

Minutes of the Meeting of the HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 21 AUGUST 2003 at 4.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Draycott - Chair
Councillor Allen - Conservative Spokesperson
Councillor Smith - Liberal Democrat Spokesperson

Councillor Corrall Councillor Karim

Councillor Getliffe(for Cllr Shelton) Councillor Keeling (for Cllr Almey)

Also in Attendance

Christine Cronogue - Leicester Federation of Tenants' Associations

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16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests which they might have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

The following personal and prejudicial interests were declared in Minute – 'Stock Options Appraisal', Minute – 'Collection of Water Charges', Minute – Chestnut Pale Fencing' and 'Window Replacement Prioritisation:-

Councillor Corrall related to the tenant of a Council property Councillor Draycotte - related to the tenant of a Council property Councillor Getliffe - tenant of, and father to a tenant of a Council property Councillor Smith - tenant of a Council property Chris Cronogue - tenant of a Council property

Members were advised that the interests did not apply under the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct, Paragraph 10(d), and therefore these Councillors and Mrs Cronogue could remain in the meeting, and take part in discussion on these items.

24. RESEARCH INTO 'AFFORDABLE HOUSING MORATORIUM'

The Corporate Director of Environment, Development and Regeneration and the Corporate Director of Housing submitted a joint report which summarised research on the 'moratorium for affordable housing' being carried out in three parts of the City Centre, and noting the views of Departments on whether or not this should be renewed.

The report explained that the consultants involved had concluded that the 'moratorium' arrangements would cause some impact on the City Centre development sector, and had recommended a new 'moratorium' arrangement for a further five years.

There was much debate on this issue, and the views of both Departments were heard.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the Scrutiny Committee note the conclusions of the research into the current 'moratorium on affordable housing' within parts of the City Centre;
- (2) that it be further noted that the current 'moratorium' arrangements were in place only until 30 September 2003;
- (3) that the opinions of Departments and stakeholders, as detailed in Paragraphs 1.7 to 1.10 of the report, on the research conclusions, and the divergent suggestions on how to address concerns about the provision of 'affordable housing' within the Leicester Regeneration Company area be noted; and
- (4) that Cabinet be informed that the Scrutiny Committee were referring the report on to Full Council for further discussion.