

COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 1 November 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:- Sue Homer (Chairman)
Sylvia Hughes (Vice Chairman)
Steven North (Leader of the Council)

David Bateman	Eloise Lucille
Peter Bedford	Peter MacGovern
Tony Boto	Andrew Mercer
David Brackenbury	Brian Northall
Wendy Brackenbury	Sarah Peacock
Pauline Bradberry	Ron Pinnock
Lisa Costello	Roger Powell
Michael Finch	Rupert Reichhold
Richard Gell	John Richardson
Roger Glithero	Anna Sauntson
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith	Ron Silver
Philip Hardcastle	Phillip Stearn
Glenn Harwood	Robin Underwood
Marian Hollomon	Pam Whiting
Dudley Hughes	Clive Wood
Barbara Jenney	Colin Wright
Richard Lewis	

Also Present: Graham Blagden (Chairman of the Standards Board)

239. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Sean Lever, Gill Mercer and Duncan Reid sent their apologies.

240. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 19 July and 4 October 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

241. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Colin Wright declared a prejudicial interest in item 6 (Reports of Committees – Policy and Resources – R. 6) as he was in receipt of an allowance for his position of Vice-Chairman of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Councillor Philip Hardcastle declared a prejudicial interest in item 11 (Alternative Service Delivery in Oundle) as he had had business dealings with one of the property owners.

The councillors left the room during consideration of the items and did not take part in the debate or vote.

242. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman thanked those who attended A Night in New York for their support and the generosity shown by those councillors who could not attend but had given donations.

243. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chief Executive announced the resignation of Councillor Dudley Hughes as Chairman of the Audit and Risk Management Committee with immediate effect.

244. LEADER'S ADDRESS

The Leader highlighted the four main priorities of his leadership: financial stability, housing, sustainable infrastructure, and regeneration. He commented that since the Issues Debate on planning policy he felt the council was making good progress on the issues of housing and sustainable development. He was pleased to announce that Louise Bagshawe MP (Corby constituency) had arranged for a delegation from the Council to meet with Bob Neill MP in the next week to discuss these key issues.

Regarding the Comprehensive Spending Review he reported that, apart from the headline of a 26% reduction in grant over four years, there would be no certainty on the impact for the Council until early December. He stated that the Council knew it had to make large savings and that, thanks to the formation of the Budget Review Group by the former Leader, savings of around £1 million had already been made. This group had now been merged with the former Finance Sub-Committee to form the Finance Working Party and would be looking at further options for reductions. The Leader stated clearly that "what we will not be doing under my leadership is salami slicing, a view shared by the Secretary of State for Local Government."

He argued that with the removal of Government Office East Midlands, the Audit Commission, national indicators, the Regional Spatial Strategy etc, the Council was in the best place to support the localism agenda and all councillors were now more able to make a difference and improve the quality of life for local residents.

He reported that a number of workshops would be held in the next month to develop the next Corporate Plan and the 2011/12 budget. He commented that, in spite of the financial climate, the Plan needed to be optimistic and aspirational so that funds could be drawn down for regeneration, so East Northamptonshire can have sustainable infrastructure, and so the Council could make a difference to the community.

245. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(a) Development Control Committee – 21 July, 18 August, 8 September, 29 September and 20 October 2010

The reports of the above Committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor Pauline Bradberry, were received.

(b) Policy & Resources Committee – 13 September and 11 October 2010

The reports of the above Committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor Richard Lewis, were received.

There was debate on some of the recommendations in minute 212 (Constitutional & Procedural Changes) and the following comments were made:

Call In

- Concern that restricting the amount of Call Ins the Scrutiny Committee could make in a year would inhibit the democratic process.
- The possibility of abuse of Call In by a stronger opposition was not a good reason to restrict the number of times it could be initiated in a year.

Audit and Risk Management

- The removal of the Audit and Risk Management Committee could mean the loss of important monitoring of the auditing of the Council's finances and scrutiny of risk management, which offer reassurance to the community, external auditors and the Council at this time of major change and challenge.
- A number of members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee were now on the Scrutiny Committee so their specialist knowledge would be retained.
- The Scrutiny Committee used to look after the audit and risk management function before a separate committee was set up.
- The Policy and Resources Committee had carefully considered the implications before making its recommendations to the Council.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the proposed changes to the Constitution (Part 2 - Article 9 - Part 4.1 and 5.4) as shown in Appendix 2 to the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 11 October at pages 341 to 342 be approved.
- (2) That the changes to the parts of the Constitution detailed below and set out in Appendix 3 on pages 343 to 346 of to the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 11 October be approved.
 - Scrutiny Call In Procedure provisions in Part 4.4
 - Article 2 (Champions and Lead Members)
 - Part 6 (Members Allowances Scheme)
- (3) That the number of Champions be reduced on the lines set out in the table in Appendix 4 to the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 11 October on page 347, with the role of four of the Champions being assumed by the Lead Members shown in the shaded parts of the table,
- (4) That the title of the "Resources and Organisational Development" Champion be changed to "Resources and Economic Development" and that Councillor Richard Lewis be appointed to serve as that Champion for the remainder of the Civic Year.
- (5) That four of the Lead Member roles be retained but not Planning Services.

- (6) That the Audit & Risk Management Committee and the Performance Working Party be abolished and consequently, the various parts of the Constitution and Terms of Reference of Committees be amended to give the Scrutiny Committee the powers and responsibilities currently exercised by those bodies, and the Calendar of Meetings be adjusted accordingly.
- (7) That changes be made to various parts of the Constitution to reflect the change of the Finance Sub-Committee to a working party and the alterations to its Terms of Reference.
- (8) That the provisions for Sexual Entertainment Venues under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 be adopted and that a further report be produced following consultation for a Sexual Entertainment Venues Policy and associated licence fees.

(c) Planning Policy Committee – 20 September 2010

The reports of the above Committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor David Brackenbury, were received. He thanked Councillors Andy Mercer and John Richardson for their contribution to and support of the committee and welcomed Councillors Ron Pinnock, Philip Hardcastle and Albert Campbell to the Committee.

(d) Audit & Risk Management Committee – 22 September 2010

The report of the above Committee, presented by the former Chairman, Councillor Dudley Hughes, was received. He commented on the Committee's work during the current meetings cycle and thanked the members who had served on the Committee.

(e) Scrutiny Committee – 27 September and 27 October 2010

The reports of the above Committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor Phillip Stearn, were received. He commented on the Committee's work during the current meetings cycle.

With reference to Minute 238 (Alternative Service Delivery in Oundle), this matter was dealt with at the end of the meeting following the exclusion of the public.

(f) Licensing Committee – 6 October 2010

The Chairman, Councillor Glenn Harwood, presented the report of the above meeting. He commented on the Committee's work during the current meetings cycle, thanked past members and welcomed new members. Councillor Harwood also congratulated the Council's Licensing Enforcement Officer, Tom Morrissey, for his success in reducing the occurrences of the sale of alcohol to minors to the lowest rate in the county.

(g) East Northamptonshire Standards Board – 18 October 2010

The Chairman, Graham Blagden, presented the report of the above meeting and commented on the Board's work during the current meetings cycle.

246. OTHER REPORTS

(a) Representation on Outside Bodies

No reports were received.

(b) Licensing Panels

The minutes of the Licensing (Liquor & Gambling) Panels held on 25 August and 8 October 2010 and the Licensing (Taxi & Miscellaneous) Panels held on 29 June, 16 July, 10 August, 26 August, 6 September, 29 September and 13 October 2010 were received.

247. MOTIONS

There were no motions.

248. APPOINTMENTS

(a) Northamptonshire Rights & Equality Council

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Brian Northall be appointed to serve as the Council's observer representative on the Northamptonshire Rights & Equality Council.

(b) Waste & Recycling Working Party

It was reported that Councillor Sarah Peacock had stood down from the Waste and Recycling Working Party.

RESOLVED:

That Councillors David Brackenbury and Clive Wood be appointed to serve on the Waste and Recycling Working Party.

(c) District Regeneration Working Group

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Leader, Deputy Leader, Chairman of the Planning Policy Committee, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, and Sustainable Communities Champion be appointed to serve on the District Regeneration Working Group.

249. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

250. ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY IN OUNDLE

A review of face to face service provision had identified two types of service being accessed in Oundle by residents and those living in north of district – local tourism services and council services (benefits advice, recycling information etc). The review found that demand for council services was likely to be met on a two day a week service, with Thursday being the most popular day, and could be provided in any area of the town frequented by many people. The demand for tourism services built through the week, peaking on Saturday. Having established the pattern of use and noting that it focussed on the Market Place/Memorial area of Oundle, the Policy and Resources Committee gave permission for the review to look at alternative forms of service provision with the intention of making a minimum 25% saving on current net cost. The 25% saving had been met through the termination of the lease on the current Customer Services Centre building and the removal of the need for a centre manager.

The Policy and Resources Committee made the following decision at its meeting on 13 September 2010 (minute 150 refers) as it was believed at the time that there was a suitable room available at the Talbot Hotel:

That the future delivery of services at Oundle from 1 December 2010 be via a combination of council services being delivered from Oundle Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 4pm together with the provision of an East Northamptonshire Council staffed tourism service Monday to Saturday from 10am to 4pm in a dedicated space at the front of the Talbot Hotel.

This decision was Called In by the Scrutiny Committee. Officers were able to investigate more thoroughly the option preferred by the Policy and Resources Committee. They found that there was no suitable room in the Talbot Hotel and investigated an alternative proposal for the use of the International Festival Offices for the delivery of both services. It was this proposal that the Scrutiny Committee recommended the Policy and Resources Committee consider.

On reconsideration of its decision, the Policy and Resources Committee reviewed the additional information and decided to return to officers' original recommendation. The Committee resolved at its meeting on 11 October 2010 (minute 219 refers):

That the future delivery of services at Oundle from 1 December 2010 be via a combination of council services being delivered from Oundle Library on Tuesdays and Thursday together with local tourism leaflet displays in businesses in the Market Place/Cross area of Oundle.

The Scrutiny Committee Called In this second decision. At its meeting on 27 October the Scrutiny Committee considered additional information regarding the reduction of the rental cost proposed by the International Festival offices and resolved (minute 238 refers):

The Scrutiny Committee Called In this second decision. At its meeting on 27 October the Scrutiny Committee considered additional information regarding the reduction of the rental cost proposed by the International Festival offices and resolved (minute 238 refers):

That the decision of the Policy & Resources Committee on 11 October 2010 be referred to the full Council as the decision was

- (1) outside the budgetary framework, as provision had been made for a staffed tourism service in Oundle; and*
- (2) possibly outside the policy framework as it impacts on the way tourism is delivered in the district.*

As the use of the Talbot Hotel was no longer possible, the Council was asked to decide whether it wished to adopt the officers' original recommendation for the delivery of council services from Oundle Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays with leaflet displays in the Market Place/Cross area of Oundle, or the Scrutiny Committee's recommendation that council and tourism services be delivered from the Festival Offices on Tuesday, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays

During discussion Members discussed the following points:

- in the continued environment of cuts to budgets, the Council needed to be seen to be saving wherever possible but needed to be wary of making cuts to save money at the expense of economic development
- the importance of supporting local business who rely on the district to provide and generate business
- the Scrutiny Committee's recommendation offered additional savings on the original Policy and Resources Committee decision and a 25% saving had been made regardless of Council's decision on future provision
- 55% of current visitors wanting tourism services do not engage with officers and just consult leaflets
- the leaflet displays would be professional and include information about tourism across the district but concerns were raised on how the leaflets would be replenished/refreshed
- the possibility that leaflet displays would have wider reach than a staffed tourism office
- the Festival Offices would be a central location for delivery of council services
- the value of the website for tourism advice
- how could the success of providing services from the Festival Officers be assessed?

Officers responded to some the issues raised

- The intention was for there to be approximately 12 leaflet displays at prime sites across the district with leaflets to be replenished by staff.
- There was an £18,000 difference between the two options under consideration.
- A three year contract with one year break clause had been proposed for the rent of the Festival Offices.
- Officers would continue to monitor footfall, what services visitors used, and whether leaflets were taken or customers engaged with officers, to inform a review of the position after one year.

RESOLVED:

That from 1 December 2010 the future delivery of tourism and council services at Oundle be from the Oundle Festival Office on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10am to 4pm and that consideration should be given to the development of a leaflet service at appropriate venues across the district.

Chairman

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date: 8 November 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:-

Richard Lewis (Chairman)
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith (Vice-Chairman)
Steven North (Leader of the Council)
Philip Hardcastle (Deputy Leader of the Council)

Wendy Brackenbury
Pauline Bradberry
Lisa Costello
Roger Glithero JP
Philip Hardcastle

Glenn Harwood
Sylvia Hughes
Peter MacGovern
Andy Mercer
John Richardson MBE

251. PUBLIC SPEAKER

Councillor Gill Mercer spoke from the gallery on item 11 (Groundwork North Northamptonshire).

