

COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 12 May 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors:-

**Peter Bedford
Tony Boto
David Brackenbury
Wendy Brackenbury
Pauline Bradberry JP
Albert Campbell
Lisa Costello
Richard Gell
Roger Glithero JP
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith
Philip Hardcastle
Glenn Harwood MBE
Marian Hollomon
Sue Homer
Dudley Hughes JP
Sylvia Hughes
Barbara Jenney
Sean Lever**

**Richard Lewis
Eloise Lucille
Peter MacGovern
Andy Mercer
Gill Mercer
Steven North
Brian Northall
Sarah Peacock
Ron Pinnock
Roger Powell
Rupert Reichhold
John Richardson MBE
Anna Sauntson
Ron Silver
Phillip Stearn
Robin Underwood
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood**

Also Present: Graham Blagden

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Clive Wood proposed that Councillor Sue Homer be elected Chairman of the Council and Councillor Sylvia Hughes seconded the motion.

It was

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Sue Homer be elected Chairman of the Council for the year 2010/2011.

Councillor Homer, having made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office, took the chair, and announced that the Chairman's Consort would be Mr. Michael Homer.

2. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING CHAIRMAN

Councillor Anna Sauntson acknowledged the work of Councillor Sarah Peacock as Chairman of the Council in 2009/10. She felt that Councillor Peacock had been a very able Chairman and had demonstrated a friendly, approachable manner which had put people at their ease. Councillor Rupert Reichhold seconded the motion.

RESOLVED:

That the best thanks of this Council be and are hereby tendered to Councillor Sarah Peacock for her discharge of the duties of Chairman of the Council for the District of East Northamptonshire, in the Civic Year 2009/10; and to Mr Alan Peacock, who has accompanied her during her Civic Year, for his support.

Councillor Sarah Peacock was then presented with her past Chairman's medal and responded to the vote of thanks. She commented on the varied programme during her year and had met some inspirational people. She paid tribute to the work of voluntary organisations within the District and drew attention to some of the activities which had helped to raise money for her chosen charities, including Guide Dogs for the Blind. Councillor Peacock thanked her consorts, her colleagues and Council staff for their support.

3. THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Councillor Sue Homer addressed the meeting, and thanked Members for the confidence they had placed in her. She thanked Councillor Sarah Peacock for her service as Chairman and announced that, at each Council meeting during her term of office, a different Minister within the District would conduct Prayers before the start of proceedings.

The Chairman reported that she had chosen Help for Heroes, the St John Ambulance and The Rushden Historical Transport Society as her charities for the year. She would be introducing a Volunteer of the Year Award for two age groups – Under 18 and Over 18. One of her charity events would be "A Night in New York" on Saturday 30 October.

4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Tony Boto and seconded by Councillor Barbara Jenney and

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Sylvia Hughes be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the year 2010/2011.

Councillor Hughes, having made the statutory declaration of acceptance of office, thanked fellow Councillors for the confidence they had placed in her. She announced that her husband, Councillor Dudley Hughes, would be the Vice-Chairman's Consort for the year.

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors David Bateman, Mike Finch, Duncan Reid and Colin Wright sent apologies.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest under Section 50 of the Local Government Act 2000.

8. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that her Civic Service would be held on 5 September 2010 at St. Mary's Church, Rushden, and urged Councillors to support this event.

9. ELECTION OF LEADER

The Chairman reported that Councillor Andy Mercer had, in accordance with Article 6.02 of the Constitution, been proposed by Councillor Roger Powell and seconded by Councillor Robin Underwood.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Andy Mercer be elected Leader of the Council.

10. THE LEADER'S ADDRESS

Councillor Andy Mercer addressed the meeting as follows:-

"Madam Chairman, fellow Councillors, fellow residents of East Northamptonshire, this is a momentous day. There have only been two changes of Government in the last 30 years. Thus, this first day of the Cameron government, is a very special day. Nobody expects miracles, but it does feel as though a dark cloud has lifted.

I was hoping that David Cameron would have been in Number 10 for several days by now. That would have given us a few days to learn the direction of the new Government. Unfortunately, we will have to wait a little longer.

I am certain that the new Government will rapidly attack the deficit. This will mean cutting government expenditure and raising some taxes. My problem is that I don't know what expenditure and which taxes. This makes it very difficult to predict how ENC's income and expenditure will be affected.

In practice, it appears that the Comprehensive Spending Review will finally arrive in the autumn, probably at the same time as the Pre-Budget Report. That means that we will finally know our true financial position around October.

In the meantime, we have to make decisions.

Since we lack information on the plans of the new Government, I propose to play safe, and make as few changes to Committees as possible.

If there are significant changes to our income or outgoings, later in the year, then we will have to reconsider.

If our financial or legal position incurs material changes, I would expect to present a package of budgetary and organisational changes to deal with them.

The next year is going to be both interesting and difficult. Personally, I always prefer boring and easy; unfortunately, nobody ever said the job would be easy.

At each ENC Annual Meeting, I like to look back over the previous year. A year ago, we knew that the Recession would force us to cut spending. I therefore set up a Budget Review Group to look for savings. The priorities were to protect:

- Firstly, our statutory duties
- Secondly, our moral duty to the vulnerable and disadvantaged, and.
- Thirdly, our manifesto commitments.

The BRG has identified a number of savings, and I am grateful for their efforts.

Despite the financial pressures, we have protected front-line services, and I hope that we can continue to do so. However, until the October spending review, we won't know.

Despite the financial problems, we continue to provide excellent services at a very low price:

- Our refuse collection and recycling services are highly admired.
- Stanwick Lakes goes from strength to strength. The Visitor Centre is starting to win awards, and its striking vistas can only grow more stunning as the landscapes mature.
- We are being recognised as a national leader in the area of Licensing.

Several years ago, we organised the countywide Licensing Unit, which set the standard for back-office processing of Licensing. More recently, we have taken a further lead, by hosting Licensing Seminars. Moreover, I suspect that some of the policies and processes that we are developing will eventually be accepted as best practice across the Country.

And we achieve all this with a Council Tax precept of under £120 per year per household. Most voters tell me that they are very happy with ENC.

Our job for the next year is to keep them happy. It won't be easy, but it is possible.

The coming year is going to be very difficult, but we face it with realism.

One last thought. For years, I have campaigned against Labour and LibDems. For my sins, am I now to be Con-Dem'ed?

Thank you."

11. ELECTION OF DEPUTY LEADER

It was reported that, in accordance with Article 6.04 of the Constitution, Councillor Steven North had been proposed as Deputy Leader of the Council by Councillor Richard Lewis, and this had been seconded by Councillor Glenn Harwood.

It was

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Steven North be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council.

12. MINUTES OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE – 28 APRIL 2010

The report of the above Committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor Pauline Bradberry, was received.

13. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES 2010/11

The Council considered the appointments to Committees.

RESOLVED:

That the following Committees with the Members as shown be appointed for the Civic Year 2010/11:-

(a) **Policy Committees**

(i) **Policy & Resources Committee (15 members)**

Councillors

Ex Officio

Leader of the Council:

Andy Mercer

Deputy Leader:

Steven North

David Brackenbury
Wendy Brackenbury
Pauline Bradberry
Albert Campbell
Lisa Costello
Roger Glithero
Philip Hardcastle

Glenn Harwood
Sylvia Hughes
Sean Lever
Richard Lewis
John Richardson
Robin Underwood

(ii) **Planning Policy Committee (15 Members)**

Councillors

Ex Officio

Leader of the Council

Andy Mercer

Deputy Leader

Steven North

David Bateman
Tony Boto
David Brackenbury
Lisa Costello
Mike Finch
Roger Glithero
Dudley Hughes

Eloise Lucille
Roger Powell
John Richardson
Phillip Stearn
*Robin Underwood
Pam Whiting

***Note: since the meeting, Councillor Underwood has stepped down from the Committee and there is a Vacancy**

(b) **Other Committees**

(i) **Development Control Committee (18 members)**

Councillors

Wendy Brackenbury
Pauline Bradberry
Albert Campbell
Lisa Costello

Roger Glithero
Glenn Harwood
Sylvia Hughes
Andy Mercer
Gill Mercer
Brian Northall
Ron Pinnock
Roger Powell
John Richardson
Anna Sauntson
Phillip Stearn
Robin Underwood
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood

(ii) Licensing Committee (12 members)

Councillors	Peter Bedford *Albert Campbell Richard Gell Glenn Harwood Peter MacGovern Andy Mercer	Gill Mercer Brian Northall Rupert Reichhold Anna Sauntson Ron Silver Robin Underwood
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Note: since the meeting, Councillor Campbell has stepped down from the Committee and there is a Vacancy

(iii) Scrutiny Committee (15 members)

Councillors	David Bateman Tony Boto Michael Finch Richard Gell Glenvil Greenwood-Smith Marian Hollomon Barbara Jenney Gill Mercer	Brian Northall Sarah Peacock Ron Pinnock Duncan Reid Phillip Stearn Pam Whiting Clive Wood
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(iv) East Northamptonshire Standards Board (4 + others)

Councillors	Glenvil Greenwood-Smith Barbara Jenney	Brian Northall Roger Powell
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(v) Audit & Risk Management (7)

Councillors	Peter Bedford Tony Boto David Brackenbury Sean Lever	Steven North Colin Wright Dudley Hughes
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14. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2010/11

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Calendar of Meetings, as set out in Appendix 1 to these Minutes, at pages 12 to 14 be approved.

15. OTHER APPOINTMENTS

(a) Outside Bodies

It was

RESOLVED:

That Members be appointed to serve on outside bodies in accordance with Appendix 2 to these Minutes (at pages 15 to 17) until May 2011 or such longer period as the Constitution of those bodies dictate.

(b) Other Committees, Panels and Boards, Champions and Lead Members

It was

RESOLVED:

(1) That the following appointments be made for 2010/11 -

(a) Licensing (Taxi & Miscellaneous) Panel (3)

Panel to be drawn from Licensing Committee membership determined by the Democratic Services Manager under delegated powers

(b) North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Committee

(Chairmen of Planning Policy, Policy & Resources and Development Control Committees)

Councillors David Brackenbury, Robin Underwood and Pauline Bradberry

(c) Welland Joint Committee (2 plus 1 reserve)

Councillors Andy Mercer, Philip Hardcastle with Councillor Steven North as reserve

(d) Council-appointed Working Parties and Boards

(i) Waste and Recycling Working Party

Councillors

David Bateman
Roger Glithero
Glenn Harwood
Marian Hollomon
Richard Lewis

Peter MacGovern
Steven North
Sarah Peacock
Duncan Reid
One vacancy

(ii) Constitution Review Group

Councillors	Andy Mercer Gill Mercer Roger Powell	Steven North Sylvia Hughes
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(iii) Project Board for New Leisure Centre

NNDC Representative and Economic Development Champion (ex Officio)

(iv) Rushden Regeneration Project Board

NNDC Representative and Economic Development Champion (ex Officio)

(e) Council Member Champions

Councillor

• ABI – Rushden Hayden	Richard Lewis
• ABI – Irthlingborough John Pyel	Roger Powell
• Business Transformation <i>(encouraging service excellence and promoting procurement efficiency)</i>	Philip Hardcastle
• Community Safety	Brian Northall
• Culture & Leisure Services	Steven North
• Economic Development	Philip Hardcastle
• Equalities	Pauline Bradberry JP
• Health & Safety	Colin Wright
• Heritage & Historic Environment	John Richardson MBE
• Older People's and Safeguarding (Vulnerable Adults, & Children)	Sue Homer
• Youth	Wendy Brackenbury

(f) Lead Members

Councillor

• Customer and Community Services	Wendy Brackenbury
• Environmental Services	Glenn Harwood
• ICT	Sylvia Hughes
• Resources and Organisational Development	Robin Underwood
• Planning Services	Pauline Bradberry

- (2)** That the Planning Policy Committee consider the composition of Area Based Working Parties on 14 June and be authorised to co-opt, as necessary, Members not serving on that Committee (with full voting rights).

16. COMMITTEE-RELATED APPOINTMENTS

The following Committee-related business was conducted, with the Members of the individual Committees endorsing the decisions:-

(a) Policy & Resources Committee	
1. Appointment of Chairman	Robin Underwood
2. Apologies	None
3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman	Wendy Brackenbury
4. Appointment of Sub-Committees etc	
• Personnel Sub-Committee (6)	<p>Leader of the Council (Andy Mercer) Deputy Leader of the Council (Steven North)</p> <p>Wendy Brackenbury David Brackenbury Roger Glithero Sylvia Hughes</p>
• Finance Sub-Committee (7)	<p>Leader of the Council (Andy Mercer) Deputy Leader of the Council (Steven North)</p> <p>David Brackenbury Roger Glithero Richard Lewis John Richardson Robin Underwood</p>
• Budget Review Group (3)	Roger Glithero Steven North John Richardson
• District Regeneration Working Group (5)	Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee Vice-Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee Deputy Leader Economic Development Champion Vice Chairman of Planning Policy Committee.
(b) Planning Policy Committee	
1. Appointment of Chairman	David Brackenbury
2. Apologies	David Bateman; Mike Finch
3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman	John Richardson

4. Appointment of Working Parties	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined by the Committee on 14 June (Council has given authority to co-opt non-Members of the Committee) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working group on Supplementary Planning Guidance on developer contributions 	David Brackenbury Roger Glithero Eloise Lucille John Richardson *Robin Underwood

***Note – since the meeting, Councillor Underwood has stepped down from the Planning Policy Committee and there is therefore a Vacancy on this Group**

(c) Scrutiny Committee

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Appointment of Chairman | Phillip Stearn |
| 2. Apologies | Duncan Reid |
| 3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman | Glenvil Greenwood-Smith |
| 4. Appointment of Working Parties | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance Working Party | Glenvil Greenwood-Smith
Barbara Jenney
Gill Mercer
Duncan Reid
Phillip Stearn |

(d) Development Control Committee

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Appointment of Chairman | Pauline Bradberry |
| 2. Apologies | None |
| 3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman | Gill Mercer |

(e) Licensing Committee

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Appointment of Chairman | *Albert Campbell |
| 2. Apologies | None |
| 3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman | Anna Sauntson |
| 4. Appointment of Licensing (Liquor & Gambling) Panel | Panel of 3 trained Members to be chosen by the Democratic Services Manager under |

delegated powers

*** Note: Since the meeting, Councillor Campbell has stepped down from the Committee and a new Chairman will be appointed**

(f) Audit & Risk Management Committee

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Appointment of Chairman | Dudley Hughes |
| 2. Apologies | Colin Wright |
| 3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman | Colin Wright |

Chairman

East Northamptonshire Council Calendar of Meetings - 2010/2011

Development Control	19 May 2010	Wednesday
Performance Working Party	3 June 2010	Thursday
Policy and Resources (RR)	7 June 2010	Monday
Personnel Sub-Committee	8 June 2010	Tuesday (2pm)
Development Control	9 June 2010	Wednesday
Planning Policy	14 June 2010	Monday
Scrutiny	16 June 2010	Wednesday
Finance Sub-Committee	28 June 2010	Monday
Audit and Risk Management	29 June 2010	Tuesday
Development Control	30 June 2010	Wednesday
Policy and Resources (KO)	5 July 2010	Monday
Standards Board	7 July 2010	Wednesday
Despatch of minute book (& Summons)	<u>8 July</u>	<u>Thursday</u>

COUNCIL **19 JULY 2010** **MONDAY**

Development Control	21 July 2010	Wednesday
Planning Policy	26 July 2010	Monday
Personnel Sub-Committee	27 July 2010	Tuesday (2pm)
Development Control	18 August 2010	Wednesday

Recess

Personnel Sub-Committee	7 September 2010	Tuesday (2pm)
Development Control	8 September 2010	Wednesday
Performance Working Party	9 September 2010	Thursday
Policy and Resources (KO)	13 September 2010	Monday
Finance Sub-Committee	15 September 2010	Wednesday
Planning Policy	20 September 2010	Monday
Audit and Risk Management	22 September 2010	Wednesday
Scrutiny	27 September 2010	Monday
Development Control	29 September 2010	Wednesday
Council (Issues Debate)	4 October 2010	Monday
Licensing	6 October 2010	Wednesday
Policy and Resources (RR)	11 October 2010	Monday
Standards Board	18 October 2010	Monday
Personnel Sub-Committee	19 October 2010	Tuesday (2pm)
Development Control	20 October 2010	Wednesday
Despatch of minute book (& Summons)	<u>21 October</u>	<u>Thursday</u>

COUNCIL **1 NOVEMBER 2010** **MONDAY**

Policy and Resources (KO)	8 November 2010	Monday
Development Control	10 November 2010	Wednesday
Finance Sub-Committee	17 November 2010	Wednesday
Performance Working Party	18 November 2010	Thursday
Planning Policy	22 November 2010	Monday

Personnel Sub-Committee	30 November 2010	Tuesday (2pm)
Development Control	1 December 2010	Wednesday
Policy and Resources (RR)	6 December 2010	Monday
Audit and Risk Management	8 December 2010	Wednesday
Standards Board	13 December 2010	Monday
Scrutiny	15 December 2010	Wednesday
Development Control	22 December 2010	Wednesday
<i>Despatch of minute book (& Summons)</i>	<u>23 December</u>	<u>Thursday</u>

COUNCIL	10 JANUARY 2011	MONDAY
Finance Sub-Committee	12 January 2011	Wednesday
Policy and Resources (KO)	17 January 2011	Monday
Development Control	19 January 2011	Wednesday
Planning Policy	24 January 2011	Monday
Personnel Sub-Committee	1 February 2011	Tuesday (2pm)
Standards Board	2 February 2011	Wednesday
Finance Sub-Committee	3 February 2011	Thursday
Scrutiny	7 February 2011	Monday
Development Control	9 February 2011	Wednesday
Policy & Resources (RR)	14 February 2011	Monday
Performance Working Party	24 February 2011	Thursday
<i>Despatch of minute book (& Summons)</i>	<u>17 February</u>	<u>Thursday</u>

COUNCIL	28 FEBRUARY 2011	MONDAY
Development Control	2 March 2011	Wednesday
Licensing	9 March 2011	Wednesday
Policy and Resources (KO)	14 March 2011	Monday
Audit and Risk Management	16 March 2011	Wednesday
Personnel Sub-Committee	22 March 2011	Tuesday (2pm)
Development Control	23 March 2011	Wednesday
Planning Policy	28 March 2011	Monday
Finance Sub-Committee	30 March 2011	Wednesday
Scrutiny	4 April 2011	Monday
Standards Board	6 April 2011	Wednesday
Policy & Resources (RR)	11 April 2011	Monday
Development Control	13 April 2011	Wednesday
<i>Despatch of minute book (& Summons)</i>	<u>14 April</u>	<u>Thursday</u>

COUNCIL	27 APRIL 2011	WEDNESDAY
Development Control	3 May 2011	Tuesday (see note 8)
ANNUAL MEETING	18 MAY 2011	WEDNESDAY

Notes:

1. Council is to be held on the Wednesday because Easter Monday falls on 25 April 2011.
2. All meetings, unless otherwise indicated, will be held at Cedar Drive, Thrapston.
3. All meetings start at 7.30 pm except where otherwise stated and are open to the public.
4. Additional meetings of the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the Finance Sub-Committee will be arranged as required.
5. A Planning Policy Committee meeting has been included on a Thursday in each cycle but may not be required.
6. Personnel Sub-Committee meetings have been included on a Tuesday, generally on a 6 weekly cycle.
7. Meetings with local councils (T.B.C.) – attended by the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council; Local Ward Members and the Council's Strategic Management Team.).
8. Rearranged for the Tuesday to avoid an Election eve meeting (Monday is a Bank Holiday)

