipate a need to contribute for a minimum range of 7 to 10 years; c) if specific legislation may be inadequate the City Council should invoke the wellbeing powers in the Local Government Act 2000 to achieve this.'

### **Decision**

To receive a report at 14 June Council cabinet responding to the Commission's recommendation, including a financial evaluation of Derbyloans.

## **Key Decisions**

### **358/04 Disposal of Land at Elmhurst, Lonsdale Place**

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Corporate Services regarding disposal of land at Elmhurst, Lonsdale Place.

### **Options Considered**

None.

### **Decision**

To authorise a sale by auction.

### **Reasons**

1. This former Children's Home was surplus to Council requirements. Because of the nature of the property and the success which had been achieved by offering other properties of this nature for sale by auction, disposal by this means was recommended.
2. Because a sale by auction created a contract when the highest bid was accepted, prior authorisation was needed for a sale which was anticipated would comfortably exceed the £100,000 threshold necessary for Cabinet authorisation.

### **359/04 Historic Buildings/Conservation Area Grants**

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Development and Cultural Services regarding historic buildings/conservation area grants. The properties were a Grade II listed pair of rendered houses of circa 1840 contributing to the Regency Street scene of villas along Vernon Street, and located within the Friar Gate Conservation Area.

## **Options Considered**

None.

## **Decision**

To approve the application for Historic Building Repair grant aid of up to £3,926 or 25% of actual costs, whichever was the lesser, towards the cost of various repairs to the front elevation of Numbers 1 and 2 Vernon Street, subject to the following conditions:

1. Standard conditions.
2. Render repairs to be carried out using lime render, and the mix and finish to be agreed by the Council's Conservation Officer.
3. Mix and finish for new sections of cornice of portico at Number 1 to be agreed by the Council's Conservation Officer.
4. Metal grilles in risers of steps at Numbers 1 and 2 to be replaced to match the existing.
5. Sample of new Hopton Wood limestone tread to be fitted on the bottom step at Number 2 to be agreed by the Council's Conservation Officer before repairs are carried out to ensure that it matches the original stone. Extent of any further step replacements to be agreed with the Council's Conservation Officer.
6. Extent of window repairs to be carried out to be agreed with the Council's Conservation Officer.
7. All lead work to be to Lead Sheet Association standards.

## **Reason**

The offer of grant assistance would make sure that repair works to this listed building was carried out to a high standard and that it would help to preserve/enhance the special character of the listed buildings and also the Friar Gate Conservation Area.

## **360/04      Redevelopment of the Derbyshire Blocks,                   Arnhem Terrace, Spondon**

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Directors of Policy and Corporate Services regarding the Redevelopment of the Derbyshire Blocks, Arnhem Terrace, Spondon. The 'Derbyshire Blocks' comprise 86 flats located in 8 blocks – Ashbourne House, Belper House, Buxton House, Chesterfield House, Heanor House, Matlock House, Melbourne House and Ripley House – together with a number of blocks of garages, on Arnhem Terrace, and

Craddock Avenue in Spondon. The flats are a mix of bedsits, 1-bed flats and 2-bed flats and were currently managed by Derby Homes.

### **Options Considered**

The main alternative was to refurbish the blocks, rather than redevelop. However, this was not a cost effective option and was also against the wishes of tenants currently occupying the flats.

### **Decision**

1. To approve the options being investigated for the redevelopment of the 'Derbyshire Blocks' outlined in the report.
2. To approve a start to decanting the remaining tenants from the flats so that the redevelopment could proceed.
3. To receive a further report with a recommended option for decision.
4. To refer the report to the Community Regeneration Commission for consideration.

### **Reasons**

1. To take forward the redevelopment of the 'Derbyshire Blocks'.
2. To give current tenants and residents of the area greater certainty about proposals for the flats.
3. To obtain vacant possession of the flats.

## **361/04 St Andrew's Special School Foundation Stage Unit**

The Council considered a report from the Director of Education regarding the St Andrew's Special School Foundation Stage Unit.

