

**CABINET**  
**27TH SEPTEMBER 2012**

PRESENT: The Leader (Councillor Slater)  
The Deputy Leader (Councillor Hampson)  
Councillors Barkley, Blain, Bokor, Fryer, J. Hunt and Snartt.

APOLOGY: Councillor Harley.

Councillors Capleton, Morgan and Vardy (Cabinet Support Members) were also in attendance.

44. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY AND PERSONAL INTERESTS

A disclosure of personal interest was made by Councillor Blain, since Councillor Blain's wife was the Clerk to two Parish Council's who had made representations to the Borough Council and since he owned property in Burton on the Wolds, which was close to Wymeswold Airfield, in agenda item 6 – Local Development Framework Position Report and Way Forward.

45. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader made no announcements.

46. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th August 2012 were confirmed as a true record and signed.

47. QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES 29(ii) AND 39

No questions had been submitted.

48. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK POSITION REPORT AND WAY FORWARD

A report of the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration and Regulatory Services, concerning the emerging development strategy, enabling further testing through traffic modelling using the Leicester and Leicestershire Integrated Transport Model, and providing necessary guidance for the preparation of a pre-submission draft Core Strategy for public consultation, was submitted (item 6 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Head of Planning and Regeneration advised Cabinet that in Appendix B of the report, Consultation Statistics (on pages 28 and 29), the column headings were missing and the columns containing figures were (from left to right): Comments; Support; Objections; Pro-forma letters; Total.

An exempt Appendix (Appendix E) was also circulated to Councillors (filed as an exempt appendix with these minutes).

A report of the Overview Scrutiny Group was also considered (filed with these minutes). In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8(d), Councillor Harper-Davies, as Chair of Overview Scrutiny Group, addressed Cabinet.

On behalf of Cabinet, the Leader thanked Overview Scrutiny Group for their consideration of the report and for their recommendations.

## **RESOLVED**

1. that the position in relation to the emerging development strategy and consideration and recommendations of the Local Development Framework Project Board regarding traffic modelling be endorsed;
2. that the response to consultation comments on the development strategy options (Appendix B and C and as detailed in Part B of the report of the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration and Regulatory Services) be accepted as the basis for identifying an emerging development strategy along with the Sustainability Appraisal, Equalities Impact Assessment and the broader evidence base;
3. that in light of the evidence, confirmation be given to an emerging development strategy for Charnwood that incorporates the options for:
  - (i) Strategic Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) allocations for housing and employment land at North of Hamilton/east of Thurmaston and West Loughborough; and
  - (ii) a Loughborough Science and Enterprise Park;
4. that in light of the evidence, a direction for growth for housing and employment land (if appropriate), at North Birstall and a Watermead Regeneration Corridor be approved to be included as part of the emerging development strategy to meet the objectively assessed needs in South Charnwood; subject to consideration being given to the impact on the Birstall area of Leicester City Council's proposals for Traveller Sites and the impact of growth in both the Birstall and Rothley areas on facilities such as medical and education services;
5. that in light of the evidence a direction for growth for North Charnwood adjoining Shepshed be approved, and this be included in the emerging development strategy for Charnwood to meet the objectively assessed needs in North Charnwood;
6. that in light of the evidence, the principle that Service Centres receive a level of growth that reflects the decision made in relation to resolutions 3, 4 and 5, as described in paragraph 4.9 and table 2 in Part B of the report of the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration

and Regulatory Services be approved, and this be included in the emerging development strategy for Charnwood to meet the objectively assessed needs in North Charnwood;

7. that the pre-submission version of the Charnwood Core Strategy Development Plan Document be prepared to reflect the emerging development strategy as approved in resolutions 3, 4, 5 and 6;
8. that the emerging development strategy for Charnwood be used to inform decision taking when considering development proposals in accordance with paragraph 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework; and
9. that further work be undertaken, to be brought back to Cabinet for consideration, setting out the future development options for Wymeswold Airfield.

### Reasons

1. To reflect the decisions made by the Local Development Framework Project Board to enable the timely testing of the transport impact and infrastructure mitigation required for the emerging development strategy.
2. To provide a public statement of the main issues raised through consultation and how those issues have influenced the identification of the development strategy.
3. To confirm that no new evidence has been found that suggests a different view should be taken of the preferred options for SUEs than those approved in September 2008 (Cabinet minute 73 2008/2009) and to determine an emerging preferred option for a development strategy for Charnwood to allow the preparation of further evidence, and the drafting of planning policy and the Sustainability Appraisal of that emerging strategy.
4. To identify an additional preferred option as part of the emerging development strategy for Charnwood to allow the preparation of further evidence, and the drafting of planning policy and the Sustainability Appraisal of that emerging strategy. To acknowledge that current proposals within the Leicester City Core Strategy to locate Traveller Sites near Birstall may have an impact on the local infrastructure in Charnwood and that additional housing in the North Birstall area may impact on overstretched local services, which would need to be addressed.
5. To recognise the importance of avoiding the coalescence of Loughborough, Woodthorpe and Quorn. To recognise the

regeneration needs of Shepshed as identified in the Council's Regeneration Strategy.