**East Northamptonshire Council
REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES – APPOINTMENTS
2010/2011**

Economic and Community Development

CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP - Councillor Brian Northall

GROUNDWORK NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE - Councillor Gill Mercer

LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (ENABLE)

Councillors Glenvil Greenwood-Smith, Dudley Hughes JP and Pauline Bradberry JP
(Reserves: Councillors John Richardson MBE, Steve North)

NENE VALLEY CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Ron Silver and Councillor Sylvia Hughes

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACTION WITH COMMUNITIES IN RURAL ENGLAND (ACRE)

Councillor Rupert Reichhold

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ENTERPRISE LTD - Councillor Philip Hardcastle

OUNDLE & THRAPSTON YOUTH COUNSELLING (CHAT) - Councillor Rupert Reichhold

THE VOLUNTEER CENTRE, THRAPSTON - Councillor Wendy Brackenbury (observer)

WELLAND PARTNERSHIP BOARD - Councillor Philip Hardcastle (Reserve - Councillor Andy Mercer)

Educational

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON COURT - Chairman of the Council (Ex Officio)

Health Facilities

HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - NORTHANTS COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor Marian Hollomon

KETTERING GENERAL HOSPITAL: FOUNDATION TRUST - Councillor Andy Mercer

Housing

PARSON LATHAM'S ALMSHOUSES TRUST (OUNDLE) - Councillors John Richardson MBE and Phillip Stearn

PARSON LATHAM'S HOSPITAL IN BARNWELL TRUST - Sue North

ROCKINGHAM FOREST HOUSING ASSOCIATION - Peter Atchison

SPIRE HOMES BOARD - John Farrar and Councillors Pauline Bradberry JP, Albert Campbell, Peter MacGovern and Sarah Peacock

SUPPORTING PEOPLE - Councillor Rupert Reichhold (Reserve: Cllr. Roger Powell)

Leisure/Tourism

EAST MIDLANDS MUSEUM SERVICE - Councillor Dudley Hughes JP

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION – OLYMPIC GAMES 2012 MEMBER NETWORK
Councillor Steven North

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARTS PARTNERSHIP - Councillor Sylvia Hughes

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SPORTS PARTNERSHIP - Councillor Steven North

STANWICK LAKES MANAGEMENT BOARD

Councillors Glenvil Greenwood-Smith, Philip Hardcastle and Richard Lewis. (Reserves: Councillors Robin Underwood and Dudley Hughes JP)

Planning and the Environment

CORY ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE - Sue North

CPRE (CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNTY BRANCH) - Councillor Rupert Reichhold

EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONSORTIUM
Councillor Tony Boto

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
Councillor Eloise Lucille (Reserve: Councillor Steven North)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT BOARD
Councillors Glenn Harwood MBE and Steven North

RIVER NENE REGIONAL PARK COMPANY BOARD - Councillor John Richardson MBE

ROCKINGHAM MOTOR SPEEDWAY – ROCKINGHAM FORUM

Councillors Pauline Bradberry JP, Glenvil Greenwood-Smith, Sylvia Hughes and John Richardson MBE

WELLINGBOROUGH EAST CONSULTATION MEETINGS - Councillors Roger Powell and Sean Lever

Regional/County Local Government

EAST MIDLANDS LEADERS BOARD/EAST MIDLANDS COUNCILS (replacing East Midlands Regional Assembly and Local Government East Midlands)
Councillor Andy Mercer (Substitutes: Councillors Steve North, David Brackenbury)

“LEADERSHIP 66”

Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader, Chairman of Policy & Resources Committee, Lead Member for Environmental Services, Lead Member for ICT Services, Chairman of the Performance Working Party

EAST MIDLANDS RURAL AFFAIRS FORUM - Councillor Rupert Reichhold

FOURTH OPTION SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP - Councillor Phillip Stearn

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - Councillor Andy Mercer (Substitute: Councillor David Brackenbury)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - RURAL COMMISSION
Councillors Rupert Reichhold and Pauline Bradberry JP

MILTON KEYNES/SOUTH MIDLANDS COUNCILS BOARD - Councillor Andy Mercer
(Substitute – Councillor Steven North)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCILS ASSOCIATION
Councillors Andy Mercer, Steve North and Richard Lewis

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PARKING COMMITTEE - Councillor Gill Mercer (Substitute – Cllr Pauline Bradberry JP)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD
Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee (reflecting minute 459 – 15 April 2009)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD Councillor Andy Mercer (Substitute – Councillor Glenn Harwood MBE)

SPARSE - Councillor Rupert Reichhold

Grant Related

COMMUNITY LAW SERVICE – Councillor Tony Boto

FAMILY ACTION IN THE REGION – Councillor Barbara Jenney

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RACIAL EQUALITY COUNCIL- VACANCY

RUSHDEN MIND – Councillor Richard Lewis

SERVICE SIX - MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Councillor Brian Northall

VICTIM SUPPORT - MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – To be confirmed

VOLUNTEER ACTION, OUNDLE - MANAGEMENT BOARD - Councillor Rupert Reichhold

WELLINGBOROUGH & EAST NORTHANTS WOMEN'S AID – Councillor Anna Sauntson

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Date: 19 May 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: - Pauline Bradberry JP (Chairman)
Gill Mercer (Vice Chairman)
Andy Mercer (Leader of the Council)

Wendy Brackenbury
Albert Campbell
Roger Glithero JP
Glenn Harwood MBE
Sylvia Hughes
Ron Pinnock

Roger Powell
Phillip Stearn
Robin Underwood
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood

17. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 21 and 28 April 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Brian Northall, John Richardson and Anna Sauntson sent their apologies.

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND INFORMAL SITE VISITS

(a) Interests

(i) Prejudicial

After declaring personal and prejudicial interests in the applications below as indicated, the Members left the meeting and did not take part in the discussion or voting when the respective application was considered.

Member	Application	Nature of Interest
Andy Mercer, Gill Mercer, Ron Pinnock, Robin Underwood and Clive Wood	EN/09/01990/FUL	Rushden Town Councillors - financial interest of town council in site
Roger Powell	EN/10/00275/FUL	Irthlingborough Town Councillor - financial interest of town council in site

(b) Informal Site Visits

No informal site visits were made.

20. PETITION

The Committee received a petition on application EN/09/01990/FUL – Manor Park, Bedford Road, Rushden with 2522 signatures which stated,

“We, the undersigned, submit this petition to East Northants Council to demonstrate our opposition to the proposed demolition of the Pemberton Centre and Splash Pool, and their replacement with inferior facilities at Manor Park, Rushden, to the detriment of Rushden and Higham Rugby Club.”

21. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

The following people spoke on the applications as indicated: -

- (i) Mr A Hollomon and Mr D Jenney on application EN/09/01990/FUL – Manor Park, Bedford Road, Rushden.
- (ii) Mr W Wright on application EN/10/00234/FUL – 21 Denford Road, Ringstead
- (iii) Mr P Riddington on application EN/10/00074/REM – 83 Main Street, Yarwell
- (iv) Mrs S Hobbs and Mrs M Hillson on application EN/10/00275/FUL – Express Works, Church Street, Irthlingborough

22. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered the schedule of applications and report recommendations, with updated information on some of the applications and representations made by public speakers at the meeting.

The applications where the Committee agreed with the reports recommendations to grant to grant or refuse are indicated under (a) and (b) below. The full decision on the applications are included (on the page indicated) in the Appendix to these minutes.

(a) Applications Granted

(i) **EN/09/01990/FUL** – Manor Park, Bedford Road, Rushden (See Page 23).

Members reconsidered the application which had been deferred (Minute 466 (c) – 21 April 2010 refers) to enable further consideration of the following matters:

- The design of the scheme;
- Accessibility of the site, particularly by public transport; and
- The need for the provision of different facilities within the building.

Members thanked the officers and architects for arranging a presentation on the design, which the Committee commented had helped it understand that the design was deliberately intended to reflect the historic boot and shoe factories in the area. Regarding the travel plan, the Committee noted that the Highways Authority had requested that the M50 bus service be improved by the addition of extra buses in the evenings and that the Council, as the developer, had agreed to achieve this through the use of a S106 Agreement.

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report and Update Sheet.

(ii) **EN/10/00234/FUL** – 21 Denford Road, Ringstead (See Page 27).

The Committee noted the number of representations received and the comments of the public speaker regarding boundary screening. Members were concerned that there was no turning space for a vehicle within plot 3 thereby requiring drivers to reverse onto Denford Road, but noted that the Highway Authority had not objected and visibility splays would be required.

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report, subject to additional condition on Update Sheet, and the Chairman and Ward Member to agree the height of the boundary treatment when details are submitted to discharge this condition.

(iii) **EN/10/00074/REM** – 83 Main Street, Yarwell (See Page 26).

Members considered the application and noted that the site already had outline planning permission and that the neighbours' concerns had been addressed as far as they could be by replacement of dormer windows with velux windows.

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

(b) **Applications Refused**

EN/10/00275/FUL – Express Works, Church Street, Irthlingborough (See Page 29).

The Committee considered the following issues when discussing the application:

- The opportunity to improve the quality of life for people in Irthlingborough through the provision of a large retail food store;
- The suitability of the site for a large retail food store as it was on the edge of the shopping area within the town;
- The modern design of the buildings which did not seem in keeping with the surrounding architecture, in particular the church;
- The desirability of seeing the original Express Ironworks sign included in the design;
- The impact of the design on views of the church;
- The lack of flood risk, contamination of ground water, air quality, noise and archaeological assessments;
- The fact that the site is a flood plain;
- Concerns that the developer might walk away should this initial request for planning permission be refused;
- The need for a robust application.

Refused for the reasons detailed in the report, subject to deletion of the refusal reason in relation to air quality and the addition of the ecological reason included on the Update Sheet. Applicant to be advised that there was strong support for the principle of the proposal and the Council would like to engage with the applicant to bring forward an acceptable scheme.

RESOLVED:

That the above planning applications be dealt with as indicated in the Appendix to these minutes at pages 23 to 30.

23. ENFORCEMENT – MOULTON COLLEGE, HIGHAM FERRERS

The Committee received a report on the level of compliance with Condition (4) of application EN/09/00780/FUL, for the provision of a pedestrian and cycleway at Moulton College, Chelveston Road, Higham Ferrers, because upon granting the application Members had expressed concern that the pedestrian/cyclist access be provided in a timely manner and resolved that Officers should submit a report regarding compliance with the pedestrian/cycleway condition in 6 months time. The Committee noted the progress made to date with the scheme and

RESOLVED

That no formal enforcement action be taken at this stage because the developer is in the process of meeting the requirements set out by Condition (4) and that the Enforcement Compliance Officer continue to monitor compliance.

24. APPEAL DECISION MONITORING REPORT

Members noted the Council's planning and enforcement appeal decisions from 5 to 23 April 2010. Regarding the appeal against the refusal of application EN/0900587/OUT – 2 Rectory Lane, Woodford, Members felt that the second and fourth reasons for allowing the appeal were contradictory and a letter should be sent to the quality assurance unit at the Inspectorate raising this issue.

RESOLVED:

That a letter be sent to the quality assurance unit at the Planning Inspectorate outlining Members' concerns.

25. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

It was

RESOLVED

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

26. ENFORCEMENT – NEWTON ROAD, RUSHDEN

The Committee received a report regarding non-compliance with an enforcement notice. After detailed discussion of the issues and the importance of equality of treatment regarding planning and enforcement issues, it was

RESOLVED

That the Council prosecute the land-owner for non-compliance of the Enforcement Notice and, if the building has still not been dismantled, the Council take direct action to remove it and recover the costs through the Civil Court.

Chairman

List of Applications Determined by DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 19 May 2010

EN/09/01990/FUL

Date received 21 December 2009 Date valid 6 January 2010 Overall Expiry 7 April 2010 Ward Rushden Bates

Applicant **East Northamptonshire Council - Mr Mark Lovell**

Agent **Faulkner Browns Architects - Mr Nick Worley**

Location **Manor Park, Bedford Road, Rushden.**

Proposal **Construction of leisure centre comprising: 6 court sports hall, 25m swimming pool, leisure pool, multipurpose dance studios and meeting rooms, health and fitness suite, entrance atrium with cafe, with associated car parking and landscaping.**

Decision **Application Granted, subject to it being referred to the Government Office and the completion of a Section 106 Agreement.**

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. Before any work is commenced on the development hereby permitted, samples of the external treatment of the proposed building(s) shall have been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing and the development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.
3. Prior to the commencement of development detailed drawings of all ventilation and extraction equipment, at an appropriate scale, shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. Development shall be carried out in accordance with these approved details.
Reason: In the interest of amenity.
4. Before any work is commenced on the development the subject of this permission details of the ground floor levels of the proposed building shall have been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing, and the development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details.
Reason: In the interest of amenity.
5. No development shall take place until a comprehensive landscaping scheme for the site, in accordance with the principles contained within the submitted landscape masterplan (drawing ref L-682-PRP-005 Rev02 received on 8 February 2010) has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. This landscaping scheme shall be implemented strictly in accordance with the approved details in the first planting season following the occupation of the development. Any trees or plants which within a period of five years of planting die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased, shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of a similar size and species, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To ensure a reasonable standard of development and visual amenity for the area and to take account of Section 197 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
6. Development shall be carried out at all times strictly in accordance with the Tree Survey/Arboricultural Implication Assessment and Method statement.
Reason: To protect existing landscape features.
7. Noise from the development, including any means of ventilation (i.e. air conditioning, extraction etc) shall be restricted to ensure that the noise measures 5dB LAeq less than background when measured over a fifteen minute period at the nearest residential premises. (i.e. 5dB below

background 15 minute LAeq). The applicant must ensure that there are no frequencies which are more than 5dB dominant to the neighbouring frequency.

Reason: To protect residents from any noise nuisance.

7. Prior to the commencement of development a detailed remediation scheme shall be submitted to and agreed by the Local Planning Authority, in writing. This shall include the following, as a minimum: -

- Additional surface water monitoring and assessment of the potential risk posed to the Wash Brook
- Details for further monitoring of landfill gas and agreement of a scheme to protect the main building and venting of impermeable surfaces such as car parks. This shall include measures to ensure landfill gas does not pose a risk by entering service lines.
- Risk assessment and/or remedial measures to ensure changes at the site do not alter the landfill gas regime thereby posing a risk to nearby premises.
- Agreement of details for the capping of any landscape areas which are underlain by landfill. Measures suggested in the RSK report of December 2009 would be acceptable.
- Agreement of drainage of all areas that are underlain by landfill, this includes the relocated rugby pitch. To ensure water does not percolate through contaminated waste and pose a further risk to controlled waters.
- Agreement of any ground improvement methods, such as dynamic compaction or piling if required.

Reason: To ensure the proposal includes adequate mitigation as the site was formerly used for landfill.

9. No development shall take place, except in strict accordance with the measures outlined in section 6.0 of the RSK Carter Protected Vertebrate Survey Report 850866 Rev 3 received on 5 January 2010 for the safeguarding of species protected by law.

Reason: In the interests of protected species.

10. The measures within the Ecological Management Plan shall be implemented in full as part of the development and a detailed timetable of works for the 5 year period (including monitoring) submitted to the Authority prior to the commencement of development. This agreed timetable of works shall be implemented in full.

Reason: In the interest of ecology and biodiversity.

11. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted the following offsite highway works shall be completed in accordance with full engineering, drainage, signal, and constructional details, to be submitted to and gain the approval of the local planning authority: -
A6/A5028 Bedford Road roundabout improvement - shown indicatively on drawing No. S284/09/001 Rev 0 contained within the revised Transport Assessment received on 25 March 2010.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

12. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted the following offsite highway works shall be completed in accordance with full engineering, drainage, signal, and constructional details, to be submitted to and gain the approval of the local planning authority: -
Widening of existing footway along A5028 Bedford Road to 2.5m minimum - shown indicatively on drawing No. S284/09/002 Rev A contained within the revised Transport Assessment received on 25 March 2010.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety and to encourage walking and cycling.

13. Prior to the commencement of any part of the development hereby permitted, a Construction Management Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The Construction Management Plan shall include and specify the provision to be made for the following: -

- (i) Dust mitigation measures during the construction period;
- (ii) Control of noise emanating from the site during the construction period;
- (iii) Hours of construction work for the development;
- (iv) Contractors' compounds and other storage arrangements;
- (v) Enclosure of phase or sub-phase development sites;
- (vi) Provision for all site operatives, visitors and construction vehicles loading, off loading, parking and turning within the site during the construction period;
- (vii) Arrangements during the construction period to minimise the deposit of mud and other similar debris on the adjacent public highways;
- (viii) Routing agreement for construction traffic.

The construction of the development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved Construction Management Plan unless otherwise approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

14.No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme or archaeological investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing.

Reason: To ensure any archaeological remains that may be present on the site are adequately dealt with.

15.The proposed development shall achieve the BREEAM "very good" standard and 10% of the demand for energy shall be met on-site and renewably and/or from a decentralised renewable or low carbon energy supply.

Reason: to ensure the development is energy efficient and sustainable in accordance with Policy 14 in the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

16.Prior to the commencement of development a scheme to provide for replacement rugby pitches to an equivalent or better quality standard than the existing pitches in accordance with the Institute of Groundsmen standards, shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. This scheme shall include details of the following: -

(i) proposals for the continuity of pitch provision to ensure that the rugby club can meet its RFU league competition requirements.

(ii) drainage, seeding, top dressing, weed control, fertiliser application and fencing.

(iii) long term maintenance proposals.

(iv) Development shall be carried out in strict accordance with this approved scheme.

Reason: To ensure the quality of the replacement pitch provision is in accordance with

PPS17.

17.Notwithstanding the submitted information a detailed scheme for all external lighting shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing and development shall be carried out in accordance with these approved details.

Reason: To ensure there is no light spillage in the interest of amenity.

18.The existing pitches shall be replaced in accordance with the layout detailed on drawing AL (9) 110 Rev A submitted on the 26th February 2010.

Reason: To ensure an appropriate quantity of replacement rugby pitches.

19.The construction of the replacement pitches, including drainage shall be carried out in accordance with the PSD consultants report dated March 2010 or in the absence of specific advice, regarding construction standards, in accordance with Sport England guidance "Natural Turf for Sport" (Sport England, March 2000).

Reason: To ensure the provision of replacement pitches which are of equivalent or better quality than the pitches which would be lost.

20.Notwithstanding the submitted details, as a minimum, the replacement 1st team pitch shall be provided with perimeter fencing to match the specification of the existing fencing.

Reason: To maintain the level of the quality of the replacement pitch.

21.Work shall commence on the provision of the replacement pitches prior to any work commencing on the construction of the leisure centre or associated facilities which results in the loss of either of the existing pitches or the ability to play rugby on either of the pitches. The replacement pitches shall be made available in a playable condition such that there is no loss of the ability to play competitive rugby at the site, unless otherwise agreed in writing as part of the schedule of alternative rugby provision.

Reason: To ensure the continuity of and the ability to play rugby at the site.