252. THANKS

Mr Julian Derham, Head of Revenue and Benefits, was due to retire at the end of the month and the Chairman thanked him for his long service.

253. MINUTES

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

254. APOLOGIES

Councillor David Brackenbury sent his apologies.

255. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Councillors	Item	Nature of Interest
Richard Lewis	7	Trustee of Rushden Mind

Pauline Bradberry	13	Reserve member of the Appeals Panel
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The following Councillors declared a personal interest in the agenda item indicated and remained in the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon.

Councillors	Item	Nature of Interest
John Richardson	6	In receipt of travel tokens
Roger Glithero	6	Entitled to concessionary fares
Peter MacGovern	9	Member of the Spire Homes Board
Pauline Bradberry	9	Member of the Spire Homes Board

256. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions.

257. OUTCOME OF THE SPENDING REVIEW

The Committee received a report which set out details of the Spending Review 2010 and how it had affected the Council's finances. The level of detail provided within the Spending Review and subsequent announcements still did not provide the Council with a clear picture of the amount of Formula Grant (Revenue Support Grant and Business Rates) it would receive in 2011/12 or any firm details on the New Homes Bonus; the future of business rates income; changes to council tax benefit; and the transferring concessionary fares to the county council.

Officers had been able to update the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to reflect the headline figures around the Formula Grant and other specific grants referred to within the Spending Review. The Finance Working Party would continue to consider how to mitigate the effect of changes in the budget gap on revenue reserves. It was noted that whilst the former Budget Review Group had saved an estimated £1 million over the last year, most of the changes that had been made to date had been already accounted for in the MTFS and there was only an additional saving of about £300,000 towards the £2.2 million deficit.

RESOLVED:

That the changes to the Medium Term Financial Strategy following the Spending Review 2010 be noted.

258. CONCESSIONARY FARES

Members considered options for the future of concessionary fares in the district in the light of the proposals to transfer the power to act as a Transport Concession Authority (TCA) to the county council from 1 April 2011. As the TCA, the County Council must provide a mandatory bus pass concession. It could also enhance the mandatory scheme and/or provide other discretionary schemes, if it chose to do so.

East Northamptonshire Council currently operated three concessionary fare schemes:

- The mandatory national bus pass, with the addition of pre 9.30a.m. travel and companion travel for people with certain disabilities
- Alternative transport tokens scheme
- 16 to 18 year student travel scheme

The County Council was proposing to provide the minimum mandatory scheme which would have a significant impact on present users within East Northamptonshire. This would mean the removal of all the discretionary elements of the present schemes operated by East Northamptonshire Council.

The committee discussed the Equality Impact Assessment, which had found that residents of East Northamptonshire would be significantly adversely affected by the change. The committee noted its disappointment that the county council was not proposing to extend its scheme beyond the mandatory provision despite the lack of reliable and frequent bus services in the rural areas.

Members considered the costs of providing additional concessions. They concluded that the council could not afford to sustain a self-funded travel tokens scheme but were keen to continue to support young people who wished to stay in further education or training. Members did not want students to be unable to complete a course because of a lack of provision of student travel concessions and wondered what effect the extension in the school leaving age from 2013 would have.

RESOLVED:

That concessionary fares be left to the County Council from 1 April 2011 and that officers investigate options for continuing the 16 to 18 year old student travel scheme.

259. FUTURE GRANT FUNDING FOR THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

The Committee considered a revised grant funding model that would support the voluntary sector in contributing to the achievement of the Council's corporate outcomes and proposals for future budgets for grant funding.

The Council was currently supporting ten voluntary sector organisations with grant funding for their core operations, which were managed through three-year Service Level Agreements and subsequent extensions due to end 31 March 2011. The development and implementation of a new model for funding support to commence 1 April 2011 would move the Council away from funding the core activities of organisations and focus on where they could contribute to the Council's corporate outcomes. Three grant strands had been identified: advice and information; counselling and support; and community transport. All of those currently in receipt of grants were aware the Council was intending to change the way it delivered grants. It was hoped that some of the smaller organisations would form consortiums to access one of the funding streams.

Members were concerned that with the proposed model it would be difficult to specify service delivery, which could compromise value for money, and that the proposals did not refer to the importance of encouraging volunteering, self-help and income maximisation.

It was proposed that the budget for voluntary sector grants be reduced by a small percentage and that part of the small community grants budget could be used to create a member empowerment fund.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the implementation of model one for grant funding for the voluntary sector be set up around the three thematic strands and in-line with the Council's corporate outcomes.
- (2) That the Member Panel to support the development of the new model be reconvened to include the Lead Member for Customer and Community Services instead of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee.
- (3) That the proposed changes to the small community grants set out in section 5 of the report be implemented, with £20,000 of that budget set aside for a member empowerment fund with officers to bring forward a report outlining options at a future date.
- (4) That provision be made in the 2011/12 budget for a maximum of £90,000 grant funding for the new model when implemented.
- (5) That a report on the grant award recommendations be brought to the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 14 February 2011, to include the financial implications for future financial years and an Equalities Impact Assessment.

260. FUTURE OF PUBLIC TOILETS

The Committee were provided with an update on progress with negotiations around transferring the responsibility for public toilets to the town councils. At its meeting on 13 July 2009 the Policy and Resources Committee agreed to officers negotiating with the town councils with a view to transferring the public toilets into their ownership. Unfortunately it was not possible to complete these negotiations to facilitate the transfer before 31 March 2010 and therefore the Council agreed, as part of its budget for 2010/11, to continue funding the public toilets with a view to continuing a dialogue with the towns for their transfer at a later date.

The Finance Working Party gave further consideration to the issue at its meeting on 28 October and had put forward proposals for the continuation of negotiations.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the unit at Raunds be offered to Raunds Town Council from 1 August 2011 together with £15,900 to meet the final year's rental payment.
- (2) That negotiations with Higham Ferrers, Oundle, Rushden and Irthlingborough Town Councils be continued with a view to the transfer of the public toilets from 1 August 2011 and that the sum of £15,900 be offered to each town council as financial support towards the future maintenance of the toilets.
- (3) That Thrapston Town Council be offered £15,900 subject to the town council agreeing to the transfer of the existing toilets or use the sum as a capital contribution towards providing new public toilets, to be maintained at its own expense.

261. HOUSING CONTRACT

The Council has a statutory obligation to deliver a number of housing services including housing advice; a housing register (waiting list), applications, and allocations (choice based lettings); and homelessness advice and applications. These services were being provided by Spire Homes within one contract, which commenced in January 2007 and was due to expire on 31 December 2011.

Officers recommended that a working party be set up to consider all of the options for service provision, provide a Member steer to officers on the preferred way forward, and guide the tender process in the same way as had been done for other sizeable contracts, such as the waste contract.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the formation of a Housing Contract Working Party be approved.
- (2) That the Housing Contract Working Party be delegated powers in respect of the tendering process, excluding any final decisions on the service specification or the successful contractor.
- (3) That the Terms of Reference for the Housing Contract Working Party as attached at Appendix 1 on page 379 be approved.
- (4) That the Leader notifies the Chief Executive of the membership of the Housing Contract Working Party.

262. EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RESIDENTS' PANEL

Members considered the options for future consultation with residents after the end of the current contract for the Residents' Panel in March 2011. Since April 2009, all councils and some other public bodies had had a legal Duty to Inform, Consult and Involve (Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007). This required the Council to consider providing information to, consulting with and involving local people in decisions about how it provided services. In doing this the Council must ensure that it reached a range of local people affected by the change, including children and young people. From 2004 this duty had been fulfilled through a contract for a Residents' Panel, which included three surveys a year and the establishment and maintenance of the Panel. Additional surveys have also been carried out as required, for example the waste contract consultation, which had been paid for separately by the relevant service area.

The Committee considered the high response rates, the value of the Panel for the waste contract procurement process, and the likely future benefit as the Council made necessary changes to budgets and service provision. Other options suggested included discontinuing the Panel when the contract ended in March 2011 and returning to commissioning individual consultation exercises as and when required, and the development of a panel managed in house.

RESOLVED:

That the Council re-tender for a further two year Resident's Panel contract with a reduction in surveys to two per year.

263. GROUNDWORK NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Members reviewed future funding support for Groundwork North Northamptonshire for work on community development and regeneration projects in East Northamptonshire. They commended the work of Groundwork to date and wished to ensure Groundwork would be able to provide support in the latter stages of each Area Based Initiative project and retain a presence in East Northamptonshire to support any future projects around 'Localism' and 'the Big Society'. However, as other councils had not yet decided how much core funding they would provide, the Committee had concerns that the Council might not end up in an equitable financial position.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Groundwork's current Service Level Agreement be extended by one year from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 to include provision for the recovery of any funding should Groundwork's role cease at anytime during the year.
- (2) That funding for Groundwork in 2011/12 be set at £10,000 core and £10,000 project, with provision made in the 2011/12 budget, subject to continuing support from the other funding councils.

264. CONTINUATION OF MEETING – COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8

During the consideration of the previous item, the Chairman reported that the two hour period under the above Rule had been reached and it was

RESOLVED:

That the meeting continue until the agenda had been concluded.

265. INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY PLAN

The Committee considered a draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan for East Northamptonshire and Draft Infrastructure Position Statements for Higham Ferrers, Irthlingborough, Oundle, Raunds, Rushden and Thrapston. These documents formed part of the work of evidence gathering for the Local Development Framework. National Planning Policy required that development plan documents be supported by the required physical, social and environmental infrastructure to enable development to be accommodated.

The Infrastructure Delivery Plan provided details of infrastructure requirements that East Northamptonshire Council would deliver directly, those the Council would support others to do/lobby for, and projects not currently seen as a priority. The Infrastructure Position Statements provided working drafts of place-specific infrastructure requirements for the main towns in the district, many of which would be delivered by other organisations. The Planning Policy Committee had considered the draft documents and ward members had been consulted. Members were advised that all of this work would be regularly updated and would include provision for rural areas.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Infrastructure Delivery Plan be approved in principle, subject to further comments by Members and the finalisation of the Corporate Plan.

- (2) That the principle of place-specific Infrastructure Position Statements be approved.

266. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

267. PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee received the minutes of the Personnel Sub-Committee meeting held on 5 November which are attached at pages 380 to 381 and form part of this minute.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal in item 10 (b) of the Personnel Sub-Committee minutes held on 5 November 2010 be progressed to the next stage.

Chairman

Housing Contract Working Party

Terms of Reference

1. Membership

Members: tbc

Officers:	Trevor Watson	Head of Planning Services
	Cat Hartley	Housing Strategy Manager
	Louise Bagley	Housing Services Officer
	Aine Cooper	Housing Enabling Officer

2. Aims

- To establish the full range of options for a housing service specification, to include:
 - Homelessness advice and applications
 - Housing advice and options
 - Housing allocations (Choice Based Lettings)
- To establish approximate costings for the options.
- To recommend a preferred service specification to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee.
- Following a decision on the preferred option, to take forward a tendering process for a new contract. In respect of the tender process, the working party is delegated by Policy and Resources Committee to:
 - Determine the tender evaluation process, operating within the Council's financial regulations, Procurement Procedures and relevant European Union requirements.
 - Agree the shortlist of bidders following a pre-qualification process.
 - Develop tender documents.
 - Contribute to the tender evaluation process – to include assessing tenders and interviewing bidders.
 - Identify a preferred contractor.
 - Make a recommendation to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval on the award of the new contract.
- To draft a Housing Allocation Policy for approval by the Policy and Resources Committee.



Personnel Sub-Committee

Minutes of a meeting held on 5 November 2010 at 2.00 pm at East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston

Present:

Councillors

Roger Glithero
Philip Hardcastle
Sylvia Hughes

David Oliver

Mark Lovell

Katy Everitt

Rachel Reeds

Chief Executive (DO)

Executive Director (ML)

Head of Resources and Organisational Development (KE)

Member Services Officer (RR)

**Action
n**

1.0 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

1.1 RESOLVED:

That Councillor Roger Glithero be appointed Chairman of the Personnel Sub-Committee for the remainder of the civic year.

2.0 MINUTES

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 31 August 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3.1 Councillors Wendy Brackenbury, Lisa Costello and Steven North sent their apologies.

4.0 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

4.1 RESOLVED:

That Councillor Sylvia Hughes be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Personnel Sub-Committee for the remainder of the civic year.

