

Decisions of the Policy and Resources Committee

16 December 2015

Members Present:-

Councillor Richard Cornelius (Chairman)
Councillor Daniel Thomas (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Dean Cohen
Councillor Tom Davey
Councillor Paul Edwards

Councillor Ross Houston
Councillor Alon Or-Bach
Councillor Barry Rawlings

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Anthony Finn
Councillor David Longstaff

Councillor Alison Moore
Councillor Sachin Rajput

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2015 be approved as a correct record.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Councillor Cllr Longstaff, who was substituted by Councillor Thompstone;
- Councillor Moore, who was substituted by Councillor Cooke;
- Councillor Finn, who was substituted by Councillor Cohen; and
- Councillor Rajput.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS (IF ANY)

Councillor	Agenda Item	Interest Declared
Councillor Ross Huston	Item 7	Non-disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a Council appointed representative on the Board of The Barnet Group Ltd.
Councillor Ross Huston	Item 11	Non-disclosable pecuniary interest as he has a share in Genesis Housing Association
Councillor Barry Rawlings	Item 11	Non-disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a tenant of Genesis Housing Association.

Councillor Rawlings	Barry	Item 17	Disclosable pecuniary interest as he is works for Community Barnet and thus did not take part in the vote.
Councillor Cohen	Dean	Item 10	Non-disclosable pecuniary interest as he is has land on the site where cross rail 2 is proposed.

4. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (IF ANY)

There was none.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS (IF ANY)

There were none.

6. MEMBERS' ITEMS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. BUSINESS PLANNING - MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2016-20

The Committee considered the report with a correction to Para 1.6.5 which read 'to be increased by £1.5k' and it should read 'to be increased by £1.5m'. This was agreed by the committee.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted on each recommendation individually as follows:

Recommendation 1.1, 1.2, and 1.7

For: 6
Against: 0
Abstain: 5

Recommendation 1.5

For: 6
Against: 5
Abstain: 0

Recommendation 1.3, 1.4, 1.6 and 1.8

For: 11
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

The Committee

RESOLVED –

- 1.1 To note the updated Medium Term Financial Strategy up to 2020 as set out in Appendix A and the assumptions underpinning this in section 1.3;
- 1.2 To agree, subject to consultation, a Council Tax freeze for 2016/17 as set out in section 1.3;

- 1.3 To agree to consult on whether or not a 2% social care precept - to help fund care for the elderly - should be applied for 2016/17 as set out in section 1.3, ahead of the final budget for 2016/17 coming back to P&R on 16 February, when full details of how the precept can be applied by local authorities will be known, and to Full Council for approval in March;
- 1.4 To agree to engage with Barnet CCG immediately to secure a more equitable share of the Better Care Fund for the council tax payer;
- 1.5 To agree for the savings proposals as set out in Appendix B, subject to consultation ahead of the final budget for 2016/17 coming back to P&R on 16 February, and to Full Council for final approval of the budget in March;
- 1.6 To agree the capital additions as set out in Appendix C and section 1.5;
- 1.7 To agree the process for consultation as set out in section 5.7;
- 1.8 To agree the movements in budget in 2015/16 as set out in section 1.6.

8. CUSTOMER ACCESS STRATEGY

The Committee considered the report.

Councillor Edwards moved a motion that was duly seconded, to include an additional recommendation as follows:

“to pilot the scheme following consultation but before implementing the Customer Access Strategy”

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 5
Against: 6
Abstain: 0

The motion was therefore lost.

The Chairman moved to the vote. Votes were recorded as follows

For: 6
Against: 5
Abstain: 0

The committee

RESOLVED –

1. To approve the draft Customer Access Strategy in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. To agree for the proposals in the Customer Access strategy, that will alter the way customers currently access services, to be consulted on with the public for a period of 8 weeks, starting no later than 18 January 2016.
3. To approve the funding for the first phase of work as outlined in section 5.2 of this report.
4. To receive a report back in 2016, with the outcomes from the consultation, and a progress update on the development of a full business case for implementing the Customer Access Strategy.

9. ANNUAL PROCUREMENT FORWARD PLAN [APFP] 2016/2017

The Committee considered the report.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 6
Against: 5
Abstain: 0

The Committee;

RESOLVED – that approval be given to officers to proceed with procurement activity as presented in the Annual Procurement Forward Plan [APFP] 2016/2017 and where known for 2017/18

10. NORTH LONDON BUSINESS PARK - DRAFT PLANNING BRIEF

The Committee considered the report.

Councillor Cooke moved a motion that was duly seconded, to include an additional recommendation as follows:

“to include the possibility of a railway station near the site in the consultation”

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 5
Against: 6
Abstain: 0

The motion was therefore lost.

Councillor Edwards moved a motion that was duly seconded, to include an additional recommendation as follows:

“to increase the number affordable housing in the scheme to 50%”

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 5
Against: 6
Abstain: 0

The motion was therefore lost.