22.Prior to the commencement of development, a schedule of alternative rugby pitch provision for pre-season training, friendly matches and competitive matches, for the whole of the period that rugby cannot be played at the site shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the local planning authority. If the replacement pitches are not available in a playable condition, in the timescale given in the PSD consultants report dated March 2010 or any other revised timetable as agreed.

Reason: To ensure the ability for and the continuity of rugby until such time as the replacement pitches are available.

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
18 January 2010 27 January 2010 24 March 2010 Prebendal

Applicant **Mr And Mrs H Berry**

Agent **CMPS**

Location **83 Main Street, Yarwell.**

Proposal **Residential development comprising of 4 no. dwellings on site previously used for skip hire business (reserved matters – EN/07/01138/OUT).**

Decision Application Granted

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. Before any work is commenced on the development hereby permitted, details of the external materials of the proposed building shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and the development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details. The submitted details shall include the use of Natural Limestone and Natural Slate.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.
3. Before the development hereby permitted is brought into use all windows located at first floor level on the west elevation of the building at Plot 1 shall be provided with obscure glazing in such a manner as would eliminate any overlooking of the adjacent premises.
Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers and to safeguard the amenity of the area.
4. The access hereby approved shall be constructed in accordance with the details shown on drawing number: 08.04-14, received by the Local Planning Authority on 18/01/2010.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety.
5. Notwithstanding the submitted details and before commencement of the development hereby permitted, details to show the slab levels of the dwellings and garages in relation to the existing and proposed levels of the site and the surrounding land shall be submitted to and be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The dwelling and garage shall thereafter be constructed in accordance with the slab level details so approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure a satisfactory form of development in relation to neighbouring land and buildings.
6. Adequate surface water drainage system shall be provided to prevent the unregulated discharge of water onto the highway boundary and these measures shall be implemented before the development is brought into use.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety.
7. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2008 (or any Order amending or re-enacting that Order with or without modification), there shall be no development within Classes A, B, C, D, E or G of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that Order without the prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To protect the amenity of adjacent occupiers and to ensure a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.
8. Prior to commencement of the development hereby permitted, details and samples of the materials to be used for the parking and hard-standing area in front of the properties shall have been submitted to and be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and the development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To achieve a satisfactory appearance for the development and in the interest of local visual amenity.

9. Prior to the commencement of development, a schedule of boundary treatments, which shall include the retention of the existing stone wall along the northern and western boundary as shown in plan number 08.04/14a, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority and the development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory standard of development which does not adversely affect the residential amenity of the area and to ensure the retention of an important feature within views of the plot.

10. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any order amending or re-enacting that order with or without modification), no additional windows or other openings shall be installed in the west facing elevation or roof slope of the dwelling hereby approved at Plot 1, without the prior written approval of the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of residential amenity.

11. The rooflights hereby approved in the west elevation of the building shall be provided at a minimum sill height of 1.6 metres as indicated on the approved drawings and shall thereafter be retained in this manner unless otherwise approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of residential amenity.

12. Notwithstanding the submitted details and before commencement of development hereby permitted, a sustainable strategy shall be submitted to and be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority to demonstrate that the development would meet requirements of Policy 14 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy and the development shall be implemented in accordance with the details so approved, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in PPS1 and Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

EN/10/00234/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
9 February 2010	12 February 2010	9 April 2010	Thrapston Market

Applicant **Mr W Hawes**

Agent **Merrington Project Services Ltd - Mrs N Maxted**

Location **21 Denford Road, Ringstead.**

Proposal **Three replacement dwellings on the site of existing single dwelling.**

Decision Application Granted

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.

Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. Notwithstanding the submitted details and prior to the commencement of development, full details of all external facing materials shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details and thereafter retained in perpetuity.

Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance.

3. Notwithstanding the submitted details and prior to the commencement of development, details of the provision of boundary screening to the site and each of the dwellings shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, and this boundary screening shall then be

provided in accordance with the approved details before the development hereby permitted is brought in to use and thereafter retained.

Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers and to safeguard the amenity of the area.

4. Before the development hereby permitted is brought into use the landing and lounge windows located in the south elevation of plot 1 shall be provided with obscure glazing and rendered incapable of being opened, in such a manner as would eliminate any over-looking of the adjacent premises.

Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers and to safeguard the amenity of the area.

5. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority a comprehensive scheme of landscaping for the site, which shall be implemented strictly in accordance with the approved details in the first planting season following the occupation of the development. Any planting that may die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased within 5 years shall be replaced with others of similar size and species in the current or next planting season, whichever is the sooner, unless agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to ensure a satisfactory standard of development.

6. The garages hereby approved shall be permanently retained for the parking of vehicles of residents/occupiers of the approved scheme, and shall not be used for any other purpose.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

7. Notwithstanding the submitted details and before commencement of development hereby permitted, a sustainable strategy shall be submitted to and be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority to demonstrate that the development would meet requirements of Policy 14 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy and the development shall be implemented in accordance with the details so approved, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in PPS1 and Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

8. Prior to the first use or occupation of the development hereby permitted, the means of vehicular access hereby permitted shall be paved with a hard bound surface for a minimum of 5 metres from the highway boundary and retained as such.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

9. The access hereby permitted shall remain un-gated.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

10. Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the commencement of development the following access details shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority:

(a) Pedestrian splays of at least 2.4 metres x 2.4 metres (2 metres x 2 metres where there is turning space within the site) shall be provided on each side of the vehicular access. These measurements are taken along and to the rear of the highway boundary within the curtilage of the site. The areas of land forward of these splays shall be reduced to and maintained at a height not exceeding 0.6 metres above carriageway level.

(b) Means of drainage, to prevent the unregulated discharge of surface water onto the highway.

(c) Maximum gradient (1 in 15) from the highway boundary.

The subsequent submitted details shall illustrate a carriageway which is to the local highway authority's adoptable standard. The hard surfacing shall be completed in accordance with the approved details in accordance with a timetable to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of development. Development shall be constructed in strict accordance with the approved details and retained thereafter in perpetuity.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

11. The dwellings hereby approved shall be constructed in accordance with the levels information detailed in drawings 255-03A, 255-06A and 255-07A.

Reason: In the interests of residential and visual amenity.

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
15 February 2010 5 March 2010 4 June 2010 Irthlingborough Waterloo

Applicant **Albourne General Partner Ltd And Albourne Nominee Ltd**

Agent **Alsop Verrill LLP**

Location **Express Works, Church Street, Irthlingborough.**

Proposal **Erection of a part single part two storey class A1 retail foodstore, single storey class A1/A3 retail unit, three class C3 residential houses with associated access, servicing, car parking and landscaping arrangements and the reconfiguration of town centre and church car parks.**

Decision Application Refused for the following Reasons:

1. The submitted information does not adequately assess the impact that the proposal would have on the Irthlingborough Conservation Area, indeed no reference appears to have been made to the Irthlingborough Conservation Area Character Assessment. However, notwithstanding this it is apparent that the scheme would not enhance or better reveal the significance of heritage assets rather it would detract from the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and also the setting of St Peter's Church which is Grade I listed. The particular elements of the design of the scheme which are of concern are:
 - The blankness of the northern and western elevations, which are the elevations against which the church will be viewed.
 - The "rotunda" feature as this would compete with the west window of the church and Lynchgate
 - The set back of the residential properties and the positioning of the store to the front of the dwellings as this does not relate to the existing dwellings in Nene View.
 - The quality of the landscape proposals
 - The lack of definition of Church Street and its separation from the car park.The scheme would therefore be contrary to advice Policies HE7, HE8, HE9 and HE10 in PPS5 and also Policy EN10 in PPS4. In addition it would be contrary to Policies 2 26 and 27 in the East Midlands Regional Plan and Policy 13 in the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.
2. The submitted Archaeological Desk Based Assessment identifies that the site has moderate potential for Iron Age and Roman remains and a moderate to high potential for Saxon and Medieval remains. The report also notes that given the site's location, within the historic core of Irthlingborough and its potential for archaeological remains, it is likely that further on-site investigation will be required. Inadequate information therefore accompanies the application, and as required by Policy HE6 in PPS5, further archaeological investigation is required to demonstrate that the proposal would not have an adverse effect on significant heritage assets.
3. The methodology in the submitted noise assessment is flawed; it includes inaccurate assumptions and does not consider the cumulative effects of the proposal. However notwithstanding this it is clear that the proposal would have an unacceptable impact on existing residential properties surrounding the site and also would result in an unacceptable living environment for the future occupiers of the proposed dwellings. It would therefore be contrary to the principles contained in PPG24 and PPS4.
4. The Flood Risk Assessment submitted with the application does not comply with the requirements set out in Annex E, paragraph E3 of Planning Policy Statement 25 (PPS 25). It does not, therefore, provide a suitable basis for assessment to be made of the flood risks arising from the proposed development. Whilst the site is located within Flood Zone 1, the proposed scale of development may present risks of flooding on-site and/or off-site if surface water run-off is not effectively managed. Without a surface water drainage scheme it is not possible to assess whether the site can cope with any additional surface water created as part of the development.

5. Insufficient information has been provided to enable an assessment to be made regarding whether the risks posed to groundwater can be satisfactorily managed and therefore whether the proposal is compliant with advice contained in Planning Policy Statement 23.
6. Inadequate ecological information has been submitted in accordance with the requirements in PPS9. A reptile survey is required to fully assess the impact of the proposal on protected species.

SPECIAL LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date: 26 May 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 5.30 pm

Present: Councillors -

Richard Gell

Glenn Harwood MBE

Andy Mercer (Leader of the Council)

Gill Mercer

Brian Northall

Rupert Reichhold

Ron Silver

27. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING

In the absence of the Vice-Chairman, it was

RESOLVED:

28. That Councillor Andy Mercer be appointed Chairman for the meeting.

29. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Anna Sauntson (Vice-Chairman), Peter Bedford, Peter MacGovern and Robin Underwood sent their apologies.

30. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

Further to minute 16(e) of the Annual Council meeting, it was reported that Councillor Albert Campbell had stepped down from the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Glenn Harwood MBE be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the Council year.

Chairman

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date: 7 June 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:-

Robin Underwood (Chairman)
Wendy Brackenbury (Vice-Chairman)
Andy Mercer (Leader of the Council)

Pauline Bradberry
Albert Campbell
Lisa Costello
Roger Glithero JP

Philip Hardcastle
Glenn Harwood MBE
Richard Lewis
Steven North

31. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

32. APOLOGIES

Councillors David Brackenbury and John Richardson MBE sent their apologies.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared a personal interest in the agenda item indicated but remained in the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon:-

Councillors	Item	Nature of Interest
Wendy Brackenbury, Pauline Bradberry, Albert Campbell, Lisa Costello, Roger Glithero, Philip Hardcastle, Glenn Harwood, Richard Lewis, Andy Mercer, Steven North, Robin Underwood	8	Recipients of allowances

34. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions.

35. WASTE AND RECYCLING WORKING PARTY

The Committee received and considered the recommendation in the minutes of the meeting of the Waste and Recycling Working Party on 13 April 2010. The minutes are at pages 36 to 38 and form part of this minute.

R.1 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the recommendation contained in minute 7.3 (Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008), with the amendment shown below, be approved:-

That the Executive Director (ES), Head of Environmental Services, and Waste Manager be authorised to accept Site Waste Management Plans and, in conjunction and consultation with all relevant statutory bodies, enforce compliance of these plans under the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008.

36. PRIVATE SECTOR (HOUSING) RENEWAL CAPITAL ALLOCATION FOR 2010/11

The Committee considered a report which outlined options for the use of a grant of £299,000 from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for 'Private Sector Renewal', which officers proposed be used for Disabled Facilities Grants. The options considered were:

1. Use the full £299,000 for only mandatory grants for disabled facilities.
2. Allocate £249,000 to be spent on mandatory grants for disabled facilities and £50,000 to be used to support urgent discretionary repairs where a property contains a Category 1 Hazard under the Housing Act 2004 and there is a significant risk to the occupier(s).
3. Use the full £299,000 solely for discretionary grants and private sector renewal.

Members noted that the Council had previously expressed its concerns on the loss of funding for Disabled Facilities Grants to the previous Government and that the funding available might still change as the current Government had not yet announced its plans for mid-year cuts. The Committee considered the implications of each option and agreed that option two would demonstrate to the Government a wider use of the funding and ensure some remedial work would be done to the private housing stock.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That, subject to confirmation of the full amount of funding from DCLG for 'Private Sector Renewal', £249,000 of the grant be spent on mandatory grants for disabled facilities and £50,000 to be used to support urgent discretionary repairs where a property contains a Category 1 Hazard under the Housing Act 2004 and there is a significant risk to the occupier(s).
- (2) That setting up the case review panel be deferred until 2011.

37. HOMELESSNESS GRANT 2010/11

Further to minute 181 (12 October 2009), the Committee discussed arrangements for the administration of the Homelessness Grant 2010/11. The grant had previously been administered by the Housing Strategy Manager and Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Lead Member for Planning Services, for use in the prevention and reduction of homelessness.

RESOLVED:

That recommendations for grants from the Homeless Grant 2010/11 be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval and that, should a grant be needed urgently, the Council's Urgency Procedure be used.

38. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES - REVIEW

The Committee considered a report which set out the process for reviewing the Members' Allowances and recommended the setting up of a working party to formulate detailed representations to submit to a Remuneration Panel to enable a new Scheme to be in place at the beginning of 2011/12.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a Remuneration Working Group be established with the Terms of Reference outlined in paragraph 4 above.
- (2) That the number of Members to serve on the Group be determined (7 Members served in 2007)
- (3) That the names of Members be determined (if it is desired to go beyond the membership of this Committee, a decision will need to be made by the Council meeting on 19 July).
- (4) That officers explore options for appointing an Independent Remuneration Panel including the possible use of the Panel which makes recommendations to Northamptonshire County Council, and the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to determine, in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader, the most appropriate Panel to be appointed.

39. WASTE CONTRACT UPDATE

Further to the presentation given to all Members of the Council on 11 January 2010 on the progress of the project to procure the next waste collection, recycling and cleansing contract, the Committee received a report which outlined subsequent major recent developments and set out the next steps for the project. The Lead Member for Environmental Services and Head of Environmental Services answered the Committee's questions regarding the possible effects of Northamptonshire County Council's procurement of a new waste disposal contract and Members were reassured that the disposal authority would be responsible for ensuring the collection authority was no worse off as a result of changes to waste delivery points.

RESOLVED:

That the specialist external adviser be retained by the Council for the remainder of the procurement process at a cost of £15,000 to be funded from the contingency reserve.

40. PROPOSED ROCKINGHAM MASTERPLAN

Members received the draft protocol for the proposed Rockingham Masterplan and a report which sought Members' agreement to act as the accountable body for funding of a Masterplan for Rockingham Motor Speedway and the surrounding area with representation on the Project Board, and to accept a spend of £80,000 from North Northamptonshire Development Corporation to deliver the Masterplan.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That approval be given for East Northamptonshire Council to act as the accountable body for the project;
- (2) That the transfer of the £80,000 grant from North Northamptonshire Development Corporation (should it be offered) be approved; and
- (3) That a budget of £80,000 be approved for the Rockingham Masterplan work to be funded from the grant and as per the protocol.

Chairman



Waste & Recycling Working Party

MINUTES

Held on:	13 April 2010
Time:	9.30am
Place:	CHG2, East Northamptonshire Council, Thrapston
Present:	<p>Councillors: Glenn Harwood (Chairman), Marian Hollomon, Richard Lewis, Peter MacGovern and Steven North.</p> <p>Officers: Charlotte Tompkins (CT) Waste Manager, Rachel Reeds (RR) Democratic Services (Minutes)</p>

Action

1.0 MINUTES AND ISSUES ARISING

1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2010 were approved.

2.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 Councillor Anna Sauntson, Mike Deacon (Head of Environmental Services) and Jane Perrin (NWP) sent their apologies.

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Councillor Glenn Harwood declared a personal interest because he was a member of the Green Waste Club.

4.0 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP (NWP)

4.1 CT reported that the NWP's doorstepping campaign would now be taking place over the next five weeks in Rushden (on 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 and 30 April, and 7 and 8 May, avoiding the date of the General Election). ENC officers would be going out with the county teams to gather general data about recycling participation. The activity would then be repeated later in the year to monitor the effect of a planned communication campaign. The working party discussed this project in depth and raised concerns about the possible negative press it might bring about. Members also asked if the results would be helpful for any future work around enforcement. CT commented that it would only involve a

- | | | |
|------------|---|----------------------|
| | small sample and there were other more subtle ways of gathering data. CT to circulate the NWP's Q & A paper to all Members of the working party. | Action
CT |
| 4.2 | CT to circulate the Waste Recycling Action Programme's latest update to all Members of the working party. | CT |
| 4.3 | The Chairman reported that ENC's request for a grant of £183,000 from the county's £2.8 million Waste Infrastructure Grant to pay for kitchen caddies should the new contract include a kitchen waste collection was still pending approval. | |
| 4.4 | The Waste Education Bus would be visiting some primary schools in the district. Members suggested that kitchen caddies be included. CT to investigate. | CT |
| 4.5 | It was noted that a new Communications Plan was being developed and would address how to introduce the public to new concepts. It was agreed this should be brought to the working party's next meeting. | CT/RR |
| 4.6 | The new Household Waste and Recycling Centres contract had begun on 1 April. CT noted comments from working party members on the new 'meet and greet' system to feed back to the contractor. It was reported that, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from 21 June the Northampton Road site would have longer opening hours and accept trade waste (subject to planning permission), and reuse centres would be relocated away from the centres; • within the first year the layouts of the centres would be revised and enhanced; and • over the next few years the centres would be redeveloped to address population growth and increased recycling targets. | CT |
| 4.7 | It was also noted that CT intended to review the commercial orange bag scheme to allow for the recycling of commercial waste. | |
| 5.0 | <u>WASTE CONTRACT PROCUREMENT UPDATE</u> | |
| 5.1 | Legal advice had been sought on further correspondence from Corys regarding concerns raised. The Working Party was given a brief update on the procurement project by the Project Lead. | |
| 6.0 | <u>MEMBER VISITS</u> | |
| 6.1 | CT canvassed opinion on acceptable days of the week for visits to waste processing facilities. Members agreed that half day visits would be appropriate. | |
| 7.0 | <u>SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS REGULATIONS 2008</u> | |
| 7.1 | The working party considered a report from the Waste Manager which advised members of the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations which came into force in April 2008, making Site Waste Management Plans compulsory for all construction projects in England costing over £300,000, with regard to its aims to increase the amount of construction waste that is recovered, reused, and | |

recycled and improve materials resource efficiency and prevent illegal waste activity by requiring that waste is disposed of appropriately and in accordance with the waste duty of care provisions. It was noted that enforcement powers were given to local authorities (this includes Waste Disposal Authorities, Waste Collection Authorities and Waste Planning Authorities) and the Environment Agency. These bodies already had a range of powers available to help tackle the illegal disposal of waste, therefore, Site Waste Management Plans would be added to existing local enforcement strategies as an additional tool for dealing with flytipping.

7.2 Members welcomed the regulations regarding reducing the impact of waste on the environment, but were concerned about excessive bureaucracy. The overlap in responsibility between Planning and Environmental Services was noted and CT reassured Members of her intention to work closely with the Development Control team.

7.3 It was

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the Executive Director, Head of Environmental Services, and Waste Manager be authorised to accept Site Waste Management Plans and enforce compliance of these plans under the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008.

