



Leicester  
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
CABINET

Held: MONDAY, 27 JANUARY 2003 at 5.00pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Willmott - Chair  
Councillor Patel - Vice-Chair

Councillor Bhatti  
Councillor Draycott  
Councillor Getliffe  
Councillor Holden

Councillor Kavia  
Councillor Osman  
Councillor Roberts  
Councillor Westley

\* \* \* \* \*

**157. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

Councillors Draycott, Getliffe, Roberts and Westley declared a personal interest in Report E, "Housing Capital Programme 2002-03 and 2003-04" and Report F, "Housing Revenue Account – Budget 2003", as council house tenants or with relatives who were council house tenants, but declared that this interest was not prejudicial.

Councillor Willmott declared a prejudicial interest in Report N, Loughborough Road Conservation Area (Shaftesbury Avenue) Article 4 (2) Direction and left the meeting while the matter was considered.

**158. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Leader's announcements.

**159. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2002, having been circulated to Members, be taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## 160. ITEMS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

The Cabinet received the following items from the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee arising from its meetings on 19 December 2002 and 23 January 2003.

### FINANCE, RESOURCES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 19 DECEMBER 2002

#### a) REVITALISING NEIGHBOURHOODS : UPDATE ON PROGRESS

*“RESOLVED:*

- (1) That the Committee express its concern to Cabinet regarding the level of funding for Revitalising Neighbourhoods,*
- (2) That the Committee express to Cabinet its concern at the lack of significant capital provision for the development of the project.*
- (3) That the Committee express to Cabinet its concern that no method of choosing forum members has been agreed, and*
- (4) That the Committee express to Cabinet its concern that the proposed neighbourhood areas are insufficiently related to local communities.”*

The Cabinet noted that a written response to the above had been circulated with the papers. In addition, Councillor Patel responded as follows:-

With regard to the level of funding for ‘Revitalising Neighbourhoods’ (Item 1), Councillor Patel referred to the budget for this financial year which would be used for devolved budgets, contributing to community capacity building, administration costs and the development of the New Parks Customer Service Centre, amongst other things.

With regard to the level of capital funding (Item 2), he noted that the New Parks Customer Service Centre was developing well. However, whether this model would be followed in all the other Neighbourhoods was yet to be determined. The success of the New Parks Customer Service Centre would be monitored and assessed.

With regard to the selection of members for the Forum, (Item 3), he referred to the Guidelines for Neighbourhood Forums which covered this issue.

In response to the concerns about the size of the areas, (Item 4), Councillor Patel commented that the Neighbourhood Forums were a ‘starting point’. It was expected that the Neighbourhood Co-ordinators would get to know the ‘patch’ and report back to Cabinet advising on the best ways to access the

local level.

Councillor Willmott added that Cabinet acknowledged that there would be levels 'below' the Forums, both existing and future groups. The Forums would give these groups an identifiable link into the Council's structures and provide better accountability than existed currently. He also commented that a portion of the capital expenditure on the New Parks Customer Service Centre had been used for the Housing Office and this Centre was therefore not typical.

## **FINANCE, RESOURCES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 23 JANUARY 2003**

### b) PROPOSED LONG LEASEHOLD DISPOSAL OF WESTERN PARK HOUSE AND PAVILION, WESTERN PARK, LEICESTER

**“RESOLVED:**

- (1) *That whilst the Committee obviously welcomes the capital receipt that this lease will bring for the Council and the fact that the building involved will have significant refurbishment work done to it, Members nevertheless are concerned at the loss of public open land resulting from this arrangement and it recommends that steps are taken in an effort to make good this loss,*
- (2) *that the Committee is also concerned at the length of lease and recommends that, where possible, shorter leases are negotiated and restrictions on future development should be insisted on when granting leases of this kind in land adjacent to public open space, and*
- (3) *that the Committee recommends in future decisions likely to result in a loss of public open space be referred to this Scrutiny Committee for comment at the earliest opportunity and before any marketing is undertaken.”*

Councillor Patel responded that he would ask the Corporate Director of Cultural Services and Neighbourhood Renewal to consider whether areas of land adjoining the existing Western Park boundary could be incorporated into the Park and used as Public Open Space to offset the loss of Public Open space due to the proposed letting of Western Park House and Pavilion and adjoining land under a 125 year lease. However, due to the park being bounded by either public highways, an operational railway line and private garden land it may prove difficult to identify such areas.