5.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/QUESTIONS

5.1 There were no declarations by, or questions from, Members.

6.0 XCHANGE GROUP MEETING

6.1 Members received and noted the minutes of the Xchange Group held on 14 September.

7.0 STAFF ESTABLISHMENT

7.1 Information was presented to the Sub-Committee on:

- Vacant posts removed from the establishment
- Vacant hours not being filled, and
- Vacant posts not being filled,

together with the savings which were being made as a result, plus savings from the recent management restructure, against current budgets, future budgets and the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

7.2 ML would be producing an analysis of how much of savings made to date had already been taken out of the budget and how much would contribute towards the £2.2 million budget deficit reported to Council. **ML**

7.3 The Sub-Committee asked to review its Terms of Reference at its next meeting. **RR/**

KE

8.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8.1 The next meeting was scheduled for 30 November but it might be necessary to change it.

9.0 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

9.1 **RESOLVED:**

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

10.0 STAFFING PROPOSALS.

10.1 KE submitted two reports on the above matter.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal in item 10 (a) be implemented.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the proposal in item 10 (b) be progressed to the next stage.

Chairman

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Date: 10 November 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: - Pauline Bradberry JP (Chairman)
Gill Mercer (Vice Chairman)

Wendy Brackenbury
Albert Campbell
Lisa Costello
Roger Glithero JP
Glenn Harwood MBE
Andy Mercer
Brian Northall

Ron Pinnock
John Richardson MBE
Anna Sauntson
Phillip Stearn
Robin Underwood
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood

268. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

269. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Sylvia Hughes and Roger Powell sent their apologies.

270. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND INFORMAL SITE VISITS

(a) Interests

(i) Prejudicial

Councillor Robin Underwood declared a personal and prejudicial interest in application EN/10/01070/FUL, because he lived within 100 metres of the site. He left the meeting and did not take part in the discussion or voting on the application.

(ii) Personal

Members declared personal interests in the applications below as indicated. They remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting on the respective application.

Member	Application	Nature of Interest
Gill Mercer, Brian Northall, Ron Pinnock, Anna Sauntson, Robin Underwood and Clive Wood	EN/10/01481/FUL	All knew some of the objectors to the application
Albert Campbell and Andy Mercer	EN/10/01481/FUL	Both knew the planning consultant speaking on behalf of the objectors

Member	Application	Nature of Interest
Glenn Harwood	EN/10/01481/FUL	A Governor of one of the schools near the application site
John Richardson	EN/10/00957/FUL	Knew a relative of one of the applicants

(b) Informal Site Visits

Councillor Roger Glithero declared that he had undertaken an informal site visit for application EN/10/01006/FUL.

271. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

The following people spoke on the applications as indicated: -

- (i)** Mr J Croucher and Mr V Clarke on application EN/10/01481/FUL – 110 Higham Road, Rushden.
- (ii)** Mrs J Lambert on application EN/10/01070/FUL – 1 Essex Road, Rushden.
- (iii)** Mr M Ferguson on application EN/10/00957/FUL - 283 Newton Road, Rushden.
- (iv)** Mr J Benny, Mr S McClean and Mr M Fairhurst on application EN/10/01006/FUL - Westbrook, Gretton Road, Harringworth.

272. 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); and those deferred under (c) below. The full decision on the applications are included (on the page indicated) in the Appendix to these minutes.

(a) Applications Granted

- (i) EN/10/01208/FUL** – Plot 5 Haldens Parkway, Thrapston (See Page 388)

The Committee had undertaken a formal site visit on Monday 25 October to give further consideration to this application and it was

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

- (ii) EN/10/00498/FUL** – 90 Hill Street, Raunds (See Page 389)

Members discussed the increase in on street parking near the site since the previous application had been considered by the Committee in 2007 and whether there was sufficient sewerage capacity to accommodate the proposed development. and the application was

Granted – the Head of Planning Services be authorised, in concurrence with the Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) and Ward Member, to Grant with the conditions detailed in the report and additional conditions regarding a security scheme and a foul water/sewerage capacity study, subject to the completion of a Section 106 Agreement with the applicants to secure contributions.

(iii) EN/10/01070/FUL – 1 Essex Road, Rushden (See Page 393)

The Committee considered that there were no issues with the revised application and it was

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

(iv) EN/10/01194/RWL – 29 Wellingborough Road, Rushden (See Page 396)

Members discussed the renewal application including flooding and security issues; the use of the existing building within the development; the historic interest of the building and whether part of the facade could be kept; and whether a Section 106 Agreement should be imposed on the application, and it was

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

(v) EN/10/00578/FUL – Carters Travel at Rectory Farm, Cranford Road, Great Addington (See Page 397)

The Committee gave consideration to issues regarding the potential parking problems on the site and increase in the number of vehicles operating from the site but Members concluded that these were not matters for this application and it was

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

(vi) EN/10/01874/EXT – Rookery South Pit, Near Stewartby, Bedfordshire (See Page 398)

Members considered that they had no issues with this external application and it was agreed that

No Objections be made to the proposal.

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

(i) EN/10/01481/FUL – 110 Higham Road, Rushden (See Page 387)

The Committee discussed the application and considered the following issues:

- The opening of a takeaway in this area would impact on the healthy eating policies of local schools because the proposed opening hours of the premises would coincide with when school children were passing the premises
- The proposed change of use from a shop to a takeaway was not compliant with the Council's policies regarding the promotion of healthy eating
- Parking problems caused by customers visiting the premises would impact on highway safety and cause disturbance to local residents
- Drivers speeding along Higham Road could result in accidents near the

- application site
- Anti-social behaviour could result from youths congregating outside the premises during the evening
- Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 was referred to regarding anti-social behaviour
- The site was surrounded by residential properties and cooking odours from the premises and noise from the extractor system would affect the amenity of local residents

and the application was

Refused contrary to the recommendation to grant, because of the impact on the healthy eating policies of local schools; parking problems resulting in highway safety issues and disturbance to residents; and anti-social behaviour problems as referred to under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

(ii) EN/10/01126/FUL – 4 Westfields Terrace, Higham Ferrers (See Page 387)

Members discussed the application and considered the following issues:

- The site was close to local schools which would undermine the healthy eating policies of local schools
- There were too many takeaways in Higham Ferrers and the application site should be for retail use and not a takeaway
- There was a lack of car parking near the site for customers to use which would impact on highway safety and cause disturbance to residents
- Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 was referred to regarding anti-social behaviour

and the application was

Refused contrary to the recommendation to grant, because of the impact on the healthy eating policies of local schools; parking problems resulting in highway safety issues and disturbance to residents; and anti-social behaviour problems as referred to under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

(iii) EN/00957/FUL – 283 Newton Road, Rushden (See Page 395)

The Committee gave consideration to the following issues:

- The requirement for a functional test when the Council's agricultural consultant had stated that the applicant's business model was sound and had passed the financial test
- The security of the livery business when there were up to forty horses stabled on the property
- Whether it was reasonable that the groom should live in the existing bungalow on the site together with the owners
- It was suggested that an additional condition could be added to restrict the occupancy of the dwelling for agricultural use only

and the application was

Granted contrary to the recommendation to refuse, and the Head of Planning Services be authorised, in concurrence with the Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) and

Ward Member, to consider appropriate conditions, including a condition regarding agricultural occupancy.

(c) Applications Deferred

EN/10/01006/FUL – Westbrook, Gretton Road, Harringworth (See Page 398)

Members considered the following issues:

- The size, design and location of the proposed dwelling in relation to the other buildings on Gretton Road
- The location of the balcony and the potential for overlooking the rear garden of an adjoining property
- Further clarification on the type of materials being used
- The possibility that the owners could build another dwelling at the side of the property instead of a garage

and the application was

Deferred for negotiations with the applicants to amend the design of the proposed dwelling; reduce the size of the balcony; and the provision of a garage to ensure that there was no potential for a further dwelling on the side of the property.

RESOLVED:

That the above planning applications be dealt with as indicated in the Appendix to these minutes at pages 387 to 398.

273. CONTINUATION OF MEETING – COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8

Before the consideration of application EN/10/01006/FUL under the above item, the Chairman reported that the two hour period under the above Rule had been reached and it was

RESOLVED:

That the remaining business on the agenda be completed.

274. APPEAL DECISION MONITORING REPORT

Members noted the Council's planning appeal decisions from 4 to 22 October 2010.

Chairman

List of Applications Determined by DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 10 November 2010

EN/10/01481/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
13 August 2010	13 August 2010	8 October 2010	Rushden Spencer

Applicant **Mr K Cheng**

Agent **Brian Barber Associates - Mr P Smith**

Location **110 Higham Road, Rushden**

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

Decision **Refused contrary to the recommendation to grant, because of the impact on the healthy eating policies of local schools; parking problems resulting in highway safety issues and disturbance to residents; and anti-social behaviour problems as referred to under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.**

Reasons: (To be agreed)

EN/10/01126/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
17 June 2010	22 July 2010	16 September 2010	Higham Ferrers Chichele

Applicant **Mr G Bria**

Location **4 Westfields Terrace, Higham Ferrers**

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

Decision **Refused contrary to the recommendation to grant, because of the impact on the healthy eating policies of local schools; parking problems resulting in highway safety issues and disturbance to residents; and anti-social behaviour problems as referred to under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.**

Reasons: (To be agreed)

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
1 July 2010	9 July 2010	8 October 2010	Thrapston Lakes

Applicant **Saica Pack UK - Mr E Nogueroles**

Agent **Merebrook Consulting - Dr L Horsley**

Location **Plot 5, Haldens Parkway, Thrapston**

Proposal **Erection of three external canopies adjoining existing general industry building and relocation of HGV parking bays**

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. Prior to the commencement of development all external materials shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This includes details of external doors and loading bay shutters.
Reason: To ensure a satisfactory external appearance.
3. Adequate precaution shall be taken during the construction period to prevent the deposit of mud and other similar debris on the adjacent public highways in accordance with details to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of development.
Reason: In the interests of traffic safety and convenience.
4. Site clearance operations that involve the destruction and removal of vegetation on site shall not be undertaken during the months of March to August inclusive, except when approved by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To ensure that breeding birds are not adversely affected.
5. Acoustic fencing shall be erected along western boundary of the site. The fencing shall be a minimum of 2 metres in height and its design shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of development. The positioning of the fencing shall be in accordance with that shown on plan ref: 309/002 submitted don 07/09/10. The fencing shall thereafter be retained in perpetuity unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity and to ensure maximum noise reduction.
6. If between the commencement of development and six months of the canopies having been completed (the date of which shall be confirmed in writing by the occupier to the local planning authority) it is brought to the attention of the Local Planning Authority that TV or radio interference to adjacent residential properties has occurred as a result of the erection of the canopies, details of measures to mitigate against such TV or radio interference shall be submitted to the Council. These details shall be submitted by the applicant within 28 days of being advised by the Council that such problems are occurring, and subsequently approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details of mitigation measures submitted shall be commensurate with the level of TV or radio interference occurring and shall be implemented within a reasonable time period as directed by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: In the interests of protecting local amenity and to alleviate any adverse electromagnetic interference.

7. All construction works which cause any noise that is audible at the boundary of the site, or at any such other place as may be agreed by the Council, shall be carried out only between the hours of 07.30 am and 17.30 Monday to Friday, 08:00 and 13:00 Saturdays and at no time on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

Reason: In the interests of neighbouring amenity.

8. The development shall take place in accordance with the measures detailed in the Biodiversity Statement submitted with this application, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Reason: To protect and enhance ecological interests within the site in accordance with PPS9 and policy 13 of North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

9. The applicant shall submit a scheme which demonstrates that all construction vehicles and HGV's associated with the general business use of the site, can be accommodated off road, within the site or within a site nearby. The parking scheme shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to the commencement of development and adhered to in perpetuity, unless agreed in writing by the LPA.

Reason: To ensure appropriate management of vehicles associated with the site and to prevent the need to park on the access road to the site.

10. The works hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans (14862-PA3-001-A, 14862-PA3-002-A, 14862-PA3-003-A, 14862-PA3-004-A, 14826-PA3-005-A, 14826-PA3-006-A, 14862-PA3-007-A, 14826-PA3-007-A, 14826-PA3-008-A, 14826-PA3-009-A, 14826-400-REVV, SK100, 'Meeting with Planners' document, Amended travel statement and 309/002 (plus all other documents submitted initially with application). Received by the Local Planning Authority on 01/07/10, 07/09/10, 06/10/10), unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.