8.0 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

8.1 It was agreed that future meeting dates would be set after the Annual Meeting. **ALL**

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Date: 9 June 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: - Pauline Bradberry JP (Chairman)
Gill Mercer (Vice Chairman)
Andy Mercer (Leader of the Council)

Albert Campbell
Lisa Costello
Roger Glithero JP
Glenn Harwood MBE
Sylvia Hughes
Brian Northall

Ron Pinnock
Roger Powell
Anna Sauntson
Robin Underwood
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood

41. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Wendy Brackenbury and John Richardson MBE sent their apologies.

43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND INFORMAL SITE VISITS

(a) Interests

Councillors Pauline Bradberry, Albert Campbell, Lisa Costello, Roger Glithero, Andy Mercer, Gill Mercer, Ron Pinnock, Anna Sauntson, Robin Underwood, Pam Whiting and Clive Wood declared personal interests in application EN/10/00499/OUT, because they knew the applicant's agent who used to work at the Council as a planning officer. They all remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting when the application was considered.

(b) Informal Site Visits

Councillor Anna Sauntson declared that she had undertaken an informal site visit for application EN/10/00499/OUT.

44. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

There were no public speakers.

45. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered the planning applications report and recommendations, with updated information on some of the applications.

The applications where the Committee agreed with the recommendations to grant are indicated under (a) below, and where it disagreed with the recommendations, are under (b) below. The full decision on the applications are included (on the page indicated) in the Appendix to these minutes.

(a) **Applications Granted**

(i) **EN/10/00214/FUL** – Land rear of 6A and 6B Station Road, Nassington (See Page 39)

The Committee considered that the proposed change of use from agricultural land to residential garden land would not intrude into the open countryside and could be approved, subject to the retention of the existing dry stone wall.

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report, and with an additional condition to ensure that the existing dry stone wall was retained.

(ii) **EN/10/00504/FUL** – 7 Teal Close, Higham Ferrers (See Page 40)

There was some concern that the proposed two storey side extension was too big and could be turned into a self contained dwelling. However, assurances were given that enforcement action could be taken if this unauthorised change of use did occur.

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

(iii) **EN/10/00529/RWL** – Barns South of Lowick Road, Aldwinckle (See Page 41)

The amended recommendation regarding a bat survey was noted and agreed.

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report, and the Head of Planning Services, in concurrence with the Chairman (or Vice Chairman) and Ward Member be authorised to determine the application following the submission of an acceptable evening bat emergence and dawn bat re-entry survey.

(b) **Applications Where the Committee Disagreed with the Report's Recommendations**

EN/10/00499/OUT – The Midland Business Centre, Midland Road, Higham Ferrers (See Page 39)

It was agreed in principle that there should be residential development on this site but there was concern with a number of issues on this outline application:

- There were too many dwellings proposed which would result in high density and over development, leading to a cramped form of development
- Some of the proposed dwellings were too close to trees protected by a TPO to the north of the site, which could result in tree roots being damaged by the foundations of any property built near them
- There was only one proposed access into the site which was not considered to be sufficient for the proposed number of dwellings and a pedestrian access

- should be provided from another part of the site
- There were too many properties off some shared driveways
 - The fifteen percent affordable housing proposed was considered to be too low and should be increased
 - The site's proximity to the site of a national monument (a former castle) could mean it contained important archaeological material which should be investigated by an archaeological survey before any development proceeded.

Members also expressed concern about the submission of viability assessments and asked whether this information could be provided under a private and confidential report at future Committee meetings.

Refused (contrary to the recommendation to grant) for the following reasons: density, overdevelopment and a cramped form of development; proximity of some dwellings to trees protected by a TPO; only one access into the site; percentage of affordable housing; and possible archaeological material within the site.

RESOLVED:

That the above planning applications be dealt with as indicated in the Appendix to these minutes at pages 42 to 45.

46. APPEAL DECISION MONITORING REPORT

Members noted the Council's enforcement appeal decisions from 26 April to 14 May 2010.

Chairman

**List of Applications Determined by
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 9 June 2010**

EN/10/00214/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
9 February 2010	15 February 2010	12 April 2010	Prebendal

Applicant **Hereward Homes Ltd**

Agent **I Plan**

Location **Land Rear Of 6A And 6B, Station Road, Nassington.**

Proposal **Change of use from agricultural land to residential garden land.**

Decision **Granted with an additional condition to ensure that the existing dry stone wall is retained.**

Conditions/Reasons:

1. This permission relates only to the area outlined in red on approved OS Sitemap plan scale 1:2500 as received by the local planning authority on 09/02/2010.
Reason: To clarify the terms of this consent and to ensure that the development would not harm the character and appearance of the area.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any Order revoking or re-enacting that Order with or without modification) there shall be no outbuilding, means of enclosure, fencing or any structure erected on the land outlined in red on approved OS Sitemap plan scale 1:2500 as received by the local planning authority on 09/02/2010 unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To retain an open rural character to the site commensurate with its edge-of-settlement location.

3. The existing wall along the boundary of the site shall be retained in perpetuity.
Reason: To ensure that there is a clear boundary between the residential curtilages and surrounding agricultural land.

EN/10/00499/OUT

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
15 March 2010	25 March 2010	24 June 2010	Higham Ferrers Lancaster

Applicant **Hampton Brook Investments Limited**

Agent **DLP Planning Limited - Mr J Croucher**

Location **The Midland Business Centre, Midland Road, Higham Ferrers.**

Proposal **Outline: Redevelopment of land and premises for up to 36 dwellings (all matters reserved).**

Decision **Refused (contrary to the recommendation to grant the application) for the following reasons: density, overdevelopment and a cramped form of development; proximity of some dwellings to trees protected by a TPO;**

only one access into the site; percentage of affordable housing; and possible archaeological material within the site.

Reasons:

1. The proposed density would lead to a cramped form of development, which is likely to have a detrimental impact on protected trees on site as well as the character of the area. The proposal is therefore contrary to the advice contained within PPS1 – Sustainable Development, PPS3 – Housing and Policy 13(h,o) of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.
2. The applicant has failed to demonstrate that the proposed development will not have a detrimental impact on archaeological remains that may be present on site. Inadequate information therefore accompanies the application, and as required by Policy HE6 in PPS5, further archaeological investigation is required to demonstrate that the proposal would not have an adverse effect on significant heritage assets.
3. The number of dwellings proposed exceeds the thresholds set in the Council's adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance on Developer Contributions which requires contributions towards social and community infrastructure, in particular affordable housing, education, public open space and transport. The provision of 15% of the dwellings for affordable housing is considered to be insufficient, having regard to the need for such housing in Rushden. As such, the proposal is therefore contrary to saved Policy GEN3 of the East Northamptonshire District Local Plan, the SPD in respect of developer contributions, Policy 6 in the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy and Policy 14 of the East Midlands Regional Plan (RSS8)
4. A principle of good design is that the development should be permeable. However, the proposed development only includes on access from Midland Road. A pedestrian access to Bury Close to the east is required. In the absence of this, the proposal is contrary to the principles contained in PPS3: Housing, Policy 13 in the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy

EN/10/00504/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
15 March 2010	16 March 2010	11 May 2010	Higham Ferrers Lancaster

Applicant **Mr And Mrs Adrian Lewis**

Agent **Sidey Design Architecture - Mr Jon Sidey**

Location **7 Teal Close, Higham Ferrers.**

Proposal **Two storey side extension.**

Decision Application Granted

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. The development the subject of this planning permission shall be carried out using external materials matching those of the existing building, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.
3. The development hereby permitted shall be used for domestic purposes only ancillary to the

occupation of the single family dwelling within the curtilage of which it is located.
Reason: In order to safeguard the amenity of adjacent residential properties.

EN/10/00529/RWL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
19 March 2010	21 April 2010	16 June 2010	Barnwell

Applicant **Society Of Merchant Venturers**

Agent **Carter Jonas - Miss K Barnes**

Location **Barns South Of, Lowick Road, Aldwincle.**

Proposal **Replacement of extant planning permission EN/05/00031/FUL Change of use of redundant agricultural building to two units of holiday accommodation dated 23 March 2005.**

Decision **The Head of Planning Services, in concurrence with the Chairman (or Vice Chairman) and Ward Member, be authorised to Grant the application subject to the submission of an acceptable evening bat emergence and dawn bat re-entry survey.**

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. The roof material(s) for the development shall be clay pantiles, details of which shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before the development is commenced.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.
3. Before any work is commenced on the development a fully detailed contamination assessment survey and mitigation strategy shall be undertaken, submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. This report shall particularly include details of the previous use of the site, a comprehensive and systematic sampling strategy, an assessment of soil gas concentrations with migration patterns and contamination associated with leakage and spillage from storage tanks within the site, changes to site profiles/levels and a full assessment of potential groundwater contamination. The development shall then be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved mitigation strategy and written confirmation shall be provided to the Local Planning Authority to confirm this. The works comprised in the approved strategy for mitigation of contaminants present on the site shall have been completed prior to the occupation of the building.
Reason: To ensure contamination present on site is properly contained/removed in the interests of public health.
4. If during the construction of the development evidence of new, previously unidentified areas of contamination are discovered, then the extent and nature of the contamination and a mitigation strategy shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before any further construction proceeds. The works comprised in the approved strategy for mitigation of the contamination present at the site shall have been completed prior to the occupation of the building.
Reason: To ensure contamination present on site is properly contained / removed in the interests of public health.
5. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted

Development) Order 1995 (or any order amending or re-enacting that order, with or without modification), no buildings or structures of agricultural, domestic or other types and no gates, walls, fences or other means of enclosure other than those on the approved plans shall be erected on site without the prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To protect the visual amenity of the area.

6. Prior to the commencement of development, a sample of the brick quoins shall be submitted to and proposed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.

7. Before any work is commenced on the development hereby permitted, full constructional and location details of the passing bay to be provided within the access route off the public highway known as Lowick Road shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. The approved passing bay shall be provided before the development hereby permitted shall be brought into use, and thereafter retained.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

8. The facing material(s) for the development shall be natural stone, details of which shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before the development is commenced.

Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.

9. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the recommendations for the protection of bats and barn owls as identified in the 'Bat and Barn Owl Search Survey' received on 21 April 2010.

Reason: In order to safeguard protected species which may inhabit the site.

10. The holiday lets shall not be occupied as a person's sole, or main place of residence and the owners/operators shall maintain an up-to-date register of the names of all owners/occupiers of individual units on the site, and of their main home addresses, and shall make this register available at all reasonable times to officers of the local planning authority, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority. No unit shall be occupied by any individual or group of individuals for more than 28 days in any 12 month period.

Reason: The reason for these conditions is to ensure that approved holiday accommodation is not used for unauthorised permanent residential occupation.

PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Date: 14 June 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: - **David Brackenbury (Chairman)**
John Richardson MBE (Vice Chairman)

David Bateman
Tony Boto
Lisa Costello
Michael Finch
Roger Glithero JP
Dudley Hughes JP

Eloise Lucille
Steven North
Roger Powell
Phillip Stearn
Pam Whiting

47. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Andy Mercer sent his apologies.

49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Monitoring Officer read out the following statement to clarify some issues regarding declarations of interests for matters to be considered under this Committee and its Area Working Parties:

“The Standards Board for East Northamptonshire has asked me to clarify issues in relation to the need for Members to declare interests at Planning Policy Committee and its associated Working Parties in relation to their place of residence or other land or property that they may own.

In general terms, the Code of Conduct requires Members to declare a personal interest if the subject of debate in a meeting relates to something they have declared on the Register of Interests. Since Area Plan Working Parties relate to specific parts of the District their discussions, and indeed those of Planning Policy, may relate to where you live and hence personal declarations of interest would be appropriate. Such declarations of personal interest of course do not stop you speaking or voting on any matter.

As it is recognised that the Area Plan Working Parties are single subject discussions, it is proposed that such declarations of interest will be captured at the first meeting in each civic year and then the committee clerk will just ask for any changes at each meeting thereafter.

Obviously in some circumstances discussions can become very specific to a particular piece of land. As Monitoring Officer my advice as to when a personal interest becomes prejudicial

would be to consider the position if an application was to come forward on that site. If you would be on the neighbour notification list or the development would result in an increase in traffic on the road where you live then the interest would in my view be prejudicial. The final decision of course remains yours.”

Personal Interests

Members declared personal interests in the items below as indicated. They remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting when the respective item was considered.

Member	Item	Nature of Interest
David Brackenbury	11(b) Conservation area Review - Thrapston	Lives in Thrapston
Roger Glithero	10 – Proposed Rockingham Masterplan	The area of the proposed Masterplan is within the Kings Forest Ward which he represents as a District Councillor
Dudley Hughes	All planning policy matters regarding Raunds	Lives in Raunds and his wife is also a District Councillor
Steven North	Item 8 – Rushden Regeneration	Lives in Rushden
Roger Powell	All planning policy matters regarding Rushden	Lives in Rushden
John Richardson	All planning policy matters regarding Oundle	Owns property in Oundle

50. MINUTES OF WORKING PARTY MEETINGS

The minutes of the Raunds Area Working Party held on 23 February and 8 April 2010 and Three Towns Working Party held on 2 March 2010 were received and are attached to these minutes at pages 52 to 62.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation under Minute 4 (Membership of the Working Party) of the Raunds Area Working Party held on 23 February be approved.

51. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO AREA WORKING PARTIES

At the Annual Council meeting on 12 May 2010 (Minute 15(b)), this Committee was given authority to consider nominations to the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston; Three Towns; and Raunds Area Working Parties, and co-opt, as necessary, Members not serving on this Committee (with full voting rights), and it was

RESOLVED:

- (1) That meetings of the Three Towns and Raunds Area Working Parties only be held separately when site/area specific items are to be discussed.
- (2) That membership of the three Area Working Parties for 2010/11 be as follows:
 - (a) Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston – Councillors David Bateman, David Brackenbury, Roger Glithero, John Richardson and Phillip Stearn.
 - (b) Three Towns – Councillors David Brackenbury, Michael Finch, Sean Lever, Andy Mercer, Steven North, Roger Powell, Anna Sauntson and Pam Whiting.
 - (c) Raunds Area – Councillors Tony Boto, David Brackenbury, Albert Campbell, Lisa Costello, Sylvia Hughes, Michael Finch, Glenvil Greenwood Smith, Dudley Hughes and Eloise Lucille.

52. FOUR TOWNS PLAN – EVIDENCE GATHERING UPDATE

A progress report was submitted evaluating the current evidence base for the development of the Four Towns Plan Development Plan Document (DPD).

An initial analysis of the policies required for the Four Towns Plan had been discussed by the Raunds Area and Three Towns Working Parties and they agreed that the following list of issues should be addressed in the Preferred Options document:

- Overall vision for the long term strategy of the area
- Settlement hierarchy
- Settlement boundaries criteria for towns and villages
- Employment and housing requirements
- Approach to housing density and mix
- Affordable housing-types, targets and thresholds
- Rural housing exception sites-criteria
- Environmental policies on biodiversity, flood risk and historic heritage
- Gypsy and traveller needs
- Residential car parking standards
- Town centre boundaries/primary shopping frontages criteria for towns and villages where appropriate
- Green infrastructure and other open space, recreation and sport
- Other infrastructure requirements
- Tourism
- Development principles for the market towns and villages
- Rural buildings, farm diversification
- Wind farms.

Wherever possible in-house resources would be used to gather evidence, but occasionally external mentoring would be used to carry out sustainability appraisals and landscape character assessments. It was estimated that this support would cost £5,000 and be funded from the Four Towns Plan budget for 2010/11.

There would also be areas of work requiring specialist technical expertise and modelling capability which could not be done in-house and this included:

- Strategic flood risk assessment
- Surface water management plan
- Housing needs survey (if affordable housing policies are to be refined)
- Habitats regulations assessment
- Retail assessment locality issues
- Mitigation testing for transport strategy options for development with possible funding through the County Council.

Members noted the potential costs of this external work and that a report would be submitted to a future meeting with further detailed costs for consideration.

The Chairman mentioned the Government's recent Green Paper 'Open Source Planning' and suggested that the Committee should support the principle of 'localism' as set out in the Green Paper which was being introduced by the new Government. It was considered that the proposed greater involvement of local communities in the planning of future developments which this statement embodied should be welcomed and be fully supported by this Council. However, it was still early days in terms of a new emerging planning framework and account would have to be taken of the changes as they occurred.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the list of policy areas for the Four Towns Plan identified in the preamble above be agreed.
- (2) That the use of mentors for evidence gathering projects which could be done in house be agreed.
- (3) That Officers be authorised to develop specifications for the areas of evidence requiring external support and a report be submitted to a future meeting with details of potential costs for consideration.
- (4) That Officers be thanked for their work so far in gathering evidence for the Four Towns Plan.
- (5) That the principle of localism in the Government's recent 'Open Source Planning' Green Paper be supported and that any local targets should reflect the wishes of local people and be adhered to wherever possible.

53. RUSHDEN REGENERATION – ENQUIRY BY DESIGN REPORT

The draft Enquiry by Design consultation, undertaken in February 2010 for Rushden town centre by the Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment, was submitted for consideration.

Members welcomed the document and considered that it had taken account of the views of Rushden people, including the wish for larger houses to be built instead of flats and the importance of an adequate transport infrastructure for the town.

The Head of Planning Services stated that the document would inform the Four Towns Plan and be part of the local planning framework for Rushden.

RESOLVED:

That the Enquiry By Design consultation document for Rushden be approved and the Prince's Foundation be thanked for their work on the document.

54. DRAFT SHOP FRONT DESIGN SPD

The draft Shop Front Design Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was submitted for consideration and approval for public consultation.

The objectives of the SPD were to:

- Provide an integrated and consistent approach to shop front design
- Promote high quality shop fronts across the district
- Promote inclusive design
- Protect and enhance the character and appearance of town centres and conservation areas
- Ensure shop fronts contribute positively to the day and night-time economies in the district.

The document supplemented Policy 13 of the Core Spatial Strategy regarding high quality design which reflected and strengthened distinctive qualities and character of place.

The draft SPD included the following design principles:

- Basic design principles
- Security
- Blinds and canopies
- Advertisements.

The Committee noted that the design principles were not prescriptive, but would be a framework for considering the design of a new shop front within its immediate surroundings and the architectural whole of the building.

Members requested that shop owners be included in the consultation process.

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the removal of leaflets from the shop window in figure 6 of the document, the draft Shop Front Design SPD be approved for public consultation.

55. PROPOSED ROCKINGHAM MASTERPLAN

A proposed Masterplan Brief and draft protocol for the area around the Rockingham Motor Speedway was submitted for consideration.

The North Northants Development Company (NNDC) had allocated £80,000 to support the development of a Masterplan for the area surrounding the Rockingham Motor Speedway. This would be an opportunity to diversify the economy of the district and attract high skill and high wage jobs to this part of North Northamptonshire. The area covered the boundaries of East Northamptonshire Council and Corby Borough Council and the project would be managed by the NNDC on behalf of both Councils.

The draft protocol had been produced to take forward the outcomes of the Masterplan as a joint planning document (SPD) to guide the future development of the area. Both Councils would have to approve the Masterplan document and protocol for the project to proceed. A Councillor from each authority would be appointed to sit on the project board.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed Masterplan Brief and draft protocol, as submitted, be approved.