He also commented that, having regard to individual circumstances, shorter leases would be offered where possible.

He confirmed that restrictions on future development currently formed part of

modern Council leases of land adjacent to Public Open Space and that Cabinet would be advised by Officers on the extent of consultation that had occurred prior to making its decisions to dispose of similar properties. This would enable the Cabinet to consider the role of Scrutiny Committees in such circumstances.

Councillor Willmott also commented that the Cabinet had requested a list of all unoccupied Council owned properties and asked officers to consider ways of bringing empty buildings back into use both to prevent disrepair and to generate income. The former Chair of the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee had also asked for the same list and requested Cabinet to take action to bring empty buildings into use. Councillor Willmott commented that the leasing of the Western Park House was an example of a successful solution to an unused Council building being brought back into an appropriate use

### **161. BELGRAVE BAHENO PEEPUL CENTRE - REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

Councillor Roberts submitted a report asking the Cabinet to consider a request for a capital grant of £260,000 towards the construction of the Peepul Centre. It was noted that the proposed Peepul Centre would provide a wide range of activities through a purposely built community centre which would contribute towards meeting the Council's strategic objectives. The centre would be run by Belgrave Baheno, an established voluntary organisation.

It was noted that a service and financial analysis had been undertaken of the Business Plan of the Peepul Centre. The total capital cost of the Centre was estimated at £14.4 million. Of this sum, £2.832 million had already been secured, a further £10.388 million had been verbally promised or ring fenced and decisions on £932,000 of bids were still awaited. Any funding by the Council would be subject to a service agreement and grant conditions.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) that approval be given for a grant of £260,000 towards the construction of the Peepul Centre, subject to 90% of the capital funding being secured;
- (2) that the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong learning be the Lead director for the project (noting it has other service implications);
- (3) that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Education and Lifelong Learning to impose any detailed conditions he considers necessary to protect the Council's money, through the development of a detailed service specification and contractual funding agreement; and
- (4) that there be no commitment or inference of a commitment for the Council to make revenue contributions to the Peepul Centre, and the Peepul Centre be advised that £260,000 is an absolute maximum.

## **162. 2002 ASSESSMENT OF LEICESTER'S HOUSING NEEDS**

Councillor Draycott submitted a report outlining the findings of a survey of Leicester's Housing Needs. It was noted that the survey showed a shortfall of affordable housing of 635 homes each year. This was based on an assessment of need, both backlog and newly arising, for those households who could not afford market housing. In addition, a further 7514 households were inadequately housed, mostly due to overcrowding or the need for adaptations or repairs.

RESOLVED:

that the findings of the 2002 Housing Needs Survey be noted.

## **163. 'AFFORDABLE HOUSING' AND THE PLANNING PROCESS**

Councillor Kavia submitted a report that discussed the contribution that planning policies had and could make towards the provision of affordable housing in Leicester.

The minutes of the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 10 October 2002 and the Strategic Planning and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 17 October 2002, had been circulated to the Cabinet.

The Cabinet Lead for Housing, whilst expressing that she hoped for a successful result from the moratorium on affordable housing, emphasised that she would not wish it to be a permanent feature. She also welcomed the recommendation with regard to the creation of a post to co-ordinate work on planning gain, including the securing of affordable housing through the planning process

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the proposed Affordable Housing Policy Statement, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved;
- (2) that approval be given for the creation of a post in the Environment, Regeneration and Development Department, to co-ordinate and join-up work on planning gain, including the securing of affordable housing through the planning process;
- (3) that the decision taken by officers, in conjunction with the Cabinet Lead, to extend the current moratorium on affordable housing within parts of the Leicester Regeneration Company area to cover planning applications and commenced within 18 months, be endorsed and that a report on the impact of the moratorium be considered by Cabinet in June 2003;
- (4) that proposals for a framework and process for securing

developers contributions be brought to a Cabinet meeting in two months.