The Chairman moved to the vote. Votes were recorded as follows

For: 6
Against: 5
Abstain: 0

The committee

RESOLVED – to approve the North London Business Park draft Planning Brief for consultation.

11. GRAHAME PARK ESTATE DEVELOPMENT DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY

PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD)

The Committee considered the report.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 5

The Committee;

RESOLVED –

1. To approve the publication of the draft Grahame Park Development Framework SPD, and supporting documents, as described in the report, and delegates to the Commissioning Director the power to make any final necessary amendments to the documents prior to publication.
2. To note that following the consultation appropriate changes are made to the SPD and the revised SPD is reported back to Committee for approval and adoption.

12. THE RELOCATION AND REDEVELOPMENT OF CHURCH FARM LEISURE CENTRE AND THE REDEVELOPMENT OF BARNET COPTHALL LEISURE CENTRE

The Committee considered the report.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 11

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

The Committee;

RESOLVED

1. To approve the selection of Victoria Recreation Ground as the site for a new leisure centre to replace the existing Church Farm facility, based on evidence from the public consultation, Health Impact assessment, planning guidelines and feasibility (as set out in paragraph 2.14 of this report).
2. To approve the core facilities mix for the new leisure centre in Victoria Recreation Ground, as set out in paragraph 2.17 of this report.
3. To approve the core facilities mix for the new leisure centre in Barnet Cophall, as set out in paragraph 2.21 of this report.
4. To note the consultation findings in respect of the two potential locations for the reprovided Church Farm Leisure Centre. (Appendix 1)
5. To note the consultation findings in respect of the core facilities mix for the new leisure centre in Victoria Recreation Ground. (Appendix 1)
6. To note the consultation findings in respect of the core facilities mix for the new leisure centre in Barnet Cophall. (Appendix 1)
7. To note the findings of the Health Impact Assessment, as set out in paragraphs 2.6 – 2.8 of this report and at appendix 2.
8. To note the planned milestones for the next phase of the project. (Paragraph 4.1)

13. BUSINESS RATES DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY

The Committee considered the report.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 11
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

The Committee;

RESOLVED - to approve the Draft Discretionary Rate Relief Policy for consultation

14. NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH - DRAFT PLANNING BRIEF

The Committee considered the report.

Councillor Edwards moved a motion that was duly seconded, to include an additional recommendation as follows:

“to increase the number affordable housing in the scheme to 50%”

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 5
Against: 6
Abstain: 0

The motion was therefore lost.

The Chairman moved to the vote. Votes were recorded as follows

For: 6
Against: 5
Abstain: 0

The committee

RESOLVED – to approve the National Institute of Medical Research draft Planning Brief for consultation.

15. PROCUREMENT ACTIVITY TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNCIL WHOLLY OWNED HOUSING/PROPERTY COMPANY (WOC)

The Committee considered the report.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 11
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

The Committee;

RESOLVED –

1. To approve the waiver of Contract Procedure Rules to appoint Wragge, Lawrence Graham and Co LLP as legal advisors for the Development Pipeline and the establishment of the WOC.
2. To authorise the commencement of procurement exercises to deliver technical advice necessary to support the Development Pipeline including the establishment of the WOC Policy and Resources Committee 16 December 2015 Title Procurement activity to support the Development Pipeline including the establishment of a Council Wholly Owned Housing/Property Company (WOC)
3. To authorise the procurement of tax advice for the property WOC from existing framework supplier KPMG
4. To note the business case for the wholly owned housing/property company will be submitted to Policy and Resource Committee in early 2016, recommending that Full Council approve the WOC.

16. COPTHALL - DRAFT PLANNING BRIEF

The Committee considered the report.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 10
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

The Committee;

RESOLVED - to approve the Copthall draft Planning Brief for public consultation

17. EXTENSION OF FAMILY SERVICES CONTRACTS

Having declared an interest Councillor Rawlings left the room and did not take part in the discussion or the vote.

The Committee considered the report.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 10
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

The Committee;

RESOLVED - to approve the required waivers and contract extensions set out in section 5.2.2 of the report.

18. AUTHORISATION FOR WAIVER OF CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES - BEST INTEREST ASSESSOR

The Committee considered the report.

Having been put to the vote the Committee voted:

For: 11
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

The Committee;

RESOLVED - to approve the increased use of existing independent Best Interest Assessors and recruitment of new Independent Best Interest Assessors up to the value of £300,000 for year 2015/16, prior to the completion of the formal procurement exercise.

19. COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the work programme and cancelled the meeting on 12th January 2016.

20. ANY OTHER ITEM(S) THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

The committee offered a vote of thanks to outgoing Strategic Director for Commissioning, Kate Kennally.

The meeting finished at 8.20 pm