R.2 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That Councillor Roger Glithero be appointed as this Council's representative on the Masterplan's project board.

56. CONSERVATION AREA REVIEWS

The Committee considered reviews of conservation areas for Titchmarsh, Twywell and Woodford and extensions to the existing areas for Oundle and Thrapston.

Members considered that the Drill Hall building should not be included as a "positive building" in the proposed conservation area for Oundle because that, whilst it had some interesting features, overall these were not important enough to warrant this designation. However, the site itself and surrounding land should be included.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Titchmarsh, Twywell and Woodford Conservation Areas be approved and designated in accordance with the submitted documents.
- (2) That the proposed extension to the Thrapston Conservation Area be approved in accordance with the submitted documents.
- (3) That, subject to the deletion of the Drill Hall building as a "positive building", the proposed extension to the Oundle Conservation Area be approved in accordance with the submitted documents.

Chairman



Raunds Area Working Party

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 23 February 2010 at 7.00 pm, Members' Room, East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston

Present:

Councillors:

Tony Boto (**Chairman**)
Albert Campbell
Michael Finch

Glenvil Greenwood Smith
Dudley Hughes JP
Eloise Lucille

Officers:

Trevor Watson (TGW)
Elizabeth Wilson (EW)
Peter Cooper (PC)

Head of Planning Services
Interim Planning Policy and Conservation Manager
Democratic Services (Minutes)

Action

1.0 MINUTES

1.1 RESOLVED:

That, subject to all reference to Raunds Town Council being removed from Minute 3.6, the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 January 2010 be received and approved.

PC

2.0 APOLOGIES

2.1 Councillor David Brackenbury sent his apologies.

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 No interests were declared.

4.0 MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING PARTY

4.1 The Chairman proposed that Councillors Lisa Costello and Sylvia Hughes be appointed to the Working Party and it was

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That Councillors Lisa Costello and Sylvia Hughes be appointed to the Raunds Area Working Party.

KO

4.2 Councillor Lucille asked for the validity of this resolution to be referred to the Monitoring Officer and under Rule 16.6 of the Council's Procedure Rules, Councillors Michael Finch and Eloise Lucille requested that their vote against the above motion be recorded.

5.0 UPDATE ON SITE SELECTION EVIDENCE

5.1 Further to Minute 3 (21 January 2010), the Working Party received an update on site selection evidence and issues raised at the previous meeting, in particular, on Sustainable Urban Extensions (SUEs) and how this could affect future development in Raunds.

5.2 Raunds had been designated for a SUE under the Core Spatial Strategy. The main issue for the Working Party was that a single SUE adjacent to Raunds would concentrate all future housing and employment development for Raunds in one area. It was considered that this could have serious implications for the town and that one concentrated SUE would cause social and physical imbalance for the town. It was also considered that the town was not large enough to have one SUE and Members would prefer a number of smaller SUEs in different areas around the town to ensure a more balanced approach and make development more sustainable. At the last meeting on 21 January, EW was asked to discuss the possibility of this approach with the Joint Planning Unit (JPU).

5.3 EW reported that she had consulted the JPU about this issue and they had informally indicated that, so long as the principles of SUEs were adhered to and the development strategy contributed to the future vitality and sustainability of Raunds, they might consider this as an acceptable development strategy.

5.4 The issue of developer contributions towards infrastructure was also discussed. It was considered important that any development strategy of smaller SUEs should be robust enough with sufficient development to obtain adequate developer contributions towards the provision of infrastructure for the town. If the SUEs were too small or dispersed, it could decrease the “critical mass” for infrastructure provision and lead to or ‘open up’ development in other areas around or within Raunds.

5.5 It was suggested that the infrastructure issue for Raunds should be discussed at the next Working Party meeting and it was **agreed** that EW would prepare a skeleton of a draft Raunds Infrastructure Plan for consideration at that meeting.

EW

5.6 EW reported for information that the Council had received £50,000 from the national Rural Masterplan Fund. This money would go towards the production of a masterplan for Raunds. Members thanked EW for her work in obtaining this funding.

6.0 FOUR TOWNS PLAN – DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

(a) Affordable Housing Policies

6.1 A report was submitted identifying the main issues on the formation of affordable housing policies for the Four Towns Plan.

6.2 Members briefly discussed the report and considered that the issue of part ownership should be included within any affordable housing policies. It was **agreed** that further evidence gathering for housing need was required for this issue and that EW would discuss the matter with Cat Hartley, the Housing Strategy Manager, and report back to the next meeting.

EW

6.3 A chart showing the market and affordable housing balance by Ward for the District was also considered.

(b) Town Centre Boundaries

6.4 Members considered a draft methodology for determining the town centre boundaries for the main settlements within the Four Towns Plan area.

Action

- 6.5 Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 4 set out the Government's policy for town centres and town centre uses. When preparing development plans, Local Planning Authorities should:
- identify primary shopping areas and town centre boundaries within which the Development Plan should locate other town centre uses
 - define other areas within town centres but outside the primary shopping frontage to encourage specific uses
 - ensure town centre uses would benefit from the centre's accessibility by not draw town centre boundaries too widely.

6.6 A draft map showing the proposed town centre boundary and primary shopping frontage for Raunds was submitted for Members' consideration.

6.7 EW stated that whilst the determination of the extent of the primary shopping frontages would be undertaken using the methodology attached to the report, if Members wanted a policy related to controlling the uses within the frontage then this should be a criteria based approach.

6.8 Members were asked to submit any views on the proposed methodology and boundaries to EW and the draft would be updated for further consideration. A possible future site visit to Raunds to assess the proposed boundaries was also discussed.

EW

7.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.1 It was **agreed** that the next meeting would be held on 8 April 2010 starting at 7.00pm in the Members' Room.

PC



Raunds Area Working Party

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 8 April 2010 at 7.00 pm, Members' Room, East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston

Present:

Councillors:

Tony Boto (Chairman)	Dudley Hughes JP
David Brackenbury	Eloise Lucille
Glenvil Greenwood Smith	

Officers:

Sharn Matthews (SM)	Executive Director
Trevor Watson (TGW)	Head of Planning Services
Elizabeth Wilson (EW)	Interim Planning Policy and Conservation Manager
Peter Cooper (PC)	Democratic Services (Minutes)

Action

1.0 MINUTES

1.1 The minutes of the last meeting held on 23 February 2010 were received and approved. **PC**

2.0 APOLOGIES

2.1 Councillors Albert Campbell and Michael Finch sent their apologies.

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Councillors Tony Boto, Eloise Lucille, Glenvil Greenwood Smith and Dudley Hughes JP declared personal interests because they owned properties in Raunds or Stanwick. They remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting on all the agenda items.

3.2 Councillor David Brackenbury gave a view that the Raunds Area Working Party relied on the experience and expertise of Members who lived in the Raunds area and he suggested that these Members should not have to declare interests for any properties they owned in Raunds, unless any matter being considered by the Working Party directly affected the area where their property was located.

3.3 The Working Party noted Councillor Brackenbury's comments.

4.0 FOUR TOWNS PLAN – DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT (DPD)

(a) Policy Position Update

4.1 An update on policies being developed for the Four Towns Plan DPD was submitted for consideration and approval.

4.2 Members welcomed the document as a useful indicator of progress being made with policies for the Plan. It was noted that the document would be updated after every meeting of the Raunds and Three Towns Working Parties

to take account of any comments or amendments made by Members.

4.3 Some of the main policy issues affecting Raunds were discussed and Members made the following points:

- Raunds Master Plan - EW mentioned that work on the Brief would start in mid May and the consultation process would take place by the end of June/early July. There would then be further consultation on the outcome (of the consultation) which could continue until the autumn
- Employment Requirements Criteria – clarification on the types of jobs and employment opportunities required for Raunds should be made. Stanwick should have its town centre employment area protected.
- Housing Requirements Criteria – Members were concerned with the numbers of new dwellings proposed for Raunds and that the town's infrastructure would be unable to cope
- Housing Site Assessment – future housing should be dispersed around various sites in Raunds
- Affordable Housing – affordable housing should be for people living in Raunds and the percentage of affordable housing should be looked at based on evidence e.g. the housing waiting list
- Treatment of Windfall Sites – this policy was important for Stanwick and the other surrounding villages adjacent to Raunds.

4.4 It was **agreed** that a fourth column showing relevant and achievable policies having regard to both national advice and previous plan progression experience should be added to the updated document.

EW

RESOLVED:

EW

That, subject to the comments made by Members being incorporated into the document, the submitted policy update be noted and approved.

(b) Infrastructure Planning

4.5 Members considered a report on infrastructure planning that was being undertaken for the Four Towns Plan DPD to enable the Local Development Framework to create and deliver sustainable communities.

4.6 The four main aims of an Infrastructure Plan were to:

- identify the existing infrastructure in the towns and assess whether there was spare/over capacity
- identify existing shortfalls in capacity irrespective of further growth
- identify the infrastructure needed to support future developments
- help infrastructure providers identify requirements and plan provision.

4.7 The first draft of the Position Statement for Raunds was submitted for consideration; this included an initial assessment of any current or likely deficiencies over the Plan period. Members noted that there were a number of infrastructure types that had to be assessed against the relevant standard.

4.8 A similar Position Statement would be prepared for each of the four towns in the DPD area and a strategic position on infrastructure issues covering the four towns would also be prepared. Once this had been completed, infrastructure delivery by providers would be identified and matched to cover any shortfall.

4.9 The Working Party welcomed the document and requested that the issues of provision of broadband and number of school spaces be investigated further.

- 4.10 Members requested that a copy of the draft Infrastructure Plan for Raunds be circulated by email to the Working Party and they were asked to submit any further comments they might have on the draft document to EW.

EW

(c) Transport Assessment Note

- 4.11 The Working Party received a draft Transport Assessment Note prepared by the County Council on the current transport position for East Northamptonshire, as part of the infrastructure work being undertaken for the Four Towns Plan DPD.
- 4.12 Once options for growth had been considered and agreed then these would be tested by the County Council using the Northamptonshire traffic model.
- 4.13 Any comments made by Members would then be discussed with the County Council before the draft document was finalised.
- 4.14 Members noted that some of the assumptions made in the document about vehicle movements and travel to work trips made in Raunds and the south of the district were based on findings in the 2001 Census.
- 4.15 The Working Party agreed that the Chowns Mill roundabout was the major highway problem to be resolved and the situation would only get worse. It was also acknowledged that whilst the A45 and A14 had brought growth to the district, they had also brought extra traffic and congestion, especially at peak travel to work times.

5.0 REVIEW OF HOUSING AND INDUSTRIAL ALLOCATIONS

- 5.1 Councillor Greenwood Smith proposed three areas that would be the Working Party's preferred sites for future development around Raunds:
- (a) Land to the south of the former RPC site for a mix of retail, industry and housing;
 - (b) Land to the south of Meadow Lane for housing with industry situated to the north of the site adjacent to the existing industrial site at Warth Park; and
 - (c) Land adjacent to Brick Kiln Road, with the west of the site allocated for industrial use and the east for housing (a possible 285 dwellings) and community use.
- 5.2 He emphasised that the three separate sites would be preferable than one large site allocated for the Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) proposed for Raunds in the Core Spatial Strategy.
- 5.3 Councillor Boto suggested that the RPC site could be a possible mini SUE with mainly housing and industry. It had the advantage of being near to the town centre. He also suggested that the site could be linked to include land to the south of Manor School.
- 5.4 TW stated that it was important that any proposed sites for Raunds would have to be backed up by evidence before they could be considered for inclusion in a refreshed Preferred Options document. EW proposed that the same site assessment process used for the RNOT Plan could also be used to assess potential sites in Raunds. In this way the advantages and disadvantages of

Action

each site could be properly assessed and withstand scrutiny at the Examination stage. Members noted that any work on the site assessments could be undertaken using in house resources.

It was **agreed** that work on a draft Site Assessment for Raunds be proceeded with and that a progress report on this document be made to the next meeting of this Working Party.

EW

6.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6.1 It was **agreed** that the next meeting be held on a date to be arranged in consultation with the Chairman.

PC



Three Towns Working Party

Minutes of a meeting held on 2 March 2010 at 7.00 pm, Members' Room, East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston

Present:

Councillors:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| David Brackenbury | Roger Powell |
| Michael Finch | Anna Sauntson |
| Sean Lever | Robin Underwood |
| Andy Mercer | Pam Whiting |
| Steven North | |

Officers:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Trevor Watson (TGW) | Head of Planning Services |
| Elizabeth Wilson (EW) | Interim Planning Policy and Conservation Manager |
| Cat Hartley (CH) | Housing Strategy Manager |
| Peter Cooper (PC) | Democratic Services (Minutes) |

Action

1.0 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

- 1.1 **RESOLVED:**
That Councillor Steven North be appointed Chairman of the Working Party for 2009/10.

PC

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 No interests were declared.

3.0 FOUR TOWNS PLAN - DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

(a) Three Towns Issues

- 3.1 Further to Minute 4 (Joint Working Party) 10 December 2009, Members received a report on planning policies to be considered for the three towns (Rushden, Higham Ferrers and Irthlingborough) and surrounding area, as part of the Four Towns Development Plan Document (DPD).
- 3.2 Members noted the policy issues covering all four towns (including Raunds) in the Four Towns Plan area to be discussed at future meetings of the Joint Working Party, and that consideration would be given to a wind farm policy as part of the Four Towns Plan.
- 3.3 Some policy areas specific to the three towns were proposed for discussion and it was **agreed** that the following issues be considered at future meetings of this Working Party:
- Local distinctiveness for each of the towns in a pen portrait
 - Vision for the long term strategy of a "successful" Rushden, Higham Ferrers and Irthlingborough area
 - Settlement boundaries - consideration of detailed boundaries

EW

Action

- Site assessment - housing and employment requirements for Rushden, Higham Ferrers and Irthlingborough
- Housing density and mix for the area - possible differentiated policy for each settlement
- Specific affordable housing sites/rural exception sites in the area
- Town centre/retail frontage-specific boundary issues
- Specific development principles for the Three Towns and surrounding villages
- Chelveston airfield.

3.4 Councillor Mercer considered that the following three issues were important and it was **agreed** that these should be included in the Working Party's deliberations: EW

- The treatment of windfall sites in housing requirement figures and the need to avoid densification in urban areas through using housing infill sites especially in Rushden and Irthlingborough
- Whether the existing utilities infrastructure in Rushden and Irthlingborough was adequate to deal with future development needs
- Transportation links, especially public transport in the three towns.

3.5 It was **agreed** that the following issues should also be considered by the Working Party: EW

- Existing Town Boundaries – review these to allow for potential development to the east of the A6 Rushden and Higham Bypass
- Residential Parking Standards – whether these should be linked to the availability of public transport and whether there was enough evidence to depart from Government guidance of 1.5 car parking spaces per property and base the standard on the size of the property
- Settlement Hierarchy – should there be a different approach taken on defining the boundaries of the three towns (compared to the RNOT Plan) but this would have to be justified.

3.6 It was **agreed** that the following issues be added to the draft Four Towns Development Plan Document (DPD) for future discussion: EW

- Section 5 – a Wind Farm Policy should be added
- Section 6 – Affordable Housing – both housing and planning policies needed to be developed to address the concerns of the Working Party to ensure that there was a spread of type, size and mix of affordable/intermediate housing
- Section 7 – wildlife corridors should be added to green infrastructure and further work should be done on deliverability and consideration of existing tourist assets under the tourism policy. The possible provision of a cycleway/walkway link using the disused railway line running alongside the Rushden Greenway should be investigated
- Section 8 – targets for housing site allocations in Higham Ferrers could be achieved without further major site allocations
- Section 9 – it was considered that the 1003 outstanding target under the housing site allocations in Irthlingborough would be unsustainable because the required infrastructure was not in place. Lack of Section 106 money for education could also prevent further development in Irthlingborough. EW said that the 1003 target figure was part of the Core Spatial Strategy (CSS) and suggested this issue could be considered as part of the CSS Review
- Section 11 – future development of Rushden must not be constrained by the major roads around the town and consideration should be given to allowing development to the east of the A6 Bypass. Land should be

potentially brought forward for development including a possible site for a new Rushden cemetery

- Section 12 – a policy for the future development of Chelveston Airfield was required and it was important that the Council took a lead on this.

3.7 The Working Party requested that the following issues should also be considered: **EW**

- The possibility of Crow Hill becoming a separate settlement from Irthlingborough. EW said that a small consultation exercise on this matter could take place with Crow Hill residents in June 2010, in liaison with Irthlingborough Town Council if considered appropriate
- Car parking issues in Higham Ferrers High Street to be investigated
- Possible increase in retail development in the High Street and the issue of numbers of affordable housing proposed at Irthlingborough.

3.8 Members noted that a skeleton draft Infrastructure Plan for the three towns would be brought to a future meeting for this Working Party to discuss. **EW**

(b) Affordable Housing Policies

3.9 A report was submitted identifying the main issues on the formation of affordable housing policies for the Four Towns Plan. There was a discussion about what was meant by affordable housing (social rented and intermediate) and the problems of concentration of this housing in particular areas.

3.10 The Working Party considered the main issue to be the concentration and volume of affordable housing and that this type of housing should be spread around a number of sites in the four towns and not be concentrated on a few sites. More affordable housing should be built in villages in the rural settlements as well as the towns. Developers should also be encouraged to produce more imaginative designs for affordable housing.

3.11 CH confirmed that, as required by CSS Policy 15, the Four Towns Plan would aim for 40% of affordable housing on major housing development sites. Under Section 106 agreements, developers were being encouraged to build no more than 20 to 30 affordable dwellings on each site.

3.12 Councillor Powell considered that too much affordable housing was being built in Rushden and Irthlingborough and questioned the number of units under the Housing Market Assessment. Too many flats had been built in these towns which were now standing empty. CH stated that the focus of the affordable housing policies was on sustainability and there must be evidence produced to challenge developers' proposals.

3.13 The issue of ensuring a good mix of age groups allocated to social housing was also discussed. CH confirmed that the Council's Choice Based Lettings Policy had been successful in controlling this matter by achieving a more sustainable occupancy/age mix.

3.14 Councillor Mercer proposed that any policies on affordable housing should differentiate between social and intermediate housing. EW mentioned that some aspects of the differentiation (into social and intermediate housing) could be dealt with by planning policies and some by housing policies. The DPD could not deal with all of these issues. EW was requested to report back on this matter. Councillor Mercer also raised the potential for future strategic housing issues to be considered by the Planning Policy Committee rather than **EW**

the Policy and Resources Committee.

(c) Town Centre Boundaries

- 3.15 Members considered a draft methodology for determining the town centre boundaries for the main settlements within the Four Towns Plan area.
- 3.16 Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 4 set out the Government's policy for town centres and town centre uses. When preparing development plans, Local Planning Authorities should:
- identify primary shopping areas and town centre boundaries within which the Development Plan should locate other town centre uses
 - define other areas within town centres but outside the primary shopping frontage to encourage specific uses
 - ensure town centre uses would benefit from the centre's accessibility by not draw town centre boundaries too widely.
- 3.17 Draft maps showing the proposed town centre boundary and primary shopping frontages for Rushden, Higham Ferrers and Irthlingborough were submitted for Members consideration.
- 3.18 Councillor Mercer questioned the need to treat this as a priority and was concerned about using up scarce resources and proposed that work on defining town centre boundaries should be deferred. He also referenced the amount of work undertaken in producing the village boundaries under the RNOT Plan, especially the time taken to determine them and the subsequent problems since the Examination Hearings in 2008.
- 3.19 EW emphasised that under PPS 4 there was a requirement for all Local Authorities to undertake this work. She assured Members that work on the proposed town boundaries could be undertaken fairly quickly.
- 3.20 It was proposed that Officers would contact Members for their views on the proposed methodology and boundaries and the draft would be updated for further consideration. Possible future site visits to the towns to assess the proposed boundaries were also discussed. However, the Working Party considered that the work should be deferred for now, subject to the further views of the Raunds Area Working party on this issue being considered either by a future joint working party meeting or through the Planning Policy Committee.