EN/10/00498/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
16 March 2010	4 June 2010	3 September 2010	Raunds Saxon

Applicant **Mr H Ferdinando**

Agent **Parc Design Solutions - Simon Charter**

Location **90 Hill Street, Raunds**

Proposal **Erection of fourteen dwellings comprising 5 two storey three-bedroom, 6 two storey two-bedroom apartments and 3 two and a half storey three-bedroom dwellings and associated works**

Decision **The Head of Planning Services be authorised, in concurrence with the Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) and Ward Member, to Grant with the conditions detailed in the report and additional conditions regarding a security scheme and a foul water/sewerage capacity study, subject to the completion of a Section 106 Agreement with the applicants to secure contributions.**

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. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details and samples of the external materials to be used for the construction of the dwellings, flats and carports shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority 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 achieve a satisfactory appearance for the development.
3. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details of the provision of screening to all boundaries of the site and individual garden areas of the plots shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This shall include details indicating the positions, height, design, materials and type of boundary treatment to be erected. This boundary screening shall then be provided in accordance with the details so approved prior to the first occupation of the dwellings and shall thereafter be retained in perpetuity, 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. The details to be submitted for Condition 3 above, shall include the provision of boundary screening of no less than 1.8 metres in height along the west boundary of the site to No.88 Hill Street. This boundary screening shall then be provided in accordance with the details so approved prior to the first occupation of the dwellings and shall thereafter be retained in perpetuity, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers.
5. Before any work is commenced on the development hereby permitted, details showing the slab levels of the proposed buildings in relation to the existing and proposed levels of the site and the surrounding land and buildings (including the ridge heights and eaves height of neighbouring buildings of No.88 Hill Street and No.2 Park Road) shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be constructed in accordance with the details so approved, 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. Notwithstanding the submitted details, pedestrian visibility splays of 2.0m x 2.0m shall be provided on both sides of the vehicular access. The areas of land between the required sight lines and the highway carriageway shall be cleared, levelled and retained at a height not exceeding 0.6 metres above the carriageway and driveway levels.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety.
7. The vehicular access shall have a gradient not exceeding 1 in 15 for a distance of 5.0 metres back from the correct level at the highway boundary. Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted this area shall be paved with a hard bound surface for a minimum of 5.0 metres back from the highway boundary and be thereafter retained.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety.
8. Before the development hereby permitted is commenced, details of the construction and surfacing of the vehicular access to the public highway, parking facilities and all other hard-surfaced areas within the site shall have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. These facilities shall then be provided in accordance with the approved details before the first occupation of the development, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority
Reason: In the interest of highway safety and visual amenity.
9. The existing access shall be closed off and the footway shall be resurfaced throughout in accordance with the details shown on drawing number: 010-003-001, received by the Local Planning Authority on 16th March 2010, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety.
10. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and County Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2008 (or any Order amending or re-enacting that Order with or without

modification), no gates or other form of barrier shall be erected at the point of access.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

11. Prior to the first occupation of Plot 1, the landing windows in the north elevation of Plot 1 shall be provided with obscure glazing in such a manner that would eliminate any overlooking of the adjacent premises, and this obscure glazing shall be retained permanently.

Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers.

12. Prior to the first occupation of Plots 13 and 14, the first floor bathroom rooflights/windows in the northern elevation of Plots 13 and 14 shall be provided with obscure glazing in such a manner that would eliminate any overlooking of the adjacent premises, and this obscure glazing shall be retained permanently.

Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers.

13. The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until details of a comprehensive contaminated land investigation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and until the scope of works approved therein have been implemented where possible. The assessment shall include all of the following measures unless the LPA dispenses with any such requirements in writing:

a) A Phase I desk study carried out by a competent person to identify and evaluate all potential sources of contamination and the impacts on land and/or controlled waters, relevant to the site. The desk study shall establish a 'conceptual model' of the site and identify all plausible pollutant linkages. Furthermore, the assessment shall set objectives for intrusive site investigation works/ Quantitative Risk Assessment (or state if none required). Two full copies of the desk study and a non-technical summary shall be submitted to the LPA without delay upon completion.

b) A site investigation shall be carried out to fully and effectively characterise the nature and extent of any land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters. It shall specifically include a risk assessment that adopts the Source-Pathway-Receptor principle and takes into account the sites existing status and proposed new use. Two full copies of the site investigation and findings shall be forwarded to the LPA. This must be conducted in accordance with the Environment Agency's 'Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR11'.

Reason: To ensure potential risks arising from previous site uses have been fully assessed

14. Where the risk assessment identifies any unacceptable risk or risks, an appraisal of remedial options and proposal of the preferred option to deal with land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters affecting the site shall be submitted to and approved by the LPA. No works, other than investigative works, shall be carried out on the site prior to receipt and written approval of the preferred remedial option by the LPA. This must be conducted in accordance with DEFRA and the Environment Agency's 'Model procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR11'.

Reason: To ensure the proposed remediation plan is appropriate.

15. Remediation of the site shall be carried out in accordance with the approved remedial option. No deviation shall be made from this scheme without the express written agreement of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure site remediation is carried out to the agreed protocol.

16. On completion of remediation, two copies of a closure report shall be submitted to the LPA. The report shall provide verification that the required works regarding contamination have been carried out in accordance with the approved Method Statement(s). Post remediation sampling and monitoring results shall be included in the closure report.

Reason: To provide verification that the required remediation has been carried out to the required standards.

17. If, during development, contamination not previously considered is identified, then the LPA shall be notified immediately and no further work shall be carried out until a method statement detailing a scheme for dealing with the suspect contamination has been submitted to and agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure all contamination within the site is dealt with.

18. Before any work is commenced on the development the subject of this permission details of the provision of foul water and surface water drainage installations to serve the development proposed shall have been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority, and the development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To safeguard public health and to prevent the potential for flooding on the site and elsewhere.

19. 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.

20. At least 10% of the energy supply of the development shall be secured from renewable or low-carbon energy sources (as described in the glossary of Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change December 2007). Prior to the commencement of development, details and a timetable of how this is to be achieved, including details of the physical works on site, shall be submitted to and be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details so approved shall be implemented in accordance with the approved timetable and retained as operational thereafter, 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.

21. 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, F 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.

22. Prior to commencement of development, a refuse collection strategy to include details of the location and design of an external bin store for the dwellings and two flats hereby permitted shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The refuse collection strategy shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the details so approved and be thereafter retained in perpetuity unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory standard of development and form of refuse collection.

23. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the application details received by the Local Planning Authority on 16th March 2010, drawing numbers: 010-003-002, 010-003-011, 010-003-012, 010-003-013, 010-003-014, 010-003-015, 010-003-016; and drawing number: 010-003-001 Revision A received on 28th October 2010.

Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.

24. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, a scheme ensuring the security of the dwellings and their garden areas shall be submitted to and be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the details so approved, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To minimize the opportunities for crime and fear for crime.

25. Before any work is commenced on the development the subject of this permission, the developer, applicant, their agent(s) or successors in title shall conduct modelling studies to investigate the foul water/sewerage capacity and to undertake any required mitigation and improvements. Details of this study together with any the mitigation/improvements 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 details so approved.

Reason: To safeguard public health and to prevent the potential for flooding on the site and elsewhere.

EN/10/01070/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
9 June 2010	19 July 2010	13 September 2010	Rushden Bates

Applicant **McCallum Homes Ltd - Mr Mike Walker**

Agent **Jennifer Lambert Associates Ltd**

Location **1 Essex Road, Rushden**

Proposal **Demolition of existing dwelling, garage and outbuilding and erection of five new dwellings with off street parking and amenity area**

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 details already submitted, full details of the method of the treatment of the external boundaries of the site together with individual garden boundaries and balcony screening shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, implemented prior to the occupation of the buildings 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.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), no additional windows shall be installed in any elevation of the proposed development without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To safeguard the privacy of adjoining properties.
4. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), no extensions or outbuildings shall be erected to the residential development hereby permitted without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To prevent overdevelopment of the site.
5. Prior to the commencement of construction works on site, details of the existing and proposed ground levels and finished floor levels of the development in relation to the natural ground levels of the neighbouring residential sites shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter the development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details.
Reason: In the interests of residential and visual amenity.
6. The parking spaces shown on the submitted plan shall be constructed prior to the first occupation of the building hereby approved and retained thereafter.
Reason: To ensure that the proposed development does not prejudice the free flow of traffic or conditions of highway safety.

7. Notwithstanding the details already submitted, prior to the commencement of development the following access details shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning Authority:
- (i) Hard surface materials to form a shared heavy duty flexible vehicle access to the development, together with kerbing and surfacing works throughout the frontage of the site to give pedestrian priority
 - (ii) Means of drainage to prevent unregulated discharge of surface water onto the highway
 - (iii) Maximum gradient (1 in 15) from the highway boundary
 - (iv) Location of gates to ensure that a minimum shared vehicle access shall be 4.5m wide for the first 10.0m behind the highway boundary (back of the footway)
- Reason: In the interests of highway safety.
8. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority a detailed scheme of hard and soft landscaping for the site. The scheme shall include indications of all existing trees and hedgerows on the land and details of any to be retained.
- Reason: In the interests of amenity and to secure a satisfactory standard of development.
9. All planting, seeding or turfing comprised in the approved details of landscaping 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 five 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.
10. The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until details of a comprehensive contaminated land investigation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and until the scope of works approved therein have been implemented. The assessment shall include all of the following measures unless the LPA dispenses with any such requirements in writing:
- (a) A Phase I desk study carried out to identify and evaluate all potential sources of contamination and the impacts on land and/or controlled waters, relevant to the site. The desk study shall establish a 'conceptual model' of the site and identify all plausible pollutant linkages. Furthermore, the assessment shall set objectives for intrusive site investigation works/ Quantitative Risk Assessment (or state if none required). Two full copies of the desk study and a non-technical summary shall be submitted to the LPA without delay upon completion.
 - (b) A site investigation shall be carried out to fully and effectively characterise the nature and extent of any land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters. It shall specifically include a risk assessment that adopts the Source-Pathway-Receptor principle and takes into account the sites existing status and proposed new use. Two full copies of the site investigation and findings shall be forwarded to the LPA.
- Reason: To ensure potential risks arising from previous site uses have been fully assessed
11. Details and samples of all proposed external 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.
- Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to ensure that the development will harmonise with its surroundings.
12. Prior to the occupation of the dwellings hereby permitted, a copy of the Final Certificate (or any replacement for this) shall be provided to the Local Planning Authority to demonstrate that the unit has been constructed to achieve a minimum under the Code for Sustainable Home of Code Level 3, the relevant BREEM and Code for Sustainable Home Level, and any replacement standards, in accordance with the submitted Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Statement, 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.

13. Prior to the commencement of development, proposals for the provision of foul water and surface water drainage installations to serve the development proposed 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 these details.

Reason: To safeguard public health.

14. The works hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans (06022(D)102 Rev E, 06022(D)101 Rev G, 06022(D) Rev D, 06022(D)104, 06022(D)110 Rev H, 06022(D)112 Rev E, 06022(D)111 Rev I, 06022(D)100 Rev H. Received by the Local Planning Authority on 09/06/10) unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.

15. The gates shown on plan ref: 06022(D)110 and 06022(D)101 shall be provided prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted and retained in perpetuity thereafter, unless agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In order to improve security within the site.

EN/10/00957/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
24 May 2010	2 June 2010	28 July 2010	Rushden Hayden

Applicant **Lodge Farm Liveries**

Agent **Ferguson Broadbent LLP - Mr M M Ferguson**

Location **283 Newton Road, Rushden**

Proposal **Dwelling for livery stables, permanent consent to replace temporary consent EN/06/02225/FUL Retrospective (resubmission)**

Decision **Granted contrary to the recommendation to refuse, and the Head of Planning Services be authorised, in concurrence with the Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) and Ward Member, to consider appropriate conditions, including a condition regarding agricultural occupancy.**

Conditions/Reasons: (To be agreed with Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) and Ward Member)

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
29 June 2010	29 June 2010	24 August 2010	Rushden Sartoris

Applicant **Stromag Ltd**

Agent **Wilbraham Associates Ltd**

Location **29 Wellingborough Road, Rushden**

Proposal **Replacement of extant planning permission 06/01905/OUT - Outline application for residential development comprising fourteen dwellings (all matters reserved except for siting and means of access) dated 5/11/07**

Decision Application Granted

Conditions/Reasons:

1. Details of appearance, landscaping and scale (hereinafter called "the reserved matters") shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority before any development begins and the development shall be carried out as approved.
Reason: The application is in outline only and the reserved matters referred to will require full consideration by the local planning authority.
2. Application for approval of reserved matters shall be made to the local planning authority before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
3. The development hereby permitted shall begin before the expiration of two years from the date of approval of the last of the reserved matters to be approved.
Reason: Statutory requirement under Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
4. The details to be submitted for approval in writing by the local planning authority in accordance with condition 1 above shall include slab levels of the buildings in relation to the existing and proposed levels of the site and the surrounding land. The buildings shall thereafter be constructed in accordance with the slab levels that have been approved 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. Development shall not begin until a scheme to deal with contamination of the site, instability or gas migration has been submitted to an approved in writing by the local planning authority. The approved scheme shall include an investigation and assessment to identify the extent of contamination, instability or gas migration and the measures to be taken to avoid risk to the buildings when the site is developed. No other part of the development shall begin until the measures approved in the scheme have been implemented and a report certifying such implementation has been submitted to the local planning authority.
Reason: To ensure potential risks arising from previous site uses have been fully assessed.
6. No development shall take place until a scheme for protecting the proposed dwellings from noise generated by traffic on Wellingborough Road has been submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority. All works which form part of the approved noise scheme shall be completed before any of the dwellings are occupied.
Reason: In order to ensure an acceptable level of residential amenity for future occupiers.