6. To clarify the implications of selecting growth options, in accordance with recommendations 3, 4 and 5, and the relationship this would have on service centres and their own levels of growth.
7. To enable the drafting of the Charnwood Core Strategy to reflect the emerging strategy and to recognise the requirement for Cabinet and Council approval of that Core Strategy prior to publication under Regulation 19 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
8. To ensure that the emerging development strategy would be taken into account in decision taking.
9. To further explore the potential for developing Wymeswold Airfield for housing, which was supported by many members of the public and would be a more viable option should east Loughborough become more accessible through transport network developments and if the requirements set out in the Regional Plan, for housing to be prioritised on the edge of existing urban areas, was abolished.

#### 49. CAPITAL PLAN AMENDMENT REPORT

A report of the Head of Finance and Property Services, setting out proposed changes to the 2012/13 to 2014/15 Capital Plan, and its financing and including changes up to 30th August 2012, was submitted (item 7 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

#### **RESOLVED**

1. that the current Capital Plan for 2012/13 to 2014/15 in the sum of £48,500k, be approved;
2. that capital expenditure of £57.3k in 2012/13 on the upgrade of the Lagan system be approved and that it be funded from the Reinvestment Reserve;
3. that capital expenditure of £79k in 2012/13 on the Financial Management System Upgrade be approved and that it be funded from capital receipts; and
4. that the use of retained housing capital receipts to be spent on the schemes listed in the report of the Head of Finance and Property Services, be approved.

### Reasons

1. To enable the Capital Plan to be the basis for capital spending by the Council and so that schemes may proceed.
2. To enable the Contact Centre to be the single point of Contact for the Council.
3. To ensure improved functionality of the Agresso system.
4. To ensure capital receipts retained by the Council would be used for the purposes identified.

### 50. ANNUAL PROCUREMENT PLAN 2012/13 - UPDATE

A report of the Head of Finance and Property Services, seeking approval for additions to the Annual Procurement Plan for Charnwood Borough Council for 2012/13, was submitted (item 8 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

#### **RESOLVED**

1. that the contracts, over £25,000 and up to £75,000, listed in Appendix A of the report of the Head of Finance and Property Services, be let in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules; and
2. that the contracts, over £75,001 and up to £500,000, listed in Appendix B of the report of the Head of Finance and Property Services, be let in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules.

### Reasons

- 1 & 2 To allow contracts of the Council to be let in accordance with contract procedure rules.

### 51. DRAFT MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2013/14 TO 2015/16

A report of the Head of Finance and Property Services, setting out the Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy for consideration, was submitted (item 9 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

**RESOLVED** that the Draft Medium Term Financial Strategy (attached to the report of the Head of Finance and Property Services) be issued for consideration by the Budget Scrutiny Panel.

### Reason

To identify the financial issues affecting the Council and the Borough in the medium term, in order to provide a base for priorities to be set.

52. BUSINESS RATE POOLING

A report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Services was submitted, which sought approval for the Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer to enter the Council into an agreement with other Leicestershire Councils to 'pool' the locally retained element of business rates from 1st April 2013 (item 10 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

**RESOLVED**

1. that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Lead Member for Finance and Property Services, to enter into an agreement with other Leicestershire local authorities for the pooling of locally retained business rates; and
2. that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Lead Member for Finance and Property Services, to exit from any agreement with other Leicestershire local authorities for the pooling of locally retained business rates that the Council may have entered into in accordance with resolution 1 above, in the event that the potential financial consequences for the Council were considered unacceptable.

Reasons

1. To make necessary arrangements in the timescale required to enable the Council to participate and benefit from a Leicestershire business rate pooling arrangement.
2. To enable the Council to mitigate the risk of an unfavourable financial impact that it may suffer as a result of pooling locally retained business rates.

53. EXEMPT INFORMATION

**RESOLVED** that members of the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

54. DISPOSAL OF LAND - SILEBY

An exempt report of the Head of Finance and Property Services, seeking approval for the disposal of land that had been declared surplus to requirements, was submitted (item 12 on the agenda filed as an exempt item with these minutes).

## RESOLVED

1. that the Strategic Director of Corporate Services be given delegated authority to agree terms with Leicestershire County Council regarding a joint marketing and open market disposal of the land identified in the report of the Head of Finance and Property Services and an adjoining site owned by Leicestershire County Council; and
2. that the Strategic Director of Corporate Services be given delegated authority to agree the actual terms of the disposal in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance and Property Services.

### Reasons

- 1 to 2. To enable the disposal of the land, identified in the report of the Head of Finance and Property Services, jointly with Leicestershire County Council on the open market.

### Notes

1. The decisions in these minutes will come into effect at 12 noon on Friday 5th October 2012 unless called in under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 13.
2. No reference may be made to these minutes at Council on 12th November 2012 unless notice to that effect is given to the Team Leader – Democratic Services and Mayoralty by five members of the Council by 5pm on Friday 5th October 2012.
3. These minutes are subject to confirmation as a correct record at the next meeting of Cabinet, which is scheduled for Thursday 22nd November 2012.