EW

4.0 Date Of Next Meeting

- 4.1 It was **agreed** that the date of the next meeting would be decided in consultation with the Chairman, and that Members of the Working Party would then be informed. This view was taken having regard to the need to ensure that the work of the individual working parties was appropriately focused and the need for further joint meetings to deal with the main aspects of policy development.

PC

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: 16 June 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: - **Phil Stearn (Chairman)**
Glennil Greenwood-Smith (Vice-Chairman)

David Bateman
Tony Boto
Richard Gell
Brian Northall

Ron Pinnock
Duncan Reid
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood

57. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed the new members of the Committee and introduced Katy Everitt, the new Head of Resources and Organisational Development, whose areas of responsibility now extended to performance management.

58. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

59. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Michael Finch, Marian Hollomon, Gill Mercer and Sarah Peacock sent apologies.

60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest under Section 50 of the Local Government Act 2000.

61. PERFORMANCE WORKING PARTY

The minutes of the meeting of the Performance Working Party held on 3 June 2010, which included the end of year performance figures, were received. The minutes appear at pages 65 to 68 and form part of this minute. The Committee endorsed the Performance Working Party's congratulations to the Policy and Performance team who had not included the Place Survey results in their assessment because they had noticed that surveys had not been sent to any Oundle residents.

62. THE COUNCIL'S USE OF CONSULTANTS

The Committee considered a report which highlighted current spending on consultants and agency staff. The Chairman had requested that an initial report be brought forward so Members could have the opportunity to consider whether it would be appropriate to carry out a review.

It was reported that the Council's approved revenue budget for 2009/10 included a sum of about £490,000 to employ consultants, of which £368,000 had been spent and Members considered the basic breakdown of areas in which this had been spent. The Committee felt that a review would allow it to:

- see which areas drew most heavily on consultants and, through questioning officers, understand why;
- highlight where savings could be made;
- assess the impact of reducing or withdrawing the budget provision for external consultants; and
- review, and possibly improve, the process for approving the appointment of consultants.

RESOLVED:

That further information on the expenditure and the process followed for the engagement of consultants be submitted to the next meeting.

63. UPDATE ON WORK PROGRAMME

The Executive Director circulated a briefing note which updated Members on progress with the Customer Focus, Customer and Community Insight, and Community Leadership reviews. Due to shared concerns about allocating officer resources and buying in external consultancy during a period of financial restraint and growing budgetary pressures, the Committee was inclined to defer the progression of the Community Leadership review until later in the year.

Chairman



EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Performance Working Party

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 3 June 2010 at 7.30pm, in the Members' Room, East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston.

Present:

Councillors:

Glenvil Greenwood-Smith
Barbara Jenney

Duncan Reid
Phillip Stearn

Officers:

Katy Everitt (KE) – Head of Resources and Organisational Development
Emma Gadsby (EG) - Policy and Performance Manager
Sacha Drew (SD) - Performance Officer
Peter Cooper (PC) – Democratic Services (Minutes)

ACTION

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

1.1 **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Greenwood-Smith be appointed Chairman of the Working Party for 2010/11.

2. APOLOGIES

2.1 Councillor Gill Mercer sent her apologies.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 No interests were declared.

4. MINUTES

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2010 were received and approved and the Working Party noted the following action taken:

4.2 Minute 4.11 – ENPL29 Number of Unauthorised Encampments – SD informed Members that at the end of Quarter Three, there were nine unauthorised encampments in East Northamptonshire incorporating various numbers of caravans. Nine additional caravan pitches were planned to be built at the authorised site in Ringstead, to cover any potential shortfall.

4.3 Minute 4.12 – ENPCD33/51B Percentage of External Funding Bids Made which were successful – SD stated that Su Davies had been sent the Working Party's congratulations as requested.

4.4 Minute 4.13 – ENPL44/45d Number of Planning Appeal Decisions/Planning Applications and Enforcements – Members noted that this indicator would be removed from the reporting schedule for 2010/11.

- 4.5 Minute 4.14 - ENPL16/98 Tree Preservation Order Applications Determined in 8 Weeks and ENPL17/97 Percentage of Conservation Area Tree Work Requests Responded to Within 6 Weeks – SD reported for information on the delegation in place to deal with Tree Preservation Orders and requests to undertake work to trees in conservation areas. The Working Party also noted that performance of these indicators had improved during the last quarter.

5. **END OF YEAR AND FOURTH QUARTER PERFORMANCE 2009/10**

(a) End of Year Performance

- 5.1 EG reported on the Council's end of year performance for 2009/10 and the Working Party noted the Summary of Performance against corporate outcomes for 2009/10.

- 5.2 The Working Party discussed the 2009 Place Survey and agreed with the decision taken by the Council's Senior Management Team (SMT). It was **agreed** the Council's Policy and Performance team be thanked for spotting the issue raised. **EG**

- 5.3 It was **agreed** that EG would email the Place Survey results of similar sized English Counties to members of the Working Party as a comparison. **EG**

(b) Fourth Quarter Performance

- 5.4 SD reported on the Council's performance under the statutory national and local performance indicators for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2010.

- 5.5 The over and under performing; measures within tolerance; missing target and missing values indicators for the fourth quarter were submitted for consideration.

(i) Over Performing Indicators

- 5.6 The Working Party noted and welcomed the progress being made with the indicators reported under this sub-heading and made specific comments on the following Indicators:

- 5.7 It was noted that NI156 (M) Number of households living in Temporary Accommodation had maintained good performance throughout the year and NI155 (A) Number of affordable homes delivered (gross) had increased substantially since last year.

- 5.8 ENPL01 (M) Number of people declaring themselves homeless – Members noted that the number of people declaring themselves homeless under this Indicator had increased recently, perhaps owing to the recession, and that its future performance would be watched.

- 5.9 ENABI17UH (A) Percentage feeling fairly safe or very safe in Hayden during the day and ENABI02UJ (A) Percentage feeling fairly safe or very safe in John Pyel during the day – it was noted that the results of these indicators measuring feelings of safety in the ABI areas were good compared to the results of the Place Survey and Residents' Panel. In general, the work of Council staff, Members and partners working in the Council's two active ABI

	ACTION
areas was congratulated. It was agreed that Councillor Jenney report these comments to the next Rushden Hayden Steering Group meeting in June and that the good work achieved be publicised more to Members and residents.	BJ
5.10 ENPCD32/50 Amount of external funding received – it was agreed that the staff involved in obtaining this external funding be thanked for their efforts.	EG
5.11 NI157a (M) Processing of major applications within 13 weeks – the 10% improvement in this indicator since last year was welcomed, although it was noted that there were a number of major applications now out of time which would impact upon performance during the first quarter of 2010/11.	
<u>(ii) Under Performing Indicators</u>	
5.12 Members noted the progress being made with the indicators reported under this sub-heading and made specific comments on the following indicators:	
5.13 ENENV12U (A) Percentage of Residents Panel who consider abandoned or burnt out cars to be a fairly/very big problem – it was agreed that the target of this indicator be looked at, as there appeared to be a historical perception of a problem with abandoned vehicles which was not reflected by the facts.	EG
5.14 ENENV05 (A) Percentage of private drinking water samples which were unsatisfactory – it was agreed that Environmental Services be asked about the reason for ENC measuring this indicator and how they hold Anglian Water to account for any problems identified.	EG
5.15 ENENV23 (A) The number of category 1 hazards that have been remedied in private sector dwellings – it was agreed that a definition of category 1 hazards be added to the next quarter’s report.	EG
5.16 ENENV51 Percentage of food samples that were unsatisfactory following intervention – Members were concerned that this indicator did not appear to be improving since last year and it was agreed that a representative from Environmental Services be invited to the next meeting to discuss this indicator.	EG
5.17 ENENV59 Percentage of biosolids notifications resulting in odour complaint – it was agreed that the matter of better liaison with the Environment Agency be investigated together with improved communication with the people complaining about this problem.	EG
5.18 BV012 Days/shifts lost to sickness – it was noted that this Council had good sickness records compared to other local authorities, mainly due to good monitoring and management of any potential problems. It was agreed that future reports would include more feedback on this indicator.	EG
<u>(c) Missing Targets and Values Indicators</u>	
5.19 The Working Party received and noted the measures within tolerance; missing targets and missing values indicators for the fourth quarter.	

ACTION

6. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 6.1 Members noted that further meetings of the Working Party for 2010/11 would be held on the following Thursdays in the Members' Room at 7.30pm: 9 September; 18 November and 24 February 2011.

PC

AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Date: 29 June 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: - Dudley Hughes JP (Chairman)

Peter Bedford
David Brackenbury

Steven North
Colin Wright

64. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

65. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Tony Boto sent apologies.

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

67. OPINION AUDIT PLAN 2009/10

The Committee received the Audit Opinion Plan 2009/10, which set out the audit work proposed by the Council's external auditors. The Chief Finance Officer agreed to raise with the External Auditors the Committee's concerns over Fixed Asset testing and its relationship to the work on land and property values stemming from the economic downturn.

68. COUNTERING BENEFIT FRAUD – QUARTELY REPORT

A report on the work of the Benefit Counter Fraud Section for the period to the end of 31 March 2010 was submitted for consideration.

Members noted that income of £114,482 had been generated during this financial year by recovering overpayments which had lessened the burden on the Council Tax payer. Members thanked the Counter Fraud team for their work.

The Committee received and noted the report.

69. ANNUAL REPORT OF INTERNAL AUDIT

A report was received and noted on the progress, effectiveness, and achievements of the Welland Internal Audit Consortium (the Consortium) during 2009/10, as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations and in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government.

It was noted that the Consortium's Audit Manager had formed the opinion that the Council's overall internal control arrangements provided a "Good Level of Assurance". This was an improvement in the overall level of opinion from last year and was the highest level the Council could achieve. The level of Assurance was higher than achieved elsewhere in the Welland Partnership.

The Committee thanked the Audit Manager and the Consortium for their work.

70. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Committee considered the Statement of Accounts 2009/10, which had been approved by the Finance Sub-Committee at its meeting on 29 June 2009 subject to the approval of the Audit and Risk Management Committee (minute 6 refers). Members reviewed the accounting policies and practices that had been used and asked a series of questions. The Committee thanked Financial Services and Internal Audit for their work on the Statement of Accounts.

RESOLVED:

That the Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 be approved.

71. RISK MANAGEMENT REPORTS

The Committee received the standard reports on new primary risks, residual primary risks, risk profile and outstanding actions.

Members suggested that more detail and explanation of potential risks and controls should be included on the Register. There was also concern that the Register did not appear to mitigate against the inherent risk of the loss of Government grants over the next few years.

The Committee noted the reports under the Risk Register and it was

RESOLVED:

That, in order to give this matter more detailed consideration, Risk Management Reports be the first item on the agenda for the next meeting.

72. HEAD OF RESOURCES

The Chairman noted that this would be Rob Austin's last meeting and the Committee thanked him for his support particularly around risk management

Chairman

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Date: 30 June 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: - Pauline Bradberry JP (Chairman)
Gill Mercer (Vice Chairman)
Andy Mercer (Leader of the Council)

Wendy Brackenbury
Lisa Costello
Glenn Harwood MBE
Brian Northall
Ron Pinnock
Roger Powell

John Richardson MBE
Phillip Stearn
Robin Underwood
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood

73. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

74. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Albert Campbell, Roger Glithero JP, Sylvia Hughes and Anna Sauntson sent their apologies.

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND INFORMAL SITE VISITS

(a) Interests

Councillor John Richardson declared a personal interest in application EN/10/00183/VAR because he had previously known the applicant who was now deceased. He remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting when the application was considered.

(b) Informal Site Visits

No informal site visits had been undertaken by Members.

76. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

The following people spoke on the applications as indicated: -

- (i) Mr B Garlick on application EN/10/00629/FUL – 25 St Peters Road, Oundle.
- (ii) Mr N Searle on application EN/10/00639/FUL – Cabin View, Harley Way, Brigstock

77. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered the planning applications report and recommendations, with updated information on some of the applications and representations made by public speakers at the meeting.

The applications where the Committee agreed with the recommendations to grant are indicated under (a) below; where Members went against the recommendations under (b); those deferred under (c); and those withdrawn under (d) below. The full decision on all the applications are included (on the page indicated) in the Appendix to these minutes.

(a) **Applications Granted**

(i) **EN/10/00183/VAR** – 57 Main Street, Yarwell (See Page 75)

Members accepted that it was not possible to enforce compliance with the condition regarding hard surfacing of the driveway and it was

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

(ii) **EN/10/00629/FUL** – 25 St Peters Road, Oundle (See Page 75)

The Committee considered that the objections from Oundle Town Council appeared to have been addressed in the report and it was

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report, and with an additional condition regarding sustainability.

(iii) **EN/10/00721/RWL** – Westfields Terrace, Higham Ferrers (See Page 78)

Members considered that there were no issues with this application and it was

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

(b) **Applications where the Committee Disagreed with the Report's Recommendations**

(i) **EN/10/00443/FUL** – Land rear of 120 and 122 Northampton Road, Rushden (See Page 74)

Members discussed and considered the:

- potential impact of the new dwelling on adjoining properties, especially the overbearing impact on 7 Doone Close
- increase of the ridge height to 1.7 metres, the size and mass of the proposed dwelling and site levels
- change in policy since the outline application was granted in 2007
- proposed change from a one storey to a two storey dwelling since the outline application had been granted.

Refused (contrary to the recommendation to grant) owing to the height and massing of the proposed dwelling and the overbearing impact that this would have on 7 Donne Close.

(ii) EN/10/639/FUL – Cabin View, Harley Way, Brigstock (See Page 77)

The Committee discussed and considered the:

- advice received from the Council's agricultural consultant that the development did not comply with the tests for agricultural dwellings an PPS 7
- business model submitted by the applicant and whether it would be sustainable
- possibility of a further temporary permission to enable the business to prove that it could be economically viable
- Council's policies regarding agricultural dwellings in the open countryside.

Granted (contrary to the recommendation to refuse) to enable the applicant to establish the business, and subject to the Head of Planning Services being authorised, in concurrence with the Chairman (or Vice Chairman) and the Ward Member, to approve conditions covering agricultural occupancy and removal of permitted development rights and any other conditions considered necessary.

(c) Applications Deferred

EN/10/00637/FUL – 54 Stamford Road, Easton on the Hill (See Page 77)

The Committee discussed and considered the revised recommendation that the application be deferred to consider the issue regarding access to the site from the A43 trunk road raised by the Highway Authority.

Deferred to enable amended plans to be submitted regarding access to the highway.

(d) Applications Withdrawn

EN/10/00861/FUL – 110 Higham Road, Rushden (See Page 74)

Deferred - Members noted that the applicant had withdrawn the application from the agenda before the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the above planning applications be dealt with as indicated in the Appendix to these minutes at pages 74 to 79.

Chairman

**List of Applications Determined by
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 30 June 2010**

EN/10/00861/FUL

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
7 May 2010 7 May 2010 2 July 2010 Rushden Spencer

Applicant **Mr K Cheng**

Agent **Brian Barber Associates Ltd.**

Location **110 Higham Road, Rushden**

Proposal **Change of use from A1 to A5 (hot food takeaway).**

Decision Application Withdrawn by the applicant before the meeting.

EN/10/00443/FUL

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
8 March 2010 8 April 2010 3 June 2010 Rushden Spencer

Applicant **Mr J Mullaney**

Agent **Bobjay Properties**

Location **Land Rear Of 120 And 122, Northampton Road, Rushden**

Proposal **Proposed new dwelling.**

Decision Refused (contrary to the recommendation to grant) owing to the height and massing of the proposed dwelling and the overbearing impact that this would have on 7 Donne Close.

Condition/Reason:

1. The proposed development, by virtue of its height and massing, would have an overbearing impact on the neighbouring dwelling at 7, Donne Close. The proposal is therefore contrary to PPS1, Policy 2 of the East Midlands Regional Plan (RSS8) and Policy 13 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

EN/10/00183/VAR

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
2 February 2010 10 February 2010 7 April 2010 Prebendal

Applicant **Mrs M Scorer**

Agent **Anthony Northcote Planning Ltd**

Location **57 Main Street, Yarwell**

Proposal **Removal of Condition 7 (dealing with hardsurfacing of driveway) from Planning Permission EN/08/01296/FUL.**

Decision Application Granted

Condition/Reason:

1. Condition 7 of application EN/08/01296/FUL is hereby removed.

EN/10/00629/FUL

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
7 April 2010 7 April 2010 2 June 2010 Oundle

Applicant **Mr P Jellis**

Agent **Waterland Associates Ltd**

Location **25 St Peters Road, Oundle**

Proposal **Proposed two storey dwelling to the side of the existing property.**

Decision Application Granted with an additional condition regarding sustainability.

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the commencement of development, details of all facing materials shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details and retained in perpetuity thereafter.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.
3. Notwithstanding the submitted details, full details of the method of the treatment of the external boundaries of the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, implemented prior to the occupation of the building hereby permitted and retained thereafter.
Reason: To ensure that the boundaries of the site are properly treated so as to secure a satisfactory standard of development.
4. Details of the provision for the storage of refuse and materials for recycling shall be submitted to

and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, implemented prior to the occupation or bringing into use the buildings and thereafter maintained.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and to secure a satisfactory standard of development.

5. No development shall take place until a landscaping scheme has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme. The scheme shall be carried out in the first planting and seeding seasons following the occupation of the building or the completion of the development, whichever is the sooner, and which shall be maintained for a period of 5 years; such maintenance to include the replacement in the current or nearest planting season whichever is the sooner or shrubs that may die are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased with others of similar size and species, unless the Local Planning Authority gives written consent to any variation.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and to secure a satisfactory standard of development.

6. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), no extensions or other form or enlargement to the residential development hereby permitted, nor erection of porches, outbuildings, hardstandings, storage tanks, gates fences, walls or other means of enclosure, shall take place without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To protect the amenity of adjacent occupiers and to protect the open countryside.

7. Before any work is commenced on the development the subject of this permission, details of the ground floor levels of all of the proposed buildings in relation to the existing and proposed levels of the site and neighbouring land, shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, and the development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory elevational appearance.

8. Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the first use or occupation of the development hereby permitted pedestrian visibility splays of at least 2.4 metres x 2.4 metres shall be provided on each side of the vehicular access within the site and thereafter retained in perpetuity. These measurements are taken from and along the highway boundary. Any features within or affecting the resultant triangular areas shall not exceed 0.6 metres above access / footway level.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

9. Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the first use or occupation of the development hereby permitted, the means of vehicular access shall be of or widened to a minimum width of 3.2 metres. That area shall be hard paved with a hard bound surface for the first 5 metres from the highway boundary. The maximum gradient over the 5 metre distance shall not exceed 1 in 15.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

10. Prior to the first use or occupation of the development hereby permitted a positive means of drainage shall be installed to ensure that surface water from the vehicular access or private land does not discharge onto the highway.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

11. Notwithstanding the submitted details and before commencement of development hereby permitted, a sustainability strategy shall be submitted to and be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority to demonstrate that the development would meet requirements of Policy 14 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy and the development shall be implemented in accordance with the details so approved, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in PPS1 and Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

EN/10/00637/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
7 April 2010	20 April 2010	15 June 2010	Fineshade

Applicant **Mrs J Alston**

Agent **Jonathan Hartley Architectural**

Location **54 Stamford Road, Easton On The Hill**

Proposal **Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of two detached dwellings.**

Decision **Application Deferred to enable amended plans to be submitted regarding access to the highway.**

EN/10/00639/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
7 April 2010	21 April 2010	16 June 2010	Lyveden

Applicant **Miss Alexandra Searle**

Location **Cabin View, Harley Way, Brigstock**

Proposal **Permanent siting of agricultural dwelling (Log Cabin) (Retrospective) temporary consent granted under planning permission EN/06/01774/FUL.**

Decision **Application Granted (contrary to the recommendation to refuse) to enable the applicant to establish the business, and subject to the Head of Planning Services being authorised, in concurrence with the Chairman (or Vice Chairman) and the Ward Member, to approve conditions covering agricultural occupancy and removal of permitted development rights and any other conditions considered necessary.**

Conditions/Reasons:

To be agreed with Chairman (or Vice Chairman) and Ward Member.

Date received 19 April 2010	Date valid 19 April 2010	Overall Expiry 19 July 2010	Ward Higham Ferrers Chichele
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Applicant **Ashford And Campion Limited**

Agent **MWS Design - Mr Mark Shrive**

Location **Westfields Terrace, Higham Ferrers**

Proposal **Replacement of extant planning permission EN/06/02402/FUL: Residential development comprising of nine two-bedroomed flats and one two-bedroomed maisonette dated 9 October 2007.**

Decision Application Granted

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. No development shall take place until samples of the materials to be used in the construction of the external surfaces of the buildings hereby permitted have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory appearance for the development.
3. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority a plan indicating the positions, design, materials and type of boundary treatment to be erected. This boundary treatment shall then be provided in accordance with the details so approved prior to the first occupation of the dwellings, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers and to safeguard the amenity of the area.
4. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority details of the proposed slab levels. The submitted details shall clearly show the slab level relationship with the slab level of the adjacent dwellings. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure a satisfactory form of development in relation to neighbouring land and buildings.
5. No development shall take place until full details of hard landscape works have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and these works shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details. These details shall include car parking layouts, vehicle and pedestrian access and circulation areas and all other hard surfacing materials.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety and visual amenity.
6. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority details of the means of access to include provision of an access width of 4.5 metres for the first 10 metres of the access and these works shall be carried out as approved.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety.
7. Before the development hereby permitted begins, a Phase 2 investigation of the site shall be

undertaken and the results shall be submitted in writing to the Local Planning Authority. The survey shall be taken at such points and to such depth as the Local Planning Authority may stipulate. A scheme for decontamination of the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and the scheme as approved shall be fully implemented and completed before any residential unit hereby permitted is first occupied.

Reason: To ensure potential risks arising from previous site uses have been fully assessed and to ensure that any contamination present on the site is properly contained/removed in the interest public health.

8. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority details of the proposed mechanical ventilation, including details of noise generated by passive and rapid ventilation. Any noise produced by the mechanical ventilation system must not be louder than the good standard quoted in BS8233. These works shall be carried out as approved before any residential units hereby permitted are first occupied.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.

9. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority details of acoustic double glazing to the rear and side elevation windows of apartments 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10, and details of a noise absorbing layer to be installed in apartments 7, 9 and 10 between the ceiling and roof. These works shall be carried out as approved before any residential unit hereby permitted is first occupied.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.

10. Prior to commencement of development, a scheme to ensure the security of the ground floor external and internal entrance doors and windows, and cycle storage area shall be submitted to and be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the details so approved unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and reducing the fear of crime, in accordance with Policy 13 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

11. Prior to the commencement of development, a scheme of lighting for the car park, bin store and cycle store shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the details so approved unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and reducing the fear of crime, in accordance with Policy 13 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

12. A vehicular and pedestrian access gate shall be provided to secure the car park area in accordance with a scheme which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The gate shall then implemented in accordance with the approved details and be retained unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and reducing the fear of crime, in accordance with Policy 13 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

13. Prior to the commencement of development hereby permitted, details of provisions for waste reduction and recycling, water efficiency and recycling, and techniques of sustainable construction to be used for the construction of the building(s) hereby permitted, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, and the development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in PPS1 and Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date: 5 July 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:-

Robin Underwood (Chairman)
Wendy Brackenbury (Vice-Chairman)
Andy Mercer (Leader of the Council)

Pauline Bradberry
Roger Glithero JP
Philip Hardcastle
Glenn Harwood MBE

Richard Lewis
Steven North
John Richardson MBE

78. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

APOLOGIES

Councillors David Brackenbury, Albert Campbell and Sylvia Hughes sent their apologies.

79. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared a personal interest in the agenda items indicated but remained in the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon:-

Councillors	Item	Nature of Interest
Wendy Brackenbury, Pauline Bradberry, Roger Glithero, Philip Hardcastle, Glenn Harwood, Steven North and John Richardson	12	Knows the grant recipient
Richard Lewis and Robin Underwood	14	Members of Rushden Town Council

The following Councillors declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the agenda items indicated and were not present during the discussion and voting thereon:-

Councillors	Item	Nature of Interest
Richard Lewis, Andy Mercer and Robin Underwood	12	Grant recipient is a long standing colleague
Andy Mercer	14	Wife organises twinning activities

During the consideration of agenda item 12, the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Wendy Brackenbury, took the chair.

80. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions.

81. PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Sub-Committee on 8 June 2010 (set out on pages 86 to 95)

82. LOCAL COUNCILS' CHARTER

Further to minute 407 (15 March 2010), the Committee considered a report giving feedback from the consultation on the draft Local Councils' Charter, which sought to strengthen the relationship between the County, District and Town and Parish Councils. Members were now asked whether the Council should sign up to the Charter.

The Committee had made comments on the consultation draft to the Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils. The final version of the Charter was submitted and it was noted that a Clarifying Statement had been inserted therein, covering a number of the concerns raised. This specified that the Charter, if signed, was not legally binding on any signatory; sought to build on existing initiatives, not replace or duplicate these; should be seen as a means, not an end and would evolve over time to meet changing local needs; and recognised that there was no new money for implementation but sought, via a more strategic and co-ordinated approach, to deploy resources more effectively and provide savings in service delivery and improve value for money locally.

If the Council signed the Charter, Officers would need to consider which of the proposed workstreams in Part Two of the Charter were relevant to the Council and work with other stakeholders to develop action plans. However, Members expressed concerns that development of an action plan for the workstreams would take up valuable Officer time during a period of contracting resources.

Members were also informed that, as part of the response to the draft Local Councils' Charter and the Highways Priority Consultation Project, a pilot series of new liaison meetings had been held with Town and Parish Councils, based on five clusters. It was proposed that meetings be held with each cluster every six months but further feedback was being sought, from local councils, including views on a proposal to reduce the number of clusters to four. A further report with more detailed feedback and proposals for future arrangements would be brought to the next meeting of the Committee for both the Local Highways Consultation Project and the October round of meetings.

RESOLVED

That the Local Councils' Charter be not signed and that no work be undertaken on developing any related action plans.

83. THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARC - DRAFT DOCUMENT FOR CONSULTATION

Members were informed that Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) was consulting on The Northamptonshire Arc, which was seen as the overall spatial concept to guide future planning and investment in Northamptonshire, both by NCC and others. NCC believed that there was no overall strategy that pulled together all the strategies, policies and plans in a coherent way.

A number of comments had been made by the Officers and these were set out in the report to the Committee. These were endorsed and a number of further concerns were made by Members at the meeting, particularly that the document:-

- Gave insufficient recognition to East Northamptonshire and should contain more detail about the District
- Is considered to be incomplete in that there is insufficient coverage on how the Northamptonshire Arc concept can be developed
- Does not acknowledge issues of out commuting and the transport links into adjoining counties and how these issues impact on Northamptonshire
- Uses terminology which the public will not understand, and
- Focuses more on Northampton rather than the County as a whole .

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the comments set out in the report to the Committee be endorsed.
- (2) That the further concerns made by Members at the meeting be added to the Council's response and that the Head of Planning Services be authorised to agree to the detailed wording in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

84. CONSULTATION ON FUTURE PROVISION OF FACE TO FACE COUNCIL SERVICES IN THE NORTH OF THE DISTRICT

A report was presented, summarising the progress of a Member/Officer review of face to face Council service provision across the District. The review sought to –

produce a range of costed options for the future delivery of face to face service delivery which optimise the match between customer need and current resources.

The report also sought approval to a consultation process with possible partners and other stakeholders such as Oundle Town Council, NCC (Libraries), other Parish Councils, local Housing Associations, Oundle International Festival, local hotels or any other businesses with an interest in tourism. The consultation would develop options for the delivery of Council face to face services in Oundle and in the north of the District and on tourism information services in the heart of Oundle.

Members believed that, in view of the time limited opportunity to withdraw from the lease of the current Oundle Customer Services Centre, and the current economic situation, the Council should indicate its intention now to cease its activities from that base. It was also considered that the Council should aim to save at least 25% of current costs, instead of the minimum 10% proposed in the report to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That approval be given for Officers to begin a process of consultation as outlined above, with the expectation that service delivery from the present Customer Services Centre at Oundle will cease.
- (2) That a report be made to the September meeting of this Committee containing the results of that consultation, and a range of options with a target saving of at least 25% of current costs.

85. DELEGATION TO OFFICERS - CLOSURE OF LICENSED PREMISES

The Committee considered extending the Council's Scheme of Delegation to enable Officers to act in relation to the closure of licensed premises not complying with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

Section 19 of the Criminal Justice & Police Act 2001 allowed the service of closure notice if premises were being used for the unauthorised sale of alcohol; if the problem was rectified, a cancellation notice then had to be served by the Council. However, if the unauthorised sales continued, or were likely to resume, the Council could apply to the Magistrates Court for a closure order.

R.3 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

- (1) That the Council's Scheme of Delegation (Part 3.2 of the Constitution) be amended to give the Head of Environmental Services the authority to act under sections 19 and 20 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (service of both closure and cancellation notices and applications to the Magistrates Court for closure orders).
- (2) That the above delegation be subject to all Members of the Council being notified of the service of section 19 notices and being sent a copy of the notice.
- (3) That the Head of Environmental Services be empowered to extend the delegation to other Officers in his Team subject to a central record being kept of such Officers given the delegation.

86. FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee held on 28 June 2010 were received and the recommendations considered.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the recommendation contained in minute 8(a) (Sale of Council Owned Land) be approved:-

Land adjacent 9 Brambleside, Thrapston

That the land be sold subject to:

- (i) *the price being determined by a qualified valuer and the Council's valuation and legal costs being paid by the purchaser;*

- (ii) *the purchaser paying for a new 1.8 metre high boundary fence with defensive planting and providing a one metre strip between the new fence and footpath; and*
- (iii) *the Solicitor to the Council being authorised to draft and complete the necessary transfer documentation.*

Land at Tofts Close, Titchmarsh

- (2) That the recommendation contained in minute 8(b) (Sale of Council Owned Land) be amended to read as follows:-

That the strip of land in Tofts Close, Titchmarsh be not sold at the present time.

87. UPDATE ON FINANCIAL POSITION

This item was withdrawn and a report would be submitted to the Council meeting on 19 July.

88. BUSINESS GRANT APPROVAL

It was reported that the business 'La Bella' had applied for a grant under the Council's Business Development Grant Scheme. The application had been through the usual verification and approval process provided by Business Link. The Chairman of the Committee had been consulted on the approval in accordance with the Council's Delegation Scheme. However, since the business was run by a Councillor, acknowledgement and endorsement of the grant approval was sought from the Committee in the interests of openness and transparency.

RESOLVED:

That, in the interests of openness and transparency, the Committee acknowledges and endorses the approval of grant funding to 'La Bella' via the East Northamptonshire Business Development Grant Scheme.

89. HOMELESSNESS GRANT 2010/11

Further to minute 37 (7 June 2010), approval was sought to draw down funds for two projects from the 2010/11 Homelessness Grant of £30,000 received by the Council, and the arrangements for using the balance of the grant.

The report before the Committee proposed:-

- Expenditure on two projects – 'Housing Services in East Northamptonshire' Z Card (approximately £2,600) and continuation of funding for the North Northamptonshire Housing Co-ordinator post until June 2011 (£5,000)
- Some £17,000 of the grant be spent on the award of grants for specific projects to small organisations, with the retention of a small contingency of £5,400.

It was suggested that each application be considered by the Committee against specific criteria. Members received and considered the draft criteria to be applied. Proposals for expenditure from the contingency would also be submitted to the Committee for approval.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That expenditure from the 2011/11 Homelessness Grant on the two projects identified in the first bullet point above be approved.
- (2) That the proposed split between expenditure from the remaining 2010/11 Homelessness Grant on (a) grants and (b) the contingency element; as set out in the second bullet point above, be approved.
- (3) That the draft criteria for external grants from the 2010/11 Homelessness Budget be approved.

90. TWINNING – LORELEY – TRANSFER TO RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL

The Executive Director (SM) reported that an enquiry had been made to the Council that the responsibility for twinning arrangements with the District of Loreley in Germany be transferred to Rushden. East Northamptonshire Council had agreed to the arrangements in 1982 and a General Treaty of Friendship had been signed in 1985.

In recent years activities had largely been organised by private individuals or, lately, by a Rushden twinning group.

The Committee felt that, as the original Treaty was with East Northamptonshire Council and the Loreley District covered an area which included a number of communities, the overall responsibility for twinning should remain with the District Council. The initiatives taken within the town of Rushden were however, welcomed.

RESOLVED:

That the responsibility for twinning with the Loreley remain with this Council.

Chairman



East
Northamptonshire
Council

Personnel Sub-Committee

Minutes of a meeting held on 8 June 2010 at 2.00 pm at East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston

Present:

Councillors

Roger Glithero
David Brackenbury
Wendy Brackenbury
Sylvia Hughes
Andy Mercer (Leader of the Council)

David Oliver
Mark Lovell
Sharn Matthews
Katy Everitt
Keith Osborne

Chief Executive (DO)
Executive Director (ML)
Executive Director (SM)
Head of Resources and Organisational Development (KE)
Democratic Services Manager (KO)

- | | Action |
|---|---------------|
| 1.0 <u>APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN</u> | |
| 1.1 It was | |
| RESOLVED:
That Councillor Roger Glithero be appointed Chairman for 2010/11. | RR |
| 2.0 <u>APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN</u> | |
| 2.1 It was | |
| RESOLVED:
That Councillor Sylvia Hughes be appointed Vice Chairman for 2010/11. | RR |
| 3.0 <u>MINUTES</u> | |
| 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. | |
| 4.0 <u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> | |
| 4.1 Councillor Steven North sent his apologies. | |
| 5.0 <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/QUESTIONS</u> | |
| 5.1 There were no declarations by, or questions from, Members. | |

6.0 PURCHASING ANNUAL LEAVE POLICY & PROCEDURE

6.1 Members considered a new Purchasing Annual Leave Policy and Procedure, which had been developed in response to staff feedback, and provided the

Action

opportunity for staff to “buy” up to 10 days additional annual leave in each leave year with deductions in pay spread over that year.

6.2 Members welcomed the Policy and Procedure and asked that a slight change be made to the form on page 8. It was

RESOLVED:

That the new Purchasing Annual Leave Policy and Procedure, set out in Appendix A to these minutes at pages 3 to 10 be approved.

KE

7.0 XCHANGE GROUP MEETINGS

7.1 Members received and noted the minutes of the Xchange Group held on 3 February and 13 April 2010. DO commented that the Group was functioning very well.

8.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8.1 The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 14 September 2010 at 2pm. It was acknowledged that there may be a need for additional meetings in the light of the savings to be announced by the Government.

**KO
RR
EM**

Chairman



East
Northamptonshire
Council

APPENDIX A to minute 6.2

Purchasing Annual Leave Policy and Procedure



An employees' guide to purchasing annual leave

Document Version Control

Author (Post holder title)	Tricia Orr, HR and Payroll Supervisor
Type of document (strategy/policy/procedure)	Policy and Procedure
Version Number	1
Document File Name	Purchasing Annual Leave Policy and Procedure
Issue date	
Approval date and by who (SMT / committee)	
Document held by (name/section)	Organisational Development
For internal publication only or external also?	Internal only
Document stored on Council website or Eunice?	Eunice
Next review date	

Change History

Issue	Date	Comments
0.1	22/04/2010	Changes made following comments by SMT

NB: Draft versions 0.1 - final published versions 1.0

Consultees

Internal	External
e.g. Individual(s) / Group / Section	e.g. Stakeholders / Partners /Organisation(s)
Heads of Service, Xchange, UNISON, SMT, Personnel Sub Committee	

Distribution List

Internal	External
e.g. Individual(s) / Group / Section	e.g. Stakeholders / Partners /Organisation(s)
All employees	

Links to other documents

Document	Link

Additional Comments to note

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Contents

		Page
1.0	Introduction	4
2.0	Statement of intent	4
3.0	Scope	4
4.0	Outcomes	4
5.0	Operation of the scheme	4
6.0	Salary adjustments	5
7.0	Leaving the authority	6
8.0	Monitoring of policy	6
	Appendix 1 - Purchasing annual leave flow chart	7
	Appendix 2 - Request to purchase annual leave form	8

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of the annual leave purchase scheme is to provide employees with additional flexibility in respect of planned time off work. This scheme is in addition to any special paid/unpaid leave under the Special Leave arrangements.
- 1.2 This scheme provides the opportunity to “buy” up to 10 days additional annual leave in each leave year (pro rata for part time staff) with deductions from pay spread over the leave year.
- 1.3 Pension contributions will be made prior to any deduction from wages/salary; therefore pension entitlements will be unaffected.
- 1.4 Approval of any additional annual leave purchase is not guaranteed, and will always be subject to the operational requirements of the service which must remain a priority.
- 1.5 Organisational Development (OD) will be able to give managers advice and guidance if required.

2.0 Statement of intent

- 2.1 This policy and procedure outlines the council’s approach to the purchase of annual leave.

3.0 Scope

- 3.1 This policy and procedure applies to all employees of the council covered by Green Book NJC terms and conditions (available for reference from OD)

4.0 Outcomes

- 4.1 The outcomes to be delivered by this policy and procedure and the links to the council’s corporate outcomes are as follows:

Purchasing Annual Leave policy and procedure outcomes	Links to corporate outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees are treated fairly and consistently• Staff retention• Assisting employees to achieve a balance between work and personal life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effective management• Employer of choice

5.0 Operation of the scheme

- 5.1 Wherever possible, employees should make a request to purchase annual leave prior to the start of their annual leave year.
- 5.2 Employees must complete and sign the annual leave purchase form and give it to their Line Manager for consideration.
- 5.3 The Line Manager must consider the application fully and must normally respond within 15 working days of receipt. The Line Manager must take into account the effect of granting the request on the operational requirements of the service.
- 5.4 If the application is refused the reasons for this must be notified to the employee on the annual leave purchase form.