7. No development shall take place until details of the location, height, design and materials of all boundary treatments have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such approved details shall be erected concurrently with the erection of the dwellings and retained in perpetuity thereafter.

Reason: To ensure that the appearance of the development is satisfactory and that it contributes to the visual character and amenity of the area, and to ensure that the private areas of the development are afforded an acceptable measure of privacy.

8. No works shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a watching brief to be undertaken so that works are observed and items of interest and finds are recorded. The watching brief shall be in accordance with a written programme and specification which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that features of historic and/or archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.

9. Prior to the occupation of the dwellings hereby permitted, the redundant vehicular point of access to Skinners Hill (shown to be fronting plot 14 on the indicative layout) shall be closed off and reinstated to a kerbed footway, in accordance with details to be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and the safe and efficient use of the public highway.

10. Prior to the commencement of development a sustainability strategy shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority, which incorporates the provision of at least 10% of the demand for energy to be met on site and renewably/from a decentralised renewable or low-carbon energy supply (as described in the glossary of Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change (December 2007)). Details and a timetable of how this is to be achieved, including details of physical works on site, shall also be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details and shall be implemented in accordance with the approved timetable and retained as operational thereafter, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable and makes efficient use of energy, water and materials and to comply with Policies 13 and 14 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy and the Sustainable Construction and Design SPD.

EN/10/00578/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
29 March 2010	14 May 2010	9 July 2010	Woodford

Applicant **Carters Travel - Mr Paul Ashman**

Agent **Mr Tim Gilby**

Location **Carters Travel At Rectory Farm, Cranford Road, Great Addington**

Proposal **Installation of inspection pit to allow 'safety check' of own vehicles in association with existing coach operator business (retrospective).**

Decision Application Granted

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The inspection pit hereby permitted shall not be used for servicing or repairs.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity and highway safety.

2. The inspection pit hereby permitted shall not be used other than for the carrying out of vehicle

safety inspections of the seven coaches/minibuses that are authorised to the site, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To clarify the terms of this permission and in the interests of the amenity of the area and neighbouring occupiers.

3. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plan; plan received by the Local Planning Authority on 29th March 2010, drawing number: 758/01 Revision A.

Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.

EN/10/01006/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
27 May 2010	22 June 2010	17 August 2010	Fineshade

Applicant **T Horner**

Agent **Maurice Fairhurst**

Location **Westbrook, Gretton Road, Haringworth**

Proposal **Demolition of existing bungalow and attached garage and construction of detached house**

Decision **Deferred for negotiations with the applicants to amend the design of the proposed dwelling; reduce the size of the balcony; and the provision of a garage to ensure that there was no potential for a further dwelling on the side of the property.**

EN/10/01874/EXT

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
8 October 2010	8 October 2010	29 October 2010	

Applicant **Covanta Energy Limited**

Agent **Infrastructure Planning Commission**

Location **Rookery South Pit Near Stewartby, Bedfordshire**

Proposal **An Energy from Waste Facility and various elements of associated development**

Decision **No Objections be made to the proposal.**

PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Date: 15 November 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: -

**Tony Boto
David Brackenbury
Albert Campbell
Lisa Costello
Michael Finch
Roger Glithero JP
Philip Hardcastle**

**Dudley Hughes JP
Eloise Lucille
Steven North
Ron Pinnock
Roger Powell
Pam Whiting**

275. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Following the change in membership of the Committee at the Council Meeting (Issues Debate) on 4 October 2010, it was necessary to appoint a new Chairman and it was

RESOLVED:

That Councillor David Brackenbury be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the Civic Year.

276. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Following the change in membership of the Committee at the Council Meeting (Issues Debate) on 4 October 2010, it was necessary to appoint a new Vice-Chairman and it was

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Roger Powell be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the Civic Year.

Councillor Brackenbury welcomed Councillors Albert Campbell, Philip Hardcastle and Ron Pinnock as new members of the Committee.

277. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That subject to Councillor Dudley Hughes being added to the list of Members present and under Minute 152, the words "Ward Councillor for Raunds" be amended to "Ward Councillor for Stanwick", the minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2010 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

278. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Personal Interests

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

Member	Item	Nature of Interest
David Brackenbury	All planning policy matters regarding Thrapston	Lives in Thrapston
Albert Campbell	All planning policy matters regarding Raunds	Ward Member for Raunds and lives in Raunds
Dudley Hughes	All planning policy matters regarding Raunds	Lives in Raunds and his wife is also a District Councillor
Eloise Lucille	All planning policy matters regarding Raunds	Ward Member for Stanwick
Roger Powell	All planning policy matters regarding Rushden	Lives in Rushden
Pam Whiting	All planning policy matters regarding Higham Ferrers	Ward Member for Higham Ferrers and lives in Higham Ferrers

279. NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT: DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS - CONSULTATION

The Committee considered the draft North Northamptonshire Development Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which provided guidance on the amount of contributions that were expected from developments, where applicable, towards infrastructure requirements.

The document had been drafted by the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit (JPU) on behalf of the four constituent authorities and had been sent to the authorities for comments, which had to be submitted to the JPU by 19 November 2010. The constituent authorities would then decide whether to adopt the revised document following the consultation.

Members noted the officers' suggested comments highlighted in the draft document and that the JPU had already agreed to those made under paragraphs 9.3 (page 26) regarding the Greenway project and paragraph 16.1 (page 39) regarding the appointment of a dedicated Section 106 monitoring officer which would be jointly funded.

The Committee requested that the following additional comments be submitted to the JPU as part of the Council's formal representations:

- Paragraph 4.18 (page 10) – to avoid any uncertainty and to be more specific regarding assessments of single dwelling thresholds, the word “can” in the second line of the paragraph should be amended to “will”
- Paragraph 4.23 (page 10) – a standard tariff was required for pre-application discussions with developers

- Paragraph 5.15 (page 15) – future contributions for waste management should be revised to take account of the Council’s new waste management contract to be agreed in March 2011
- Paragraph 6.3 (page 23) – reference should be made to the amount of work required to gather and produce an adequate evidence base
- Paragraph 15.1 (page 35) – the weighting given to sports facilities should be investigated. There should be a more general sports contribution, rather than for specific sports activities, which may not meet the local community’s needs i.e. providing freedom to spend the contribution on specific facilities that were needed at a particular time/location, should be linked together across the four constituent authorities
- Paragraph 17.13 (page 42) – the onus should be on the Council to provide the evidence base for infrastructure needs. The specified timeframe period up to 2021 should be re-considered to take account of the Core Spatial Strategy review
- Paragraph 17.14 (page 42) – more transparency was required on how the viability of a development was to be judged by the local planning authority. A more specific viability criteria was required as guidance for developers. Any tariffs imposed should not stop development and developers should know what formulas were being applied to calculate tariffs
- Paragraph 17.18 (page 43) – there was too much flexibility for local authorities to consider affordability when determining viability. Instead there should be a coherent strategy to determine when discounts could be applied.

Given the far-reaching implications of the Development Contributions SPD, it was suggested that nominations be sought for a small working group of Members and officers to consider the implications of the document in more detail.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the comments made by officers on the draft North Northamptonshire Development Contributions SPD document detailed within the report and those made by Members in the preamble above, be agreed with the Working Group set out below before being submitted as the Council’s formal representations to the North Northamptonshire JPU by 19 November 2010.
- (2) That a small Member and Officer Working Group be established to consider the implications of the SPD document in detail and recommend whether the Council should adopt the document in due course and that Councillors David Brackenbury, Michael Finch, Philip Hardcastle, Eloise Lucille and Roger Powell be appointed to the Working Group.

Chairman

PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Date: 22 November 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: - David Brackenbury (Chairman)
Roger Powell (Vice-Chairman)

David Bateman
Tony Boto
Lisa Costello
Roger Glithero JP
Philip Hardcastle
Dudley Hughes JP

Eloise Lucille
Steven North
Ron Pinnock
Phillip Stearn
Pam Whiting

280. MINUTES

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

281. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Albert Campbell and Michael Finch sent their apologies.

282. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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	All planning policy matters regarding Thrapston	Lives in Thrapston
Dudley Hughes	All planning policy matters regarding Raunds	Lives in Raunds and his wife is also a District Councillor
Eloise Lucille	All planning policy matters regarding Raunds	Ward Member for Stanwick and owns property in Stanwick
Roger Powell	All planning policy matters regarding Rushden	Lives in Rushden
Pam Whiting	All planning policy matters regarding Higham Ferrers	Ward Member for Higham Ferrers and lives in Higham Ferrers

283. RE-SCHEDULING OF AGENDA ITEMS

The Committee agreed that agenda items 7 (Raunds Masterplan Progress Report) and 8 (North Northamptonshire Local Investment Plan) be brought forward on the agenda.

284. RAUNDS MASTERPLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee received a document summarising the outcomes of the Enquiry by Design Workshop events held in Raunds during October and November 2010 as part of the public consultation on the Raunds Masterplan.

The outcomes from the consultation would be tested for viability and compatibility with national, local and other planning policies. A draft Masterplan document would then be produced in early December 2010 for approval by a small Member working group for public consultation in December 2010/January 2011. The results of the consultation would be included in the final Raunds Masterplan document for submission to the Committee for approval.

The Raunds Enquiry Summary and emerging objectives and principles were noted by Members and the following issues on the outcomes document were made:

- The Raunds Masterplan document should take account of emerging policies as well as adopted policies contained within the Core Spatial Strategy
- A balanced view on growth options for all the towns in the district was required because there had been substantial levels of growth in Thrapston and Raunds
- The no growth option was not considered to be realistic because some growth was required for the Raunds area
- There should be more emphasis on encouraging employment growth for Raunds rather than more housing because of infrastructure issues.

RESOLVED:

That Councillors David Brackenbury, Tony Boto and Lisa Costello be appointed to a small working group to consider and approve the draft Raunds Masterplan for public consultation in December 2010.

285. NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LOCAL INVESTMENT PLAN

The final draft North Northamptonshire Local Investment Plan (LIP) was submitted for consideration. It had been prepared by the LIP Steering Group to direct any future Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) funding to regeneration, economic growth and community development schemes in North Northamptonshire. The final version of the document would be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval. It would have to be approved by all four constituent authorities before being adopted.

Members noted that the level of funding for projects from the HCA would be less than previous years and raised the following issues on the draft document:

- There was concern that towns in East Northamptonshire had not been given sufficient consideration and priority in the document
- How would the LIP relate to Development Plan Documents in East Northamptonshire?

- It was important that East Northamptonshire Council put forward a wish list of potential sites for development in order to receive future funding. Unless this was done, funding would not be given to the Council
- Viability and deliverability of schemes were the key to progressing schemes under the LIP
- The Council's 40% affordable housing target should be reviewed to be more in line with the other constituent authorities which had a 30% target
- There was little or no mention of development in the rural areas of East Northamptonshire
- Existing town plans should be used as the basis for future town Masterplans
- There was no mention in the document that part of the development at Priors Hall Corby was within East Northamptonshire.

The Housing Strategy Manager stated that the document focused on schemes which were deliverable and that funding would be given to those schemes that were ready to proceed. It was agreed that Members should inform the Manager about any other potential priorities for development in the district for inclusion in the LIP document.

To take account of Member's views, it was suggested that a small Member and Officer working group be formed to consider the draft LIP document in more detail and make alterations as necessary for further consideration by the Committee at its next meeting. The revised document would then be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for final approval.

RESOLVED:

That Councillors David Brackenbury, Philip Hardcastle and Eloise Lucille be appointed to a small Member and Officer working group to re-examine the draft Local Investment Plan (LIP) document and agree the text for submission to the next Planning Policy Committee meeting on 24 January 2011 for further consideration before being submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for final approval.

286. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME UPDATE

Members considered an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) which had been revised to comply with current Planning Inspectorate guidance.

There was concern about how the new localism policies would affect progress with the LDS and uncertainty on how to proceed. Members were informed that until further guidance was received from the Government, the existing planning framework had to be complied with.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) timetable for the preparation of the Four Towns Plan from November 2010 until July 2013 be approved, and the revised LDS timetable be submitted to the Secretary of State for agreement to bring this timetable into effect.
- (2) That the Planning Policy Committee considers the emerging evidence base for the Four Towns Plan in conjunction with the relevant Area Working Parties as appropriate.

287. NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HOUSING TARGETS – DRAFT STATEMENT OF INTENT - CONSULTATION

It was reported that the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit (JPU) was reviewing the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (CCS) housing targets and had requested comments on the following three options:

- Option 1 - Continue with the adopted CSS trajectory (delivery of 9,400 dwellings by 2021).
- Option 2 - Extend the CSS 9,400 dwellings target forward to 2026 (the proposed Interim position).
- Option 3 - Extend the CSS 9,400 dwellings target forward to 2031 (the low growth scenario).

Members considered the suggestion that Option 2 be the preferred approach for East Northamptonshire. This would drop the annual housing completion target in this district from 487 dwellings to 325, which was regarded as a more realistic figure. The possibility of extending the date to 2028 was also discussed, which would reduce the figure to 286 completions, but if this was not acceptable it was suggested that it be extended to 2031.

It was noted that the JPU report reviewing the targets submitted to the North Northamptonshire Joint Committee on 22 September 2010 failed to mention that 735 dwellings at the Priors Hall site were within East Northamptonshire.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That, subject to the target date being extended to 2028, Option 2, the Interim position on housing targets for East Northamptonshire contained within the draft “Statement of Intent on Housing Targets for North Northamptonshire” document, be agreed.
- (2) That if the target date of 2028 is not acceptable, then it be extended to 2031.

288. CONTINUATION OF MEETING – COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 8

During consideration of the above item, the Chairman reported that the two hour period under the above Rule had been reached and it was

RESOLVED:

That the remaining business on the agenda be completed.

Chairman

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Date: 1 December 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: - Gill Mercer (Vice Chairman) In the Chair

Lisa Costello
Glenn Harwood MBE
Sylvia Hughes
Andy Mercer
Brian Northall
Ron Pinnock

Roger Powell
Anna Sauntson
Phillip Stearn
Robin Underwood
Pam Whiting
Clive Wood

289. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

290. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Wendy Brackenbury, Pauline Bradberry (Chairman) Albert Campbell, Roger Glithero JP and John Richardson MBE sent their apologies.

291. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND INFORMAL SITE VISITS

(a) Interests

(i) Prejudicial

Members declared personal and prejudicial interests in the applications below as indicated. They left the meeting and took no part in the discussion and voting on the respective application.

Member	Application	Nature of Interest
Pam Whiting	EN/10/01272/FUL	Her landlord's business (where she worked) would be affected by the proposed development
Andy Mercer	EN/10/01574/NCC	Member of Northamptonshire County Council and attended a meeting where he supported (pre-determined) the application
Ron Pinnock	EN/10/01574/NCC	Member of Northamptonshire County Council's Development Control Committee

(ii) Personal

Members declared personal interests in the applications below as indicated. They remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting on the respective application.

Member	Application	Nature of Interest
Ron Pinnock, Anna Sauntson and Clive Wood	EN/10/01272/FUL	All know the applicant
Robin Underwood	EN/10/01272/FUL	Knows the applicant and agent
Roger Powell	EN/10/01574/NCC	Lives near the school and his grand daughters attend the school
Pam Whiting	EN/10/01574/NCC	Daughter works at the school

(b) Informal Site Visits

No informal site visits were declared.

292. PUBLIC SPEAKER

Mr T Coleby spoke on application EN/10/01025/OUT – Vehicle Depot and Adjacent Land, Kettering Road, Islip.

293. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered the planning applications report, with updated information on some of the applications and representations made by public speakers at the meeting. The full decision on the applications are included (on the page indicated) in the Appendix to these minutes.

(i) EN/10/00135/FUL – 43 Brook Street, Raunds (See Page 411).

The Committee discussed the application and sought clarification on which part of the premises would be granted A5 use. Members were also informed that A5 use for the whole of the premises would require a separate application.

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report and with an additional condition specifying which part of the premises would be for A5 use only on the plan.

(ii) EN/10/01272/FUL – 28 Commercial Street, Higham Ferrers (See Page 412).

Members considered that the applicants had taken into account Members' views following the previous deferral. A meeting had been held and the number of units had been decreased, parking improved and amenity space provided.

Granted with the conditions detailed in the report.

(iii) EN/10/01025/OUT – Vehicle Depot and Adjacent Land, Kettering Road, Islip (See Page 412).

The Committee considered that the applicants had taken into account Members' views following their previous presentation by the developers and could support it. However, there was some concern that:

- Lorries would erode the surface of the highway whilst turning at the roundabout on the junction with Kettering Road and the A6116, because of the size of the roundabout
- Signage should be put in place on Kettering Road to ensure that lorries leaving the site should not turn left and go through the villages of Twywell and Woodford.

After discussing these concerns it was agreed that the application be

Deferred for a Members' formal site visit at approximately 9.45am on Thursday 9 December.

(iv) EN/10/01138/FUL – 35 Grove Street, Raunds (See Page 412).

Members discussed the application and were concerned about the number of car parking spaces within the site and lack of on-street parking and any changes in parking restrictions near the site on Grove Street since the previous proposals were granted. After discussing these concerns it was agreed that the application be

Deferred for a Members' formal site visit at 9.00am on Thursday 9 December, and clarification of when the traffic orders were put in place.

(v) EN/10/01574/NCC – Denfield Park Junior School, Victoria Road, Rushden (See Page 414).

The Committee considered the application from Northamptonshire County Council and noted that officers were initially concerned about the protection of the existing trees on the site during the construction of the new extension, however the county council had now submitted an Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan in support of the application. These had been considered by the Council's Tree Officer who recommended that the trees on the site be protected in accordance with the submitted Tree Protection Plan prior to the commencement of the development and that the works be undertaken in accordance with the submitted Arboricultural Method Statement.

Members expressed concern that school staff would still be able to use the existing access from Victoria Road. In order to lessen the effect of passing traffic on residents living in Victoria Road, they wanted the county council to consider restricting traffic from using this entrance if an alternative route for staff could be found.

After discussing these concerns and the proposed conditions it was agreed that

No Objections be made to the proposal, subject to the conditions being recommended as reported and that Condition 2 be amended to request that Northamptonshire County Council should consider that traffic use be restricted from Victoria Road other than for emergency vehicles if an alternative route could be provided within the site to access the staff car park.

(vi) EN/10/01938/EXT – Land at St James Industrial Estate, Corby (See Page 415).

Members discussed the application from Corby Borough Council and considered that it would not have a major impact on this district and it was agreed that

No Objections be made to the proposal.

RESOLVED:

That the above planning applications be dealt with as indicated in the Appendix to these minutes at pages 411 to 415.

294. COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION DOCUMENT - PLANNING FOR SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT

The Committee considered a Government consultation document "Planning for Schools Development" on new permitted development rights for schools.

Members noted the comments made by officers to the consultation and discussed some issues regarding: the use of buildings once the schools closed or went out of business; liability for issues regarding noise and contamination; and to ensure that there were enough planning controls in place to prevent other uses occurring once permission had been given for school use.

RESOLVED:

That the comments set out in the report be endorsed as the proposed response to the Communities and Local Government consultation document "Planning for Schools Development", and that the Committee's concerns that there was no definition of the type of school be highlighted.

295. REVIEW OF TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS AND REPLACEMENT OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (TREES) REGULATIONS 2008 - CONSULTATION

Members received a consultation from the Government on the proposed streamlining of Tree Preservation Orders and replacement of the Town and Country Planning (Trees) Regulations 2008.

The main changes to the Regulations covered alteration to the model Order, specifically the removal of the word "dying" from the description of the tree; reductions in the level of consultation and publication requirements; and consent duration and compensation.

The Committee considered the proposed response drafted by Officers to the consultations and it was

RESOLVED:

That, subject to any further comments being received from Members before the end of the consultation period, the Head of Planning Services be authorised to submit the consultation response drafted by Officers for submission to the Communities and Local Government Department.

296. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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 Paragraphs 1 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

297. APPROVAL FOR CARRYING OUT WORKS

It was reported that the owner of a property in Oundle had not complied with a Listed Building Enforcement Notice served by the Council and it was proposed that the Council carry out the work to the property and reclaim the costs from the owner.

Members noted the advice received from the Solicitor to the Council and it was

RESOLVED:

That approval be given for the carrying out of works to the property specified by the Listed Building Enforcement Notice in accordance with Section 42 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, and that a 'Before Action' letter be served on the owner (or owners) of the property before the work commenced.

Chairman

List Of Applications Determined By

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 1 December 2010

EN/10/00135/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
27 January 2010	25 May 2010	20 July 2010	Raunds Saxon

Applicant **Joyton Indian Cuisine - Mrs R Miah**

Location **43 Brook Street, Raunds, Northamptonshire, NN9 6LL.**

Proposal **Change of use within an existing restaurant Use Class (A3) to include hot food takeaway Use Class (A5)**

Decision Application Permitted

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 parking area illustrated on the submitted site plan received by the local planning authority 07/05/10 shall be retained for the use of the development hereby permitted at all times.
Reason: To ensure appropriate on-site parking provision.
3. The takeaway element of the business shall only be open to customers between the hours of 17:30 to 23.00 Monday to Thursday, 17:30 to 12.00 midnight on Fridays and Saturday and 17:30 to 23:00 on Sundays.
Reason: To safeguard the amenities currently enjoyed by the occupants of nearby residential dwellings.
4. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans (15 and 1. Received by the Local Planning Authority on 07.05.10) unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.
5. Within 28 days of the date of this permission, a plan showing the area of the building to be used for the takeaway (A5) use hereby approved and the area to be retained for the use of the restaurant (A3) shall have been submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The use shall take place in accordance with the approved plan and retained in that manner, unless agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To clarify the terms of this permission.

EN/10/01025/OUT

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
2 June 2010 2 June 2010 1 September 2010 Thrapston Lakes

Applicant **Greatline Developments Ltd**

Agent **Roger Tym And Partners - Mr T Coleby**

Location **Vehicle Depot And Adjacent Land, Kettering Road, Islip, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Outline: Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment comprising 60320m2 (gross external) class B8 floorspace and 15010m2 (gross external) class B1 (C)/B2 floorspace together with associated roads, parking/servicing and landscaping (some matters reserved)**

Decision Deferred for site visit Thursday 9 December 2010

EN/10/01138/FUL

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
18 June 2010 20 September 2010 20 December 2010 Raunds Saxon

Applicant **Mr P Hughes**

Agent **Kingswood Design Ltd**

Location **35 Grove Street, Raunds, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Residential development of fourteen flats**

Decision deferred for site visit 9 December 2010

EN/10/01272/FUL

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
14 July 2010 14 July 2010 8 September 2010 Higham Ferrers Chichele

Applicant **F And L Group Ltd - Mr F Langley**

Agent **Sidey Design Architecture**

Location **28 Commercial Street, Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire, NN10 8AS.**

Proposal **Construction of seven two storey two bed residential units together with ten off-road parking spaces and associated private amenity space**

Decision Application Permitted

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 (1) samples of the materials to be used in the construction of

the external surfaces of the buildings hereby permitted and (2) details of the windows and external doors to be installed 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 details of the proposed ground and slab levels. The submitted details shall clearly show the ground and slab level relationship between the development site and the adjacent sites. 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.

4. 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 the parking layout (with the removal of the dedicated parking bays) and the proposed materials and surfacing of the car parking area, vehicle and pedestrian access and circulation areas, the private back yards and any other hard surfacing materials.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety and visual amenity.

5. None of the dwellings hereby permitted shall be occupied until space has been laid out and surfaced within the site, in accordance with plan 10/028/21 Rev A, for ten cars to be parked.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

6. Prior to the commencement of development hereby permitted, a sustainability strategy to include 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.

7. No external construction work shall be undertaken at the site other than between the hours of 8.00am and 6.00pm Mondays to Fridays, 8.00am to 1.00pm on Saturdays and not at all on Sundays and public bank holidays.

Reason: To ensure noisy operations are not undertaken during noise sensitive times, in the interests of the residential amenity of the existing nearby dwellings.

8. Prior to the commencement of development a method statement that includes details of measures to minimise noise and dust during construction works shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of the residential amenity of the existing nearby dwellings.

9. Before any of the dwellings hereby permitted is occupied, a sign shall be erected in the south east corner of the site to inform visitors of the private use of the access lane to the rear of the existing dwellings on Commercial Street, in accordance with details to be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.

10. Before any of the dwellings hereby permitted is occupied the improvement works to the adjacent highway shown on drawing 10/028/21 Rev A shall have been completed.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

11. The development shall be carried out in full accordance with the approved plans, 10/028/20 RevA and 10/028/21 RevA received by the planning authority on 7/10/2010, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to clarify the terms of this permission.