### **Options Considered**

1. The school could continue to provide a FS unit for FS1 pupils but this could compromise the quality of the education it provides for KS3 and 4 pupils and would limit the number of pupils attending and the accommodation available. The reorganisation of the school meant that the continuity of FS education and progression into KS1 was no longer possible for children with SEN. Therefore, continuation of FS education within St Andrew's Special School is no longer appropriate. If the school continued to provide FS1 education, the low numbers of children registered would not provide sufficient funding to support the current staffing levels and redundancy would need to be considered.

2. The provision could be relocated to another school with spare capacity. However, there are a significant number of surplus FS1 places within the area. Relocation of the unit would incur capital costs. It was not considered to be cost-effective to adapt existing facilities to create new places when surplus places already exist within the area. This option would not necessarily avoid redundancies among staff as these are dependent on pupil numbers.

### **Decision**

1. To approve the publication of statutory notices for the closure of the Foundation Stage 1 Unit at St Andrew's Special School from September 2005.
2. To delegate to the Director of Education the power to determine these proposals if there are no objections raised during the statutory notice period.

### **Reasons**

1. At its meeting on 21 December 2004, Council Cabinet agreed to consult with parents, staff and governors and other local schools on the proposal to close the FS1 unit at St Andrew's Special School.
2. The consultation closed on 7 March 2005 and the response indicated that there was support for the closure.

## **Performance Monitoring**

### **362/04 Adult Care Modernisation Board**

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Social Services regarding the Adult Social Care Modernisation Board.

### **Decision**

1. To agree the terms of reference and composition of an adult social services modernisation board "Building for the Future of Adult Social Care".
2. To note the commissioning of consultants to produce a strategy for older people's supported accommodation, particularly for vulnerable older people to underpin the Boards work.
3. To include a union representative on the Modernisation Board and up to two representatives from the Derby Primary Care Trusts.

# Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

## 363/04 Contract and Financial Procedures Matters Report

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Finance and Director of Corporate Services regarding Contract and Financial Procedure Matters. The Director of Corporate Services clarified that the multi-media sound system purchase would include a voting system.

### Decision

1. To approve the waiver of contract procedure rule CPR 15 tender requirements and award a three year contract to New Era Housing Association to continue to provide a supported living service from 8 January 2006, with an option to extend for a further two years.
2. To approve the write-off of outstanding debts as follows:

**Ionica plc                      £21,814.23**

This company went into Receivership at the end of 1998. The debt relates to rental of space for aerials. £20k of the above debt is invoices raised since this date despite no undertaking from either the Receiver's or any subsequent owners. The liquidators will make no further payments.

**Reprise Ltd                      £11,802.72**

This company went in Receivership. The debt relates to the purchase of plastic from the council for recycling. There are no funds available for the unsecured creditors.

**Mrs S. B                              £14,106.85**

This debt relates to a renovation grant. A charge was held on the property to secure this debt. However, the mortgage lender held the first charge and exercised it. Insufficient equity was in the property to cover the first charge, leaving the Council with no option.

**Mr G.T                                  £26,491.99**

This was a residential care charge. The person has died and there are insufficient funds in his estate.

3. To approve, in relation to the Council Chamber multi-media sound system:
  - The inclusion of a portable sound system for the area panel meetings at a cost of £7,832
  - The inclusion of installation works at a cost of £29,052
  - The revised budgets and funding outlined below in paragraph 2.1.6 and 2.1.7 in the report

## 364/04 Exclusion of Press and Public

To exclude the press and public from the meeting during discussion of the following items, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 9 of part 1 of schedule 12A of Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

## Key Decisions

### 365/04 Disposal of Land at Elmhurst, Lonsdale Place

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Corporate Services setting out exempt information relating to the item considered earlier in the meeting regarding disposal of land at Elmhurst, Lonsdale Place.

#### **Decision**

To set the reserve price for the auction at £485,000.

### 366/04 Redevelopment of the Derbyshire Blocks, Arnhem Terrace, Spondon

The Council Cabinet considered a report from Directors of Policy and Corporate Services setting out exempt information relating to the item considered earlier in the meeting regarding the Redevelopment of the Derbyshire Blocks, Arnhem Terrace, Spondon.

#### **Decision**

To note the report.

MINUTES END