- 5.5 Employees who are not satisfied with the Line Manager's response may appeal within 10 working days of receiving the response to their Line Manager's Manager.
- 5.6 Employees must submit a written appeal which should include the reasons for appeal and attach a copy of the Annual Leave Purchase Form.
- 5.7 Employees will receive a written response to the appeal within 15 working days.
- 5.8 Approval of any additional annual leave purchased must be recorded on the employee's leave record and the days taken recorded and authorised in the normal way.
- 5.9 The manager should make a copy of the form for the employee and the original should be sent to OD.
- 5.10 The form will be retained on the employee's personnel file.
- 5.11 The Payroll Officer will inform the employee, by e-mail, of the monthly deduction and the date of the first deduction.
- 5.12 OD will monitor the forms to ensure that the policy is being applied consistently throughout the organisation.
- 5.13 Applications for the purchase of annual leave in excess of 10 days will only be considered in exceptional circumstances by the relevant Head of Service and Executive Director.
- 5.14 A carry over of up to 5 days will be allowed only when employees are not permitted – for operational reasons - to take their entitlement of annual leave.
- 5.15 If employees have been unable to take their leave due to long term sickness they will need to have a discussion with their manager to agree whether the leave can be carried over or whether they can be reimbursed.

6.0 Salary adjustments

- 6.1 Employees purchasing additional annual leave will have their salary reduced by the equivalent value of the number of days purchased over a 12 month period, or if the application is made after the start of the leave year the number of months remaining.
- 6.2 The cost will be deducted from net pay, i.e. after deductions for Tax, National Insurance and pension have been made.
- 6.3 The calculation for full time workers working a standard working pattern i.e. 37 hours over 5 day will be arrived at by:
 - dividing the employee's basic annual salary (excluding non contractual overtime) by 52.14 to determine the basic weekly pay;
 - dividing this figure by 5 to reach the daily pay;
 - multiplying this figure by the number of annual leave days the employee wishes to buy;
 - dividing this figure by 12 to arrive at the amount that will be deducted from the employee's monthly salary;
 - subtracting that figure from the employee's net monthly salary.
- 6.4 Example
 - A full time employee earns £21,519 per annum and wishes to buy 3 days annual leave
 - $£21,519 / 52.14 = £412.72$ per week
 - $£412.72 / 5 = £82.54$ per day
 - $£82.54 \times 3 = £247.62$ cost of 3 days annual leave

- $£247.62 / 12 = £20.63$ deduction from monthly pay for buying 3 days extra annual leave.

6.5 The calculation for part time workers will be arrived at by:

- dividing the employee's basic annual salary (excluding non contractual overtime) by 52.14 to determine their basic weekly pay;
- dividing this figure by 37 to reach their hourly pay;
- multiplying this figure by the number of annual leave hours the employee wishes to buy;
- dividing this figure by 12 to arrive at the amount that will be deducted from the employee's monthly salary;
- subtracting that figure from the employee's net monthly salary.

6.6 Example

- A part time employee earns £21,519 (pro rata) per annum, works 20 hours per week and wishes to buy 20 hours annual leave
- $£21,519 / 52.14 = £412.72$ per week
- $£412.72 / 37 = £11.15$ per hour
- $£11.15 \times 20 = £223.00$ cost of 20 hours annual leave
- $£223 / 12 = £18.58$ deduction from monthly pay for buying 20 hours extra annual leave

6.7 Employees who complete and the request for additional leave and obtain approval will be deemed to have consented to the applicable salary adjustment.

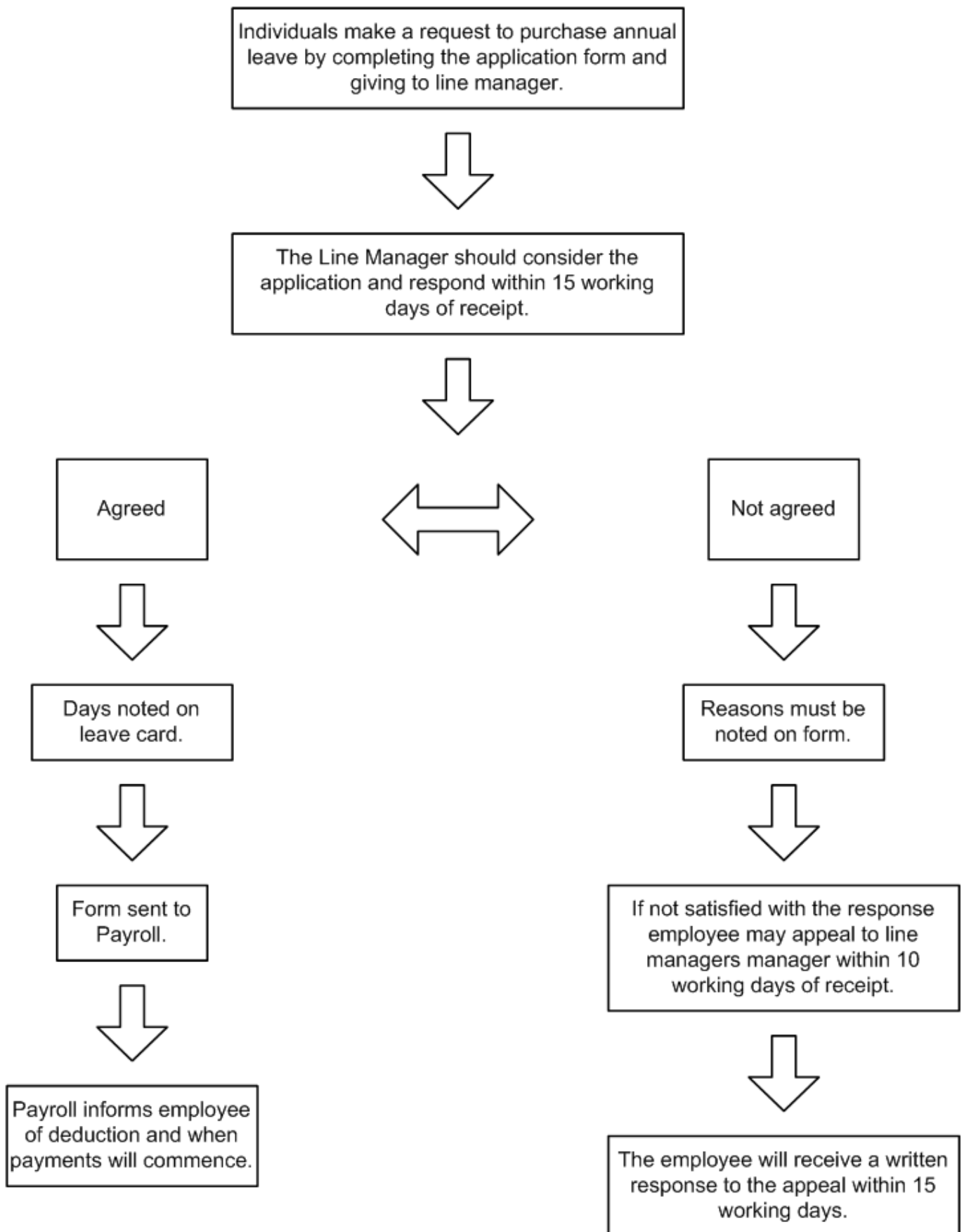
7.0 Leaving the authority

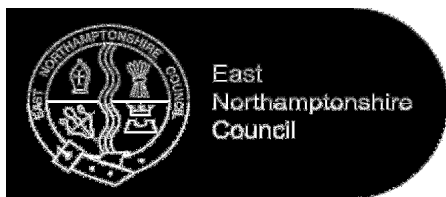
7.1 Employees who purchase and take additional annual leave will be required to repay from their final salary the outstanding value of the additional number of annual leave days taken if they leave East Northamptonshire Council prior to full repayment.

8.0 Monitoring of policy and procedure

8.1 This policy and procedure will be reviewed every 24 months.

Purchasing Annual Leave Flow Chart





Request to Purchase Additional Annual Leave

<p>Employees wishing to buy additional annual leave must complete this form and forward it to their line manager for consideration. The maximum amount of additional annual leave that an employee may 'purchase' in any one-leave year is 10 working days (pro rata for part-time staff).</p> <p><u>It is the employee's responsibility to liaise with the Payroll Officer for the salary deduction, which will apply.</u></p> <p>Note: The completion and submission of this form and approval of the request for additional annual leave will constitute an employee's consent to any applicable salary adjustment (including any appropriate repayment under 7.1 of the Policy & Procedure).</p>	
Please complete the following:	
Name of employee:	
Job Title:	
Service Area:	
Current hours worked per week and working pattern:	
<p>I would like to apply to purchase [] days/hours of additional leave (please state the number of days/hours you would like to purchase as working days and not calendar days).</p> <p>I understand that if I opt to purchase additional annual leave that this will result in a reduction in my salary for the relevant leave year.</p> <p>I understand that the decision to allow me to purchase additional annual leave is entirely at the discretion of ENC.</p>	
Employee's signature:	
Date:	
Line manager's response:	
Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Not approved: <input type="checkbox"/>
If not approved, Line Manager response:	
Line Manager's name:	
Line Manager's signature:	Date:

Completed forms should be returned to Organisational Development.

FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE

Date: 28 June 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: -

David Brackenbury
Roger Glithero JP
Richard Lewis
Andy Mercer

Steven North
John Richardson MBE
Robin Underwood

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Andy Mercer be appointed Chairman of the Sub Committee for 2010/11.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

4. REVENUE OUTTURN REPORT 2009/10

The Sub Committee considered a report comparing the Council's actual spend on revenue items in 2009/10 with the original budgets. The final outturn had a final under spend against budget of £586,298.

The Head of Resources explained the main reasons for the under spend and the detailed explanations contained in the appendices to the report. He also explained the reasons why the under spend was more than originally anticipated when reported to the Sub Committee in February 2010, and the cashable efficiencies achieved during the year. Members considered the items to be carried forward in the budgets and the proposed appropriations to and from reserves.

Members noted that the report provided further detail to the Statement of Accounts reported elsewhere on the agenda (see Minute 6 below) and that there would be differences in the figures reported due to the technical accounting entries that were required for the accounts.

It was agreed that further information about planning income forecasts be sent to Members of the Sub Committee.

Members noted the revenue outturn for 2009/10, and it was

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the proposed carry forward of £21,282 of the Revenue Budget into 2010/11, as reported, be approved.
- (2) That the Schedule of Appropriations to and from specified reserves for 2009/10, as submitted, be approved.

5. CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT 2009/10

The Head of Resources submitted a report comparing the Council's actual spend on capital items in 2009/10 with the approved budgets.

Members noted the anticipated capital underspend of £0.533 million and the reasons for this. Approval was sought for the Capital Programme to be re-profiled for 2010/11 and in future years to reflect this slippage and deferment of schemes.

The opportunity had been taken to amend the capital programme where it was clear that schemes would no longer commence, or the budget commitment had changed since February 2010.

It was agreed that a note about possible future expenditure in 2010/11 for repairs to the Nene Community Centre roof be added to the programme.

The Sub Committee noted the capital outturn for 2009/10, and it was

RESOLVED:

That the revised Capital Programme for 2010/11 (outlined at Appendix 1 to these minutes) be approved.

6. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10

The Head of Resources submitted the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts for consideration.

The Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement would be considered by the Audit and Risk Management Committee on 29 June 2010 for approval. The accounts would also be examined by the Council's external auditors, the Audit Commission, during July 2010.

The Head of Resources pointed out various amendments to the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account which had resulted in several pages of the Statement of Accounts being amended and the revised versions of these pages were circulated for information.

Members scrutinised the Accounts and asked for clarification on a number of matters and the Chief Finance Officer and the Head of Resources explained the reasons for these.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Resources and the Financial Services team for their work in preparing the Statement of Accounts for 2009/10.

RESOLVED:

That the Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 be recommended for approval by the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

7. ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2009/10

The Sub Committee considered the Council's treasury management activities during 2009/10, in compliance with statutory requirements and the Council's Constitution.

Members discussed and noted the Council's:

- position at the beginning and end of 2009/10
- performance on investments in 2009/10 taking into account the present economic climate and opportunities available for 2010/11 in the current markets
- compliance with the Prudential Indicators for 2009/10.

It was noted that Officers had secured excellent returns on the Council's investments despite the present economic climate.

Members expressed concern about how realistic the returns for 2010/11 and future years were bearing in mind the subdued level of interest rates. The Head of Resources noted these were challenging targets but considered that these were achievable.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2009/10 be noted.

8. SALE OF COUNCIL OWNED LAND

The Sub Committee considered the sale of two pieces of land owned by the Council.

(a) Land adjacent 9 Brambleside, Thrapston

A request had been received from the owner of 9 Brambleside, Thrapston, to purchase a strip of land owned by the Council adjacent to the property for use as garden land. The land lay alongside a public footpath and was not an adopted highway verge.

The prospective purchaser had indicated that he would pay for a new 1.8 metre high boundary fence with defensive planting and provide a one metre strip between the new fence and footpath.

The sale of the land would be subject to the price being determined by a qualified valuer and the purchaser paying the Council's valuation and legal costs.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the land be sold subject to:

- (i) the price being determined by a qualified valuer and the Council's valuation and legal costs being paid by the purchaser,

- (ii) the purchaser paying for a new 1.8 metre high boundary fence with defensive planting and providing a one metre strip between the new fence and footpath: and
- (iii) the Solicitor to the Council being authorised to draft and complete the necessary transfer documentation.

(b) Land at Tofts Close, Titchmarsh

Planning permission had recently been granted for a small social housing development at Tofts Close, Titchmarsh. The developers, Northamptonshire Rural Housing Association, wished to purchase a strip of land owned by the Council which would allow access to the site and enable the development to proceed.

Members considered the request to purchase the land, including its present and future estimated value. They also considered an alternative proposal from a resident living in Tofts Close, and it was

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the strip of land in Tofts Close not be sold until land values have recovered.

9. ROBERT AUSTIN – HEAD OF RESOURCES

The Chairman mentioned that Rob would be leaving the Council in August.

On behalf of the Sub Committee he thanked Rob for all his work as Head of Resources, especially in leading the financial services team and assistance in setting up the financial ENCOR partnership with Corby Borough Council and he wished him all the very best for the future.

Chairman

	EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	2009/10				2010/11	2011/12	Future Years
		Current Budget £	Estimated Outturn £	Actual £	Variance Actual v Budget £	Estimate £	Estimate £	Estimate £
	Housing Projects	970,471	971,164	962,649	(7,822)	312,600	1,300,000	2,602,300
	Leisure and Tourism Projects	530,210	551,240	167,518	(362,692)	419,000	205,000	190,300
	Environment Projects	1,052,530	1,032,920	1,071,720	19,190	7,718,000	5,594,000	830,670
	Central Services Projects	20,000	20,000	23,924	3,924	50,000	80,000	277,000
	Corporate Systems	423,710	355,716	276,131	(147,579)	455,000	440,000	1,564,000
	Youth Projects	45,000	45,000	45,000	-	45,000	-	-
	Industrial Units Projects	39,000	36,640	31,931	(7,069)	22,400	-	150,000
	Vehicle Replacements	126,230	108,530	94,751	(31,479)	170,096	222,672	751,960
	Total	3,207,151	3,121,210	2,673,625	(533,526)	9,192,096	7,841,672	6,366,230

Cost Centre	Housing Projects	2009/10				2010/11	2011/12	Future Years
		Current Budget £	Estimated Outturn £	Actual £	Variance Outturn v Budget £	Estimate £	Estimate £	Estimate £
JCF201	Disabled Facilities Grants	770,064	770,064	777,205	7,141	312,600	300,000	2,100,000
JCF210	Spire Homes Adaptation Agreement	75,000	75,000	72,659	(2,341)			
JCF204	Decent Homes Grant - Insulation	125,407	126,100	112,786	(12,621)			
JCF229	Financial Support to Social Housing	-	-	-	-		1,000,000	502,300
	Total	970,471	971,164	962,649	(7,822)	312,600	1,300,000	2,602,300

Cost Centre	Leisure and Tourism Projects	2009/10				2010/11	2011/12	Future Years
		Current Budget £	Estimated Outturn £	Actual £	Variance Outturn v Budget £	Estimate £	Estimate £	Estimate £
JCF203	Village Hall Development	80,000	75,300	50,284	(29,716)	80,000	80,000	
JCF230	Leisure Loans	25,000	25,000		(25,000)	25,000	25,000	
JCJ291	The Pemberton Centre Rushden				-	6,000		
JCJ314	Splash Pool Rushden Improvement Plan				-			
JCJ354	Nene Community Centre - Repairs	10,210	10,210	10,215	5			
JCJ374	TIC				-			20,300
JCJ381	Stanwick Lakes - Visitor Centre	415,000	440,730	107,019	(307,981)	308,000	100,000	170,000
	Total	530,210	551,240	167,518	(362,692)	419,000	205,000	190,300

Cost Centre	Youth Projects	2009/10				2010/11	2011/12	Future Years
		Current Budget £	Estimated Outturn £	Actual £	Variance Outturn v Budget £	Estimate £	Estimate £	Estimate £
JCF236	Youth Opportunities: NCC provisional resources 08/09 onwards	45,000	45,000	45,000	-	45,000		
	Total	45,000	45,000	45,000	-	45,000	-	-

Cost Centre	Corporate Systems	2009/10				2010/11	2011/12	Future Years
		Current Budget £	Estimated Outturn £	Actual £	Variance Outturn v Budget £	Estimate £	Estimate £	Estimate £
JCJ389	Content Management System	90,000	83,006	70,118	(19,882)	20,000		
JCJ409	Replacement PC'S, Monitors & Laptops	46,300	46,300	40,070	(6,230)	39,000	62,000	39,000
JCJ410	Replacement Printers & Scanners	65,000	5,000		(65,000)	30,000	10,000	55,000
JCJ411	Replacement Servers	42,000	41,000	36,164	(5,836)	35,000	18,000	45,000
JCJ412	Replacement Sun Server	-	-		-	25,000		
JCJ413	UPS for L12	-	-	6,458	6,458	7,000		
JCJ414	Replacing Router & Tape Backup	15,000	15,000	12,173	(2,827)	20,000	8,000	5,000
JCJ415	Replacement Blackberries and Mobile Phones	6,000	6,000	1,232	(4,768)		6,000	
JCJ416	Licences	70,000	70,000	42,040	(27,960)	115,000	65,000	90,000
JCJ417	Storage/Replacement SAN	10,000	10,000	9,683	(317)	26,000	85,000	20,000
JCJ418	Council Chamber Project Screen				-	40,000		
JCJ420	2008/09 Network Cables & Switches	5,000	5,000	657	(4,343)	18,000	16,000	10,000
JCJ423	Security Systems (ISO27001)/GovConnect	10,000	10,000	1,871	(8,129)			
JCJ431	ESRI - GIS Upgrade	8,410	8,410	8,405	(5)		10,000	30,000
JCJ432	CAPS Solutions/ERMS	46,000	46,000	45,269	(731)	40,000	160,000	
JCJ433	Revenues and Benefits Upgrade	10,000	10,000	1,990	(8,010)	10,000		30,000
New	CRM Upgrades				-	25,000		
New	Telephone System				-	5,000		40,000
Misc	Replacement Hardware & Systems				-			1,200,000
	Total	423,710	355,716	276,131	(147,579)	455,000	440,000	1,564,000