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
31 August 2010	31 August 2010	21 September 2010	Rushden Hayden

Applicant **Northamptonshire County Council**

Agent **GHM Rock Townsend - Mr N Ascione**

Location **Denfield Park Junior School, Victoria Road, Rushden, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Erection of single storey extensions to provide six new classrooms, new hall, WCs, stores, office and staff room, internal and external refurbishment works to the existing school and associated external works including a new covered play area, MUGA, car parking and a new vehicle access of John Clark way.**

Decision No Objection (Consultation Response)

Conditions/Reasons:

1. East Northamptonshire Council request that appropriate external materials be used for the construction of the extensions. For parts of the building which would be constructed in brickwork, East Northamptonshire Council request that these match the existing school building as closely as possible.
2. East Northamptonshire Council request that Northamptonshire County Council consider whether all traffic use could be restricted from Victoria Road and if an alternative route could be provided within the site to access the staff car park. If this cannot be achieved, East Northamptonshire Council would support the imposition of a condition to ensure that the vehicular access served off Victoria Road is used by staff only and the imposition of the other conditions recommended by the Local Highway Authority.
3. In the interest of preserving the residential amenities of the occupiers in the surrounding properties, East Northamptonshire Council wishes to see conditions imposed to control noise and light emissions, and in this regard, it supports the recommendations made by the Environmental Protection Officer.
4. East Northamptonshire Council recommends that all vegetation clearance work be carried out outside of the bird breeding season and that Natural England be contacted in the event that bats are discovered on the site.
5. The application seeks to remove a number of trees in the northern area of the site in order to accommodate the proposed access, turning and parking areas. Whilst East Northamptonshire Council has no objection to the removal of these trees, we would request that a condition be imposed to require a new landscaping scheme for this area.
6. East Northamptonshire Council wishes to see conditions imposed to ensure that tree protection is put in place, in accordance with the Tree Protection Plan, to protect the protected trees on-site prior to commencement of development, and that the development be undertaken in accordance with the submitted Arboricultural Method Statement.

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
21 October 2010 21 October 2010 11 November 2010

Applicant **Corby Borough Council**

Agent **Pegasus Planning Group - Mr S Bawtree**

Location **Land At St James Industrial Estate, Corby, Northamptonshire, .**

Proposal **Erection of a superstore, associated parking and servicing areas, petrol filling station, car wash facilities and infrastructure works including new and realigned roads and new landscaping**

Decision **Query/Consultation Answered**

Conditions/Reasons:

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date: 6 December 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:-

Richard Lewis (Chairman)
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith (Vice-Chairman)
Steven North (Leader of the Council)
Philip Hardcastle (Deputy Leader of the Council)

Wendy Brackenbury
Lisa Costello
Roger Glithero JP
Sylvia Hughes

Peter MacGovern
Andy Mercer
John Richardson MBE

298. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

299. APOLOGIES

Councillors David Brackenbury, Pauline Bradberry, Sean Lever and Glenn Harwood sent their apologies.

300. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Steven North declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 11 (Northamptonshire Sport – Financial Contributions) as the Council's representative on this body. He was not present during the discussion and voting on the item.

Councillor Peter MacGovern declared a personal interest in agenda item 8 (Changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Spire Homes) as one of the Council's representatives on the Board of Spire Homes. He remained in the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon.

301. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions.

302. WORKING PARTY MINUTES

The minutes of the following meetings were received:-

- (a) **Finance Working Party** - 17 November 2010 (see pages 427 to 428)
- (b) **Waste and Recycling Working Party** - 1 December 2010 (see pages 429 to 432)

The recommendation in Minute 8.3 of the Waste and Recycling Working Party was considered and it was

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation in Minute 8.3 of the Waste and Recycling Working Party (as outlined below) be approved:-

That the provision of a subsidy for membership of the Green Waste Club be extended until the termination of the existing waste collection contract.

303. CHANGE IN ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

RESOLVED:

That item 10 (Council Tax Base) be taken next in the proceedings.

304. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2011/12

Consideration was given to the estimated taxbase to be used for calculating the Council Tax for 2011/12. Once again, the provision for collection of Council Tax (99.2%) remained the highest in the County and despite the recession, the officers remained confident that this could be achieved.

R.7 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the Council determine a taxbase of 30,500 for 2011/12, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 at pages 425 to 426.

305. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION STRATEGY 2010 TO 2015

The Committee considered the above strategy, which sought to increase participation in sport and active recreation over the next 5 years and would be delivered by NSport, a partnership of all the district and borough councils, schools, youth clubs, sports governing bodies, police, health bodies, and universities and colleges. The strategy complemented the activities already undertaken by the Council such as the Greenway and Stanwick Lakes.

RESOLVED:

That the Northamptonshire Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2010 to 2015 be adopted.

306. LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS

The Chief Executive reported on the current position regarding Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), following the abolition of Regional Development Agencies. The government had approved proposals for the following LEPs but not one for Northamptonshire –

- South-East Midlands (SEMLEP)
- Greater Cambridge/Greater Peterborough (GCGP).

It was envisaged that LEPs would drive business, jobs and housing growth to support the local economy, with each LEP deciding how best to achieve this, supported by businesses. The precise role, governance, and administrative structures would be decided by each LEP but no core funding would be provided by the government and it was likely that contributions would be required from all partners.

In view of the geographical position of East Northamptonshire, it was felt sensible for the Council to be involved in discussions with both LEPs as they developed, and although it seemed unlikely that a Northamptonshire LEP would be approved, Members believed that the Council's options should remain open.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That both SEMLEP and GCGP be supported in principle.
- (2) That, should a Northamptonshire LEP be subsequently approved, the support in principle be also extended to that partnership.
- (3) That relevant officers and the Leader and Deputy Leader engage as appropriate in discussions with the LEPs as proposals for governance, administration and funding develop.
- (4) That a further report on the benefits and costs to the District of involvement in one or more LEPS be considered by the Committee once details become clear.

307. CHANGES TO THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF SPIRE HOMES

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting John Farrar and Lynn Stubbs from Spire Homes. Before Members considered this item, it was

RESOLVED:

That the representatives from Spire Homes be given the opportunity to address the meeting and answer Members' questions.

The Executive Director (SM) reported on proposed changes by Spire Homes to its Memorandum and Articles, to be considered at an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) on 21 January 2011. These were designed to make Spire Homes 'fit for purpose' and strengthen its governance arrangements.

Spire Homes proposed to –

- Obtain charitable status in 2011. This was seen as a positive step in maintaining its core business – concerned with providing good quality, affordable homes – and its tax liabilities would alter thus enabling money to be saved and invested for existing homes and services
- Reduce the number of its directors from 17 to 11 and recruit them on the basis of skill (with the traditional constituency groups no longer existing and therefore no guarantee of places for tenants although tenants would have a much stronger role via a robust tenant scrutiny framework)
- Pay its board as part of a new performance framework, to ensure it attracted and retained the right level of directors
- Ensure that the strategic working between it and the Council was sustained and improved by establishing quarterly meetings between the managing director and Chairman of Spire Homes and the Leader of the Council and ensure that the Scrutiny Committee would have the ability to oversee contracts run by Spire Homes on behalf of the Council.

Members expressed some concerns that the proposals to recruit directors purely on a skills basis appeared to disregard people who had the knowledge and understanding of the aspirations of the local community and could also represent the consumer. They felt that some of the directors recruited should possess these abilities and that Spire Homes should be asked to define the role of non-executive directors and specify the number of such directors.

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee and that, in the meantime, Councillors Philip Hardcastle, Andy Mercer and John Richardson, together with officers, engage with Spire Homes to discuss the most appropriate way of meeting the Council's concerns expressed in the preamble above.

308. TREASURY MANAGEMENT – HALF YEAR REPORT

The Committee received details of the Council's treasury activities for the period 1 April to 30 September 2010 to accord with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management 2009.

Members noted:-

- the economic conditions affecting the Council's investment strategy
- the officers' reassessment of expectations for interest rates and downward revision of estimates
- the Council had primarily adopted a strategy of keeping money liquid in either AAA rated money market funds and instant access accounts operated by banks with access to the Bank of England's credit guarantee scheme
- the average return on the Council's portfolio to date of 1.35%, which was 0.92% above the average 7 day LIBOR rate
- the amount of interest earned was £73,527 against an annual budget of £186,670 and it was anticipated that the Council would be about £50,000 below budget based on current market conditions.

309. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SPORT – FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Members considered a report recommending continued financial support for Northamptonshire Sport (NSport) – a partnership of all the district and borough councils in the County, youth clubs, sports governing bodies, police, health and universities and colleges working together to provide opportunities for everyone to be able to access and participate in sport and active recreation.

It was noted that a new Service Level Agreement (SLA) had been signed between NSport and the Council, covering the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2010. The Committee acknowledged the key initiatives developed by NSport in East Northamptonshire and that the financial contribution to the organisation represented good value for money.

RESOLVED:

That the sum of £7,500 be included in both the 2011/12 and 2012/13 budgets for the contributions to NSport through the SLA.

310. MASTERPLANNING ARRANGEMENTS FOR OUNDLE

Further to minute 209 (11 October 2010), the Executive Director (SM) presented a report on:

- the approach being taken on the Oundle 2020 Plan
- how funding for consultancy support complemented and extended work carried out on the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston (RNOT) Plan, and
- the details of the two proposed phases,

and she sought approval to the release of funding for the Phase One work.

The Committee noted that Phase One had two key elements –

- To consider and review a number of existing studies, strategies and plans to assess their continuing validity/accuracy and to identify and fill gaps in information, and
- To review the current traffic management in Oundle and potential condition of transport in 2020, based on the growth scenario set out in the current Core Spatial Strategy (subject to its own review).

The cost of these two elements was estimated at between £15,000 and £20,000. The Committee noted the detail on the Phase Two work, under the heads of Trade and Tourism and Oundle as a Rural Service Centre, and that some of the themes appeared to be emerging on other masterplanning exercises and may link to possible corporate plan priorities around sustainable communities. It was therefore proposed that consideration of this work be delayed until these exercises were more advanced.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That approval be given to the release of up to £20,000 from the Town Centre Regeneration Capital Allocation, for the work outlined in Phase One of the report, to enable the Oundle 2020 work on the Town Design Statement to proceed.

- (2) That a further report be made to the Committee on the district wide applicability of the work outlined in Phase Two, once the corporate plan priorities are agreed.

311. PERMISSIVE PATH DESIGNATION – COLLYWESTON

Members considered a report from the Head of Planning Services on the designation of two permissive paths across the Burghley Estate land at Collyweston. Following the dedication, by the Estate, of a new public footpath linking Collyweston with the road and footway to Ketton, and also to the public paths to Easton-on-the-Hill, the Estate was now proposing to create two paths to connect with Duddington and with other routes to Easton.

Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) considered that becoming a party to the agreement with the Estate would place it in conflict with its statutory roles as Highway Authority under the Highways Act 1980 and the Surveying Authority under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It therefore had asked this Council to consider entering into the agreement under the wellbeing powers in section 2(1) (b) of the Local Government Act 2000. The proposal would fit with the aims of the Council's Sustainable Communities Strategy.

The Head of Planning Services undertook to clarify the period of the agreement.

RESOLVED:

That authority be given for the Council to enter into Permissive Path Agreements for the routes across the Burghley Estate land at Collyeston.

312. PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES REGULATIONS

The Committee was reminded that Environmental Services were responsible for ensuring the wholesomeness of the 26 private water supplies in the District. The Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009 had come into force in January 2010 and earlier regulations had been revoked. The new regulations had introduced new requirements for sampling and assessing supplies (including the carrying out of risk assessments) and enabled charges to be made and enforced against owners of unwholesome supplies.

It was proposed that the Council introduce a standard charge of £100 to an occupier of a private supply for undertaking sampling – to cover the cost of analysis, officers' time and any necessary retest. It was also proposed to charge £100 for undertaking a risk assessment but where owners completed and returned the self assessment no charge would be made.

Authority was also sought to adopt the legislation and delegate the responsibility for carrying out the provisions of the Regulations to the relevant officers.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the new responsibilities placed on the Council under the new Private Water Supplies Regulations be noted.
- (2) That the costs of sampling and completion of the risk assessments be recharged to the owner of the private water supply as follows:-

Sampling - £100

Risk assessment £100 but no charge in cases where owners complete and return the risk assessment

It was further

R.8 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

- (1) That the Council adopt the Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009 and that officers be authorised, where necessary and applicable, to issue authorisations or serve a legal notice to ensure works are completed in cases where private water supplies fail.
- (2) That the Executive Director be authorised to specify the officers to administer the Regulations, subject to:-
 - (a) a central record being kept and Part 3.1 of the Constitution (Delegation to Officers) being amended, and
 - (b) Ward Members being notified of action taken under delegated powers.

