

CENTRAL SERVICES CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 31
Brighton & Hove City Council

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

CENTRAL SERVICES CABINET MEMBER MEETING

4.45PM, 21 JULY 2008

ROOM 1 – HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Fallon-Khan , Cabinet Member for Central Services.

Also in attendance:

Cabinet Member/s: Councillor Young, Cabinet Member for Finance.

Other Members:

Councillor Hamilton, Opposition Spokesperson.

PART ONE

13 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

13a Declarations of Interests

13.1 There were none.

13b Exclusion of Press and Public

13.2 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A, Part 5A, Section 100A(4) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

13.3 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of item 27a, in Part Two of the agenda.

14 MINUTES

14.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on the 4 June 2008 be approved and signed by the Cabinet Member subject to the following amendments:

Paragraph 3.1 should refer to the Cabinet Meeting for Central Services, and the first sentence of paragraph 3.6 should be deleted (for copy see minute book).

15 CABINET MEMBER'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 15.1 The Cabinet Member welcomed all those in attendance and stressed that he wanted the Cabinet Member Meetings to be as open and transparent as possible.
- 15.2 The Cabinet Member thanked officers, Directors and Assistant Directors for their hard work and dedication over the last few months. These officers had always been available for requests for information.

16 ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

- 16.1 **RESOLVED** – All items were reserved for discussion.

17 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- 17.1 There were none.

18 WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

- 18.1 There were none.

19 PETITIONS

- 19.1 There were none.

20 DEPUTATIONS

- 20.1 There were none.

21 LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

- 21.1 There were none.

22 NOTICE OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

- 22.1 There were none.

23 MATTERS REFERRED FOR RECONSIDERATION

- 23.1 There were none.

24 REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 24.1 There were none.

25 COMMUNITY FACILITIES – REVISED LONG LEASE

- 25.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Assistant Director, Property & Design which explained that the Policy and Resources Committee on 23 February 2005 resolved that the council acquire a long leasehold interest of 160 years for the Community Facilities to be built as part of the development of blocks E and F at the New England Quarter, as set out in the original Section 106 agreement for the development dated September 2003. In addition, it was resolved that an underlease be granted to the Ethical Property Company PLC for 125 years. The

developer of blocks E & F had now offered the council a lease for 999 years, as set out in a subsequent Section 106 agreement dated September 2007.

25.2 The Cabinet Member thanked Jessica Hamilton for her report and the fact that the council had managed to negotiate a 999 year lease. The Opposition Spokesperson concurred.

25.3 **RESOLVED** – That having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:

(1) That the council acquires a long leasehold interest of 999 years for the Community Facilities to be built as part of the development of blocks E and F at the New England Quarter.

2) That the council grants an underlease to the Ethical Property Company plc on terms to be agreed by officers under general delegations.

26 **RESPONSE TO A REPORT REQUEST ON BADGER MANAGEMENT**

26.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Assistant Director, Property & Design, which had been produced in response to a letter request by Councillor Duncan, regarding a proposal for the council to introduce a ban on badger culling on farmland owned by Brighton & Hove City Council. The report considered the current legal framework, the problems badgers can cause and the implications of a ban and the current political debate (for copy see minute book).

26.2 The Cabinet Member expressed disappointment that Councillor Duncan was not in attendance at the meeting to hear the response to his letter.

26.3 The Cabinet Member stressed that the council was currently following government guidance in relation to badgers and he could see no reason to alter this policy.

26.4 The Opposition Spokesperson expressed the view that he would be sorry to see badgers culled but accepted the findings of the report. He queried whether badgers were much of a problem in Brighton & Hove. There were several badger setts in the area where he lived and the farmer said they were not a problem.

26.5 The representative from Smiths Gore explained that no-body knew the extent of TB in badgers or which areas were more affected than others. The disease was more likely to affect diary cattle as they lived longer than beef cattle, and TB took a long time to gestate.

26.6 Councillor Young asked if there were any cases of TB within the cities boundaries. The representative from Smiths Gore replied that there was not any data as to how many animals had TB. There were no diary cows among the cities commercial herds. However, the situation could change in the next few years, should farmers revert to dairy production.

26.7 **RESOLVED** – That having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:

(1) That a ban on badger culling be resisted, and that the authority relies on the

existing statutory controls in place.

(2) That it be agreed that, should national legislation be revised, or the Government issue further guidance in relation to disease control to reduce the spread of TB, the authority should review its policy in light of any further advice or guidance.

27 PROVISION OF A CASH IN TRANSIT AND ANCILLARY SERVICE EFFECTIVE FROM 10 DECEMBER 2008

27.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Finance & Resources concerning the outcome of the evaluation process regarding the Cash in Transit and Ancillary Service Contract. The report also recommended the appointment of the Council's preferred contractor. Further details of the financial evaluation was contained in the exempt item 27b (for copy see minute book).

27.2 The Cabinet Member thanked officers for the information contained in the report and stated that the tendering process had been carried out in the spirit of quality, efficiency and cost effectiveness.

27.3 **RESOLVED** - That having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:

1) That it be noted that Coin Co International Plc met the evaluation criteria as set out in the evaluation process.

2) That the ward of contract to Coin Co International Plc for a period of three years, commencing 10 December 2008, be approved, with an option (at the sole discretion of the council), to extend the contract for a further two years.

PART TWO SUMMARY

28. PROVISION OF A CASH IN TRANSIT AND ANCILLARY SERVICE EFFECTIVE FROM 10 DECEMBER 2008 – EXEMPT CATEGORY 3

28.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Finance & Resources concerning further information on the financial evaluation process and the outcome of the evaluation process regarding the cash in transit and Ancillary Service Contract. The report further recommended the appointment of the Council's preferred contractor.

28.2 **RESOLVED** – As set out in 27 above.

29. PART 2 ITEMS

29.1 The Cabinet Member considered whether or not any of the above items should remain exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

29.2 **RESOLVED** – That item No 28 should remain exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 5.04pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of

2008