#### **164. HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2002-03 AND 2003-04**

Councillor Draycott submitted a report that reviewed the current year's approved Housing Capital Programme and following receipt of the Single Capital Pot, recommended a programme for 2003/04.

A revised report had been circulated following the receipt of further information. An amended minute extract from the Housing Scrutiny Committee on 9 January was also circulated. The Cabinet Lead Member also circulated a proposed resolution.

It was noted that the amount available to fund the Disabled Facilities Grant was not yet know. At this stage, an assumption had been made that the Government would fund 60% of the planned expenditure in this area. Councillor Draycott reported that the Housing Scrutiny Committee had requested that any shortfall in funding for this purpose should be found from the Single Capital Pot. She proposed that the situation be monitored and no decision be made at this stage.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) that Council be recommended to approve the revised Housing Capital Programme for 2002/03, outlined at Appendix A to the report and the funding arrangements outlined at Paragraph 1.1 of the Supporting Papers and that the Head of Legal Services be authorised to enter into any contracts necessary to maximise the spend against the revised programme;
- (2) that Council be recommended to approve the use of resources shown in paragraph 2.1 of the Supporting Information, including the use of £200,000 from Housing Maintenance DSO profits, £500,000 from Housing Balances and the balance (£300,000) of the unsupported credit approval of £1 million from the Government, to support the Housing Capital Programme in 2003/04;
- (3) that Council be recommended to approve the Housing Capital Programme for 2003/04, outlined at Appendix B to the report, which showed an overall spend of £24.520 million and allowed for a small amount of overprogramming (2.5%);
- (4) that the Corporate Director of Housing be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member for Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal, to authorise any contracts and the Head of Legal Services be authorised to sign any contracts within the overall programme, to achieve maximum spend

against the resources available; and

- (5) that the Corporate Director of Housing be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member for Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal, to approve bids from Community Associations under the Capital Receipts Initiative allocation in 2003/04.

## **165. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT - BUDGET 2003/04**

Councillor Draycott submitted a report summarising the financial position of the Housing Revenue Account for 2002/03 and 2003/04 and setting out the options for deciding the rent level in 2002/04.

The Minutes of the Housing Scrutiny Committee held on 12 December 2002 were circulated to the Cabinet

The Cabinet Lead also circulated a proposed resolution and confirmed that the Housing Management Board and the Housing Scrutiny Committee supported the proposed rent rise recommendations.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the estimated working balance of £3.083 million to be carried forward to 2003/04, be noted;
- (2) that Council be recommended to approve the 2003/04 budget, outlined at Appendix A of the report;
- (3) to note that officers now had the data to enable tenants to see the full implications of rent restructuring and how it will impact on their particular rent;
- (4) that, Council be recommended to defer the introduction of Rent Restructuring until April 2004, as Cabinet feels that tenants should be fully consulted on the new rent and how it has been calculated, before it is introduced.
- (5) that Council be recommended to increase all rent applied to dwellings, garages, parking spaces, targeted rents etc. by 2.68% in 2003/04:
- (6) that Council be recommended to increase the charge applied to district heating and hot water and LeicesterCare in 2003/04, by 2.5%;
- (7) that Council approve the recommendations of the Corporate Director of Housing and the Chief Finance Officer, as shown on the list of miscellaneous charges and payments, outlined at Appendix C of the report; and

- (8) that Council be recommended to approve the use of £368,000 from the Housing Revenue Account reserves to balance the Housing Revenue Account in 2003/04.

#### **166. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND IMPROVEMENT PLANS**

Councillor Westley submitted a report presenting the Executive Summary and Improvement Plans arising from the Best Value Review of Environmental Services.

The Minutes of the Arts, Leisure and Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 8 January 2003 had been circulated to the Cabinet and their views taken on board in the report.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the comments of the Arts, Leisure and Environment Scrutiny Committee, be noted;
- (2) that the Best Value Review and Improvement Plan of Local Environmental Services be approved; and
- (3) that the necessary reviews under the Council's protocol for Organisation and Staffing Changes be authorised

#### **167. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF PAYROLL**

Councillor Westley submitted a report advising the Cabinet of the findings of the Best Value Review of Payroll.