313. UPDATE TO SCHEME OF DELEGATION

A report from the Commercial Health Manager was received, indicating that the Environmental Services teams of the local authorities in Northamptonshire had reviewed the legislation they were authorised to use. This had highlighted some areas of legislation missing from the Council's existing Scheme of Delegation:-

- Animal Health Act 1981 – administration of Orders made by the government
- Animal Health & Welfare Act 1984 – Seizure for the purpose of preventing the spread of disease
- Animal welfare Act 2006 – Action to deal with the mistreatment of animals; links to licensing of pet shops, dog breeding and riding establishments and power to check licence conditions
- Caravan Sites Act 1968 – Prevention of eviction from caravan sites and other provisions to benefit owners
- Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Act 1997 – Prohibition of persons from having in their possession or custody dogs belonging to types bred for fighting and imposition of restrictions relating thereto; provisions for securing that dogs are kept under proper control
- Disability Discrimination Act 1995 – Commencement order expected late this year giving powers around accessibility in taxis and enabling conditions to be placed on licences
- Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2010 – Replacing the 2007 regulations and allowing the permitting of industrial operations that pollute the environment and giving enforcement powers
- Guard Dogs Act 1975 – Regulating the keeping of guard dogs and allowing licensing of kennels for keeping guard dogs
- National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951 – Covering the removal of a person from society into a hospital subject to approval of a medical officer
- Protection from Eviction Act 1977 – Regulating unlawful evictions and harassment of occupiers by landlords and giving powers to prosecute for offences
- Waste Minimisation Act 1998 – Making arrangements to minimise the generation of waste

- The Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations 2009 - Imposing obligations on operators of economic activities requiring the prevention limitation or remediation of environmental damage
- Pollution and Prevention Control Act 1999 – Preventing and controlling pollution, and expired disposal or waste management licences and permits for permitted processes.

R.9 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the Council adopts the above legislation and that the Executive Director be authorised to specify the officers to administer the legislation, subject to a central record being kept and Part 3.1 of the Constitution (Delegation to Officers) being amended.

314. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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 paragraphs 2 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

315. ADDITIONAL ITEM

The Chairman agreed, under Section 100 (B) (4) (b), that the next item in the proceedings (Council Response to threat of judicial review of decision to defer Creed Road, Oundle Planning Application) be added to the agenda because a decision was required urgently and in advance of the next scheduled meeting of the Committee.

316. COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THREAT OF JUDICIAL REVIEW OF DECISION TO DEFER CREED ROAD, OUNDLE PLANNING APPLICATION

The Executive Director (SM) reported on the response by The Planning Law Practice (PLP) as agents acting for Persimmon Homes to the decision of the Development Control Committee, on 29 September 2010, to defer the decision on the planning application for the development of 145 houses at the end of Creed Road, Oundle. Their clients were proposing to commence Judicial Review proceedings against the Council in relation to the Council's failure to determine the application.

The Committee had before it the letter from the agents; a further letter from Hegarty LLP, solicitors acting on behalf of Persimmon Homes; a letter from the Head of Planning Services earlier this year to John Martin Associates, who also acted for the developers; and Counsel's Opinion as sought by the Council, and received from Iain Colville.

It was noted that a further application for the development had been submitted in November 2010. This was similar to the original application with the exception of no proposal of section 106 funding towards the Oundle 2020 Town Plan. If the latest application was not determined by 20 January 2010, the developers could appeal to the Secretary of State for non-determination.

In the light of the Counsel's Opinion, which felt that the Council could successfully resist any judicial review, it was

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Council takes no immediate action on the basis that the reasons for the deferral in September 2010 are still valid and the developer has an alternative remedy via the determination of the second application.
- (2) That PLP and Hegarty LLP be informed that the Council considers there is a satisfactory alternative remedy, i.e. considering the second application, and that the Council would contest any application for Judicial Review on that basis.

317. PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee received the minutes of the Personnel Sub-Committee meeting held on 30 November 2010 which are attached at pages 433 to 435 and form part of this minute.

Consideration was given to the recommendations in Minutes 4.3 and 7.1, and a small amendment was proposed to recommendation (2) in minute 4.3.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation in minute 7.1, as outlined below, be approved:-

That option 5 in Staff Proposal (1) be chosen and that the recommendations presented to the Sub-Committee be adopted, with a further report being submitted to confirm the action that has been taken

It was further

R.10 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the recommendations in the following minutes of the Personnel Sub-Committee (as amended by the Committee) be approved:-

Minute 4.3

- (1) *That the changes set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes be approved.*
- (2) *That the authority given to the Monitoring Officer during the review of the Council's Constitution to make adjustments to the Constitution to reflect changes to structure and internal arrangements be extended to cover the further adjustments resulting from the changes to the Sub-Committee's amended Terms of Reference, and management changes, subject to the concurrence of the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee.*
- (3) *That the changes to the Terms of Reference be reflected in Section 10 of the Council's Redundancy Policy.*

Chairman

Appendix 1 to Policy & Resources Committee Minute 304

Estimated Taxbase 2011/12

BAND	Band A Disabled	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	TOTAL
Dwellings		9,152	10,100	5,929	4,801	3,536	2,211	1,321	133	37,183
Exemptions		333	212	140	105	86	69	44	1	990
Disabled Relief		12	30	27	23	27	25	16	6	166
Disabled Relief	12	30	27	23	27	25	16	6		166
Chargeable Dwellings	12	8,837	9,885	5,785	4,700	3,448	2,133	1,267	126	36,193
Discounts - Single		3,840	3,483	1,605	941	517	237	148	10	10,781
Discounts - Disregard		167	92	100	55	27	17	18	9	485
Dwellings - no discount	12	4,830	6,310	4,080	3,704	2,904	1,879	1,101	107	24,927
Other adjustments		0			93					93
Total equivalent dwellings	12	7,793.50	8,968.25	5,333.75	4,530.25	3,305.25	2,065.25	1,221.00	119.00	33,348.25
	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	1	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
BAND D EQUIVALENTS	8.00	5195.67	6975.31	4741.11	4530.25	4039.75	2983.14	2035.00	238.00	30746.22

Total Band D	30746
Collection Rate	0.992
Tax Base	30500

Appendix 2 to Policy & Resources Minute 304

Estimated Parish Taxbase 2011/12

Parish	Taxbase	Parish	Taxbase
Aldwinckle	155	Stoke Doyle	36
Apethorpe	95	Sudborough	101
Ashton	103	Tansor	94
Barnwell	175	Thorpe Achurch	76
Benefield	164	Thrapston	2115
Blatherwycke	29	Thurning	49
Brigstock	539	Titchmarsh	242
Bulwick	81	Twywell	83
Chelveston	168	Wadenhoe	61
Clopton	59	Wakerley	41
Collyweston	223	Warmington	414
Cotterstock	85	Woodford	515
Deene	24	Woodnewton	225
Deenethorpe	62	Yarwell	141
Denford	130		
Duddington	82	Total Taxbase	30,500
Easton-on-the-Hill	446		
Fineshade	18		
Fotheringhay	71		
Glaphorn	131		
Great Addington	135		
Hargrave	118		
Harringworth	132		
Hemington	43		
Higham Ferrers	2743		
Irthlingborough	2706		
Islip	294		
King's Cliffe	489		
Laxton	63		
Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe	51		
Little Addington	136		
Lowick	135		
Luddington	30		
Lutton	52		
Nassington	327		
Newton Bromswold	27		
Oundle	2042		
Pilton	31		
Polebrook	197		
Raunds	2761		
Stanwick	701		
Ringstead	501		
Rushden	9673		
Southwick	80		



Finance Working Party

MINUTES

Held on:	17 November 2010
Time:	7.30pm
Place:	East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston
Present:	Councillors: Glenn Harwood (Chairman) (GH), David Bateman (DB), Roger Glithero JP, Glenvil Greenwood-Smith, Philip Hardcastle, Richard Lewis, Steven North, John Richardson MBE

1. **APOLOGIES**

The Finance Manager, Rosanne Fleming, sent her apologies.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared.

3. **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

The Working Party received the revenue budget monitoring report comparing the actual spend on revenue items from 1 April to 30 September 2010, with the approved budgets for 2010/11.

The Chief Finance Officer reported that on 30 September 2010, the total anticipated overspend for 2010/11 was £315,000 and advised Members of the main variations which were under and over budget. He stated that officers were exercising financial constraint and more savings were expected by the end of the year.

The Working Party noted the:

- expected overall underspend on salary budgets would be £235,000, mainly achieved by reviewing all vacancies
- cost of the management restructure was being monitored and the estimated savings would be £152,000 and £177,000 in the full year. However, these savings would be reduced by one off costs, including redundancy payments, additional pension

contributions and career support packages totalling £115,000, leaving a net saving of approximately £37,000 in 2010/11

- items approved from Contingency by the Chief Finance Officer, or the Policy and Resources Committee
- Contingency Reserve could be reduced for 2011/12.

Members noted the variations reported and that no further action was required at this stage of the financial year.

4. CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Members considered the capital budget monitoring report comparing the actual spend on capital items from 1 April to 30 September 2010, with the revised budgets for 2010/11.

The capital budget for 2010/11 had been reviewed and revised to £3,035,240 at the Finance Sub Committee meeting in September.

The Chief Finance Officer reported that the projected underspend for 2010/11 would be £140,000. However, it was anticipated that £99,000 would be rolled forward to 2011/12 leaving an estimated underspend of £41,000 in the capital programme.

The Working Party noted the reasons for the variations between the projected outturn and revised budget and that the revised capital programme would be reported to the Working Party meeting in January 2011.

Members noted the projected outturn in 2010/11 and that there was no requirement to take any further action.

Chairman



Waste & Recycling Working Party

MINUTES

Held on:	1 December 2010
Time:	10.30am
Place:	CHG2, East Northamptonshire Council, Thrapston
Present:	<p>Councillors: Glenn Harwood (Chairman) (GH), David Bateman (DB), Roger Glithero (RG), Steven North (SN), Clive Wood (CW).</p> <p>Officers: Mike Bailey (MB) Waste Management (Education), Mike Deacon (MD) Head of Environmental Services, Rachel Reeds (RR) Democratic Services (Minutes)</p>

Action

1.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

1.1 Councillor Glenn Harwood was elected chairman of the working party.

2.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 Councillor Clive Wood was welcomed to his first meeting as a member of the working party. Councillors David Brackenbury, Marian Hollomon, Richard Lewis, Peter MacGovern, Duncan Reid and Charlotte Tompkins (Waste Manager) sent their apologies.

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Councillor Roger Glithero, Councillor Glenn Harwood, Mike Bailey – Waste Management Officer (Education) and Mark Lovell – Executive Director declared personal interests because they were members of the Green Waste Club.

4.0 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

4.1 Councillor Duncan Reid was elected vice-chairman of the working party.

5.0 MINUTES

CT

	Action	
5.1	The minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2010 were approved as a true record.	
5.2	Minute 4.6 (Household Waste and Recycling Centres contract) – GH and SN had raised concerns at the last Northamptonshire Waste Partnership (NWP) meeting that Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) might not be proceeding with improvements to the Northampton Road site in Rushden and that it was not intending to alter the internal layout to allow for better traffic flow (causing build up on the highway). GH to demonstrate (with past papers/emails) at the next NWP meeting that members had been told that improvements would alleviate the problems on the highway. It was agreed that the Chairman and Leader would arrange a meeting to discuss these concerns with the Portfolio Holder for Environment at NCC, Cllr Heather Smith. The working party asked if officers had estimates for the volume of waste and traffic at the Newton Road site. MB to forward tonnage estimates to GH to illustrate to Cllr Smith the increase in volume that will go to the Northampton Road site when the Newton Road site is closed.	GH GH/SN MB
5.3	Minute 7.2 (Site Waste Management Plans Regulations) – Members raised concerns that the anticipated liaison between Planning and Environmental Services on the implementation of the legislation was not happening as expected. It had been observed that conditions for Site Waste Management Plans were not being included in officers’ reports to the Development Control Committee. MD to investigate.	MD
6.0	<u>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP</u>	
6.1	It was reported that it had been announced on 30 November that NCC and Milton Keynes Council’s (MKC) project REDUCE procurement process for the disposal of residual waste for 25 years from 2014 had been abandoned due to the withdrawal of PFI funding by the Government. Referring to an email received by the Chief Executive from the Corporate Director at NCC, MD explained that NCC was still intending to procure contracts for the disposal of residual waste jointly with MKC and to develop a shared service capacity. However, the new option would be to have a smaller number of short term contracts. The Leaders and Chief Executives’ group would be meeting to discuss the way forward at its next meeting.	
6.2	GH and SN (ENC’s representatives on the NWP) had made a forceful case at the last