

MEETING**CABINET RESOURCES COMMITTEE****DATE AND TIME****MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER, 2013****AT 7.00 PM****VENUE****HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, NW4 4BG**

Dear Councillors,

Please find enclosed additional papers relating to the following items for the above mentioned meeting which were not available at the time of collation of the agenda.

| Item No | Title of Report | Pages |
|---------|------------------------------|-------|
| 4. | PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS | 1 - 4 |

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| Question Number | Item No | Raised By | Question Raised | Answer |
|-----------------|---------|-------------|--|---|
| 1 | 5 | Ammar Naqvi | When was the Pavilion Way site first identified as the potential location of the Marco Polo Academy and when were the public informed of the proposal? | All council owned sites in areas of high pupil demand are kept under review by the council and information is shared with the DfE when they are seeking sites for free schools. The DfE identified Pavilion Way as a possible site for the Marco Polo late spring/early summer. The public will be consulted on the proposal as part of any planning application that is submitted. |
| 2 | 5 | Ammar Naqvi | Was there any consultation between the Council and local schools in the area to discuss the Marco Polo Academy proposal? | Consultation on the establishment of a free school is the responsibility of each free school proposer. The trustees of The Marco Polo Academy are currently conducting a consultation and are inviting views and ideas of all members of the local Barnet community and other individuals and organisations who are interested in their proposals. Details are available on the Marco Polo Academy website www.themarcopoloacademy.co.uk/consultation |
| 3 | 5 | Ammar Naqvi | Where will the temporary site of the Marco Polo Academy, for admission in September 2014, be located? | Our understanding from the DfE is that this has not yet been identified. |
| 4 | 5 | Ammar Naqvi | Would the Council be prepared to provide a stay of execution to allow community groups and organisations to finish costing an alternative proposal for the land, which would regenerate it for sports use? | The site has been vacant since 2003. Proposals for use of the land have been considered from various parties since 2003 and a request was made to interested parties in 2008 for robust business plans, but none were forthcoming. More recently other proposals have been considered. This particular opportunity to provide a sustainable facility through the development of a school requires it to be delivered for September 2014. The timeline for delivery is very demanding and provides no room for delay. |

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| 5 | 5 | Ammar Naqvi | Have Taylor Wimpey given any indication of how much of the 3.06 acre site they would like disposed to them? | The final allocation of land will be decided through the planning process. |
| 6 | 5 | Mr Roger Lyons | I understand that the Dept of Education advised Barnet Council on 29 August 2013 that with regard to lifting the legal covenant that bans the closure of the Playing Fields, "the Dept cannot offer any commitment to meet costs that are currently undefined or unlimited". How much money are you putting into this destruction of needed Playing Fields, and where will it come from? Why cannot this money be spent on improving the Playing Fields for the people of Hale and Burnt Oak? | As with any site disposal, there will be some legal and administrative costs associated with the land disposal. The DfE will be funding the construction of the school and its community facilities. Should any additional funding be required in relation to community use as part of the planning process, this will be a matter of negotiation between the council and the DfE prior to the project commencement. |

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| 7 | 5 | Mr Roger Lyons | Given that Sport England strongly recommends that each local authority has an up to date playing pitch strategy, why has the Strategy produced by Knight Kavanagh and Page not been adopted by the Council? In the absence of a strategy how do the council know there are sufficient pitches for the sporting population of the Borough? | Concerning the Knight Kavanagh strategy, after its receipt the Council has carried out its own Sport and Physical Activity review, the first round of which has been completed and the next stage is due in early 2014. Information about the review is set out on the Council's web site. Concerning the sufficiency of sites, the Council's Open Space Audit of 2009 included playing fields and it concluded that there was adequate geographical coverage, (Section 8.4) refers. |
| 8 | 5 | Mr Roger Lyons | Does the Council support Government policies for the Olympic legacy, provision of Playing Pitches as part of Government commitment to cross cutting themes of health, social inclusion, regeneration and crime reduction, particularly regarding obesity, and leisure activities off the street, and if so, how does the destruction of Pavilion Way Playing Fields take Government policies forward? | This proposal is intended to provide facilities available for the local community to use in ways that will contribute to improving health, reducing obesity and providing leisure opportunities for sport and other activities. The site is currently vacant and providing a new managed facility will enable local community and sporting groups to have a good local offer available, enabling the community to develop activities and opportunities to engage young people in positive activities. |

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