The Minutes of the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee held on 19 December had been circulated to the Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the findings of the review, and the improvement plan, be approved;
- (2) that the seeking of an applications service provider to provide an integrated payroll/HR system, be approved;
- (3) that officers be required to safeguard the Council's interests in the event of an application service provider ceasing to exist;
- (4) that approval be given for capital expenditure of £0.7m for the implementation of the new system, to be funded from an unsupported credit approval awarded for the purpose;



- (5) that the Town Clerk and Director of Corporate Resources, be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Lead for Resources, to select a provider, after a procurement exercise using the EC negotiated procedure; and
- (6) that the Head of Legal Services be authorized to enter into appropriate contracts.

#### **168. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF ICT AND E-GOVERNMENT**

Councillor Westley submitted a report presented the final report and Improvement Plan from the first phase of the Best Value Review of ICT and E-Government.

The Minutes of the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2003 were circulated to the Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

That the findings and the conclusions of the review and improvement plans proposed, be approved.

#### **169. POLICY ON LICENSING OF SEX SHOPS**

Councillor Holden submitted a report proposing an amended policy on the Licensing of Sex Shops. Councillor Holden thanked those who had responded to the consultation on this policy. It was noted that the emphasis of the proposed changes in policy were with regard to location. The proposed Policy allowed for sex establishments to be located within the inner ring road but not in local communities or anywhere they may cause offence, for example, close to schools or religious establishments. The Policy allowed for 3 shops within the inner ring road and it was noted that currently there were 2 located outside this demarcation. The proposal was to allow these 2 existing establishments to operate for a maximum of a further 5 years and in the meantime the Council would offer advice with relocating these two premises.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the policy on the licensing of Sex Shops, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, be adopted with immediate effect; and
- (2) that the implementation policy shown in Appendix 2 to the report, be adopted.

#### **170. ANTI SOCIAL USE OF FIREWORKS**

Councillor Holden submitted a report informing the Cabinet of the outcome of the recent publicity campaign aimed at raising public awareness of the anti social use of fireworks. Councillor Holden thanked the local media, and in particular the Leicester Mercury for their support of the campaign. The report

also sought support from the City's three MPs for the introduction of new legislative controls over the sale and use of fireworks.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the work undertaken in the course of the 2002 "Bang" campaign aimed at reducing the problems associated with the antisocial use of fireworks, be endorsed;
- (2) that information arising from the campaign, together with the clear public support for the introduction of new legislation to tackle these problems, be forwarded to the Department of Trade and Industry and the City's three M.P.s, and that they be asked to support the private member's Bill currently progressing through Parliament;
- (3) that in the event of such legislation not coming into force, the City Council be recommended to give consideration to applying for authority to introduce local byelaws to tackle these problems; and
- (4) that the City Council, in liaison with the Police and other relevant agencies, continue to use every power at its disposal to tackle problems arising from the antisocial use of firework and to this end, this matter be referred to the Crime and Disorder Partnership.

#### **171. ANNUAL LIBRARY PLAN**

Councillor Roberts submitted the Annual Library Plan 2002 for Cabinet's approval for recommendation to Council.

The Minutes of the Education and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee held on 22 January 2003 were circulated to the Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

that the Annual Library Plan 2002 be approved for recommendation to Council.

#### **172. CORPORATE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2003/04 TO 2004/05**

Councillor Patel submitted a report recommending an update of the corporate capital programme for 2002/03 to 2004/05 and an update of the Council's existing Capital Strategy.

The Minutes of the Finance, Resources and Equal Opportunities Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2003 were circulated to the Cabinet and Councillor Patel responded to the comments made. With regard to the concerns raised by the Scrutiny Committee about the financial risks associated with the Cultural Quarter, Councillor Patel stated that the Cabinet would seek to minimise these. With regard to the Peepul Centre, it was noted that a comprehensive Business Plan had been produced and assessed. With regard to the Scrutiny Committee's request for an elemental breakdown of the funding package for

the Braunstone Leisure Centre, Councillor Patel stated that Cabinet would provide the Scrutiny Committee with the information requested.

RESOLVED:

that Council be recommended to approve the following:-

- a) the updated Capital Strategy detailed in the report.
- b) the capital programme shown at Appendix 3 of the report, subject to decisions taken on the Victoria Road East Extension and the Peepul Centre;
- c) that the following be designated as service resources for the purposes of this programme:-
  - i) Housing capital receipts
  - ii) 80% of housing and 80% of the transport maintenance elements of the Single Capital Pot
  - iii) profits made by the Housing Maintenance DSO
- d) that £655,000 of transport schemes be brought forward from 2003/04 to 2002/03, to be funded temporarily from corporate resources and subsequently repaid from transport service resources in 2003/04.
- e) the following status of schemes in Appendix 3:-
  - i) Block A, being schemes which can proceed once the programme is approved, subject to compliance with Finance Procedure Rules:
  - ii) Block B, being schemes which can proceed subject to a further approval by Cabinet with regard to the detailed implementation of the scheme, to the extent that the further approval has not been obtained
  - iii) Block C, being reserve schemes which can proceed if adequate resources become available, subject to compliance with Finance Procedure Rules
  - iv) Block D, being schemes which cannot proceed unless adequate resources become available and are subject to a further report from the Chief Finance Officer to Cabinet.
- f) that the discretion given by Finance Procedure rules to allow Directors to transfer resources between schemes during the course of the year, be suspended in respect of the Bursom sub-station, as should the expenditure be less

than budget, the scheme approval will be reduced to meet the actual cost.

**173. LOUGHBOROUGH ROAD CONSERVATION AREA (SHAFTESBURY AVENUE) ARTICLE 4 (2) DIRECTION**

Councillor Kavia submitted a report seeking approval to serve an Article 4(2) Direction on properties on Shaftesbury Avenue, within the Loughborough Road Conservation Area.

RESOLVED:

that the Town Clerk be authorised to make and advertise an Article 4(2) Direction for Shaftesbury Avenue (numbers 4-30 (evens) and 1-27 (odds) within the Loughborough Road Conservation Area as specified in the report and be authorised to confirm the direction in the event of no representations being received.

**174. GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES: POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Councillor Patel submitted a report which fulfilled a commitment made as a consequence of a Council question in May, to voice concerns of the Council and to request clarification from the Government of the impact on Local Government of the World Trade Organisation General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

RESOLVED:

that the Council's concern be expressed to the Government about the possible implications of the World Trade Organisation General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), requesting assurances that further negotiations on GATS be carried out in consultation with Local Authorities.

**175. DRAFT SCHOOLS BUDGET 2003/04**

Councillor Roberts submitted a report seeking approval to a draft schools budget for submission to the Secretary of State for Education. It was noted that this was a draft only which may change as further information was received and other decisions made. However, a draft needed to be submitted to the Department for Education and Skills by 31 January 2003.

RESOLVED:

that the Cabinet agree that it is minded to recommended the draft 'schools budget', for 2003/04 of £149,804,000 to Council on 5 March 2003.

**176. COUNCIL TAX-TAXBASE**

Councillor Patel submitted a report outlining the Councils requirement to set a

'taxbase' by 31 January 2003 for the purpose of setting its Council Tax, and to enable the police authority to set its precept.

RESOLVED:

that Council be recommended to approve a taxbase for 2003/04 of 72,227 properties expressed as the equivalent number of Band D properties.

#### **177. COLLECTION FUND SURPLUSES 2003/04**

Councillor Patel submitted a report identifying the estimated financial position of the Collection Fund Account as at 31 March 2003. It was noted that calculating the estimated surplus or deficit for this account was a statutory requirement, as the figure needed to be taken into account during the Council Tax setting process.

RESOLVED:

that the estimated collection fund surplus figure and the estimated shares payable to the Police Authority and the City Council as detailed in the report, be approved.

#### **178. BUDGET 2003/04 - COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY**

Councillor Patel submitted a report noting that the Combined Fire Authority was currently in the process of setting its budget and contained within that was a 4% provision for the cost of the fire fighters pay award.

RESOLVED:

that in recommending a budget to Council in March, a commitment will be included to make a further contribution, if the outcome of the fire dispute cannot be contained within the Fire Authority's budget and to advise the Fire Authority that it would wish efforts be made to contain the cost of any pay increase in excess of budgetary provision and to maximise any savings arising from service modernisation.

#### **179. PRIVATE SESSION**

RESOLVED;

that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following reports in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, because they involve the likely disclosure of 'exempt' information, as defined in the Paragraphs detailed below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act."

##### Paragraph 9

Any terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or

disposal of property or the supply of goods or services.

Braunstone Health and Social Care Centre

Victoria Road East Extension

Shires West Development – Delegated Authority

#### **180. BRAUNSTONE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE CENTRE**

Councillor Patel submitted a report updating the Cabinet on progress and seeking approval for negotiating the sale of the land identified for the Health and Social Care Centre to Braunstone Community Association.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that approval be given for the disposal of land on the basis of a 125 year lease at Hockley Farm Road at, or close to, the market valuation, as recommended in the report, and, if necessary, seek approval from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for such a disposal;
- (2) that the Corporate Director of Resources, Access and Diversity be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Lead for Finance, to agree terms of sale of the site; and
- (3) further reports on the progress of the project, be received.

#### **181. VICTORIA ROAD EAST EXTENSION**

Councillor Patel submitted a report informing the Cabinet of the latest situation with the above project and seeking various approvals to enable the letting of the road construction contract.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that public notice be given of the intention to appropriate that strip of land shown for identification purposes only on the plan attached to the report and marked 'VREE' (Victoria Road East Extension), for highway purposes and if no objections are received that the land be so appropriated;
- (2) that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources, Access and Diversity in consultation with the Lead Members for Finance and Resources, and Cultural Services and Neighbourhood Renewal, to:-
  - (i) consider any objections received to the public notice(s), and

- ii) to authorise the appropriation of the land if, having regard to any objections received, it is considered that the appropriation should proceed.
- (3) that should the appropriation proceed:-
- a) approval is given to the terms for the joint funding of the Victoria Road East Extension and Lewisher Road Link on the basis set out in 1.2 of the Supporting Information.
  - b) approval is delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources, Access and Diversity to complete negotiations and agree the necessary Heads of Terms with the Secretary of State for Health, Gipsy Lane Brickworks Ltd. and the Trustee of Humberstone and Elms Farm Trust, as indicated in the Supporting Information
  - c) approval is delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources, Access and Diversity to accept the most economically advantageous tenders for the construction of the Victoria Road East Extension, and Lewisher Road Link and associated works
  - d) the Head of Legal Services is authorised to enter into the legal documentation necessary for the construction of the Victoria Road East Extension and Lewisher Road Link; this to include any associated contracts; the transfer of land to the Council from Gipsy Lane Brickworks Ltd., from the Council to Gipsy Lane Brickworks Ltd., and from the Secretary of State for Health to the City Council, as set out in 1.3 to 1.5 and 1.10 of the Supporting Information; the release of the restrictive covenant; and the contribution agreements
  - e) approval is given to:-
    - i) commitment to the management plan dated January 2002 (ref. CS/1039) for the Site of Special Scientific Interest on Land adjacent to the Lewisher Road Link,and
    - ii) an application for the variation of condition 12 of planning consent 981079 (dated 22/1/99) to delete the reference to a s.106 agreement.

- f) approval is delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources, Access and Diversity in consultation with the Lead member for Finance and Resources to vary the funding terms for the Victoria Road East Extension / Lewisher Road Link if this proves necessary to secure their construction.

The full decision is recorded in the private section of the Minutes as it contains exempt information as defined in Paragraph 8 of Schedule 12 of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, that is, the amount of any expenditure proposed to be incurred by the authority under any particular contract for the acquisition of property or the supply of goods or services.

## **182. SHIRES WEST DEVELOPMENT - DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

Councillor Patel submitted a report updating the Cabinet on progress on the proposals to develop the Shire Shopping Centre.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the current position be noted; and
- (2) that the Corporate Director of Resources, Access and Diversity be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Leads on Finance and Resources, and Strategic Planning and Regeneration, to agree the terms for the Development Agreement, Land Sale Agreement and any other necessary Agreements required in connection with the Shires West Shopping Centre development and for the Head of Legal Services to be granted authority to enter into and complete these Agreements.

## **183. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 6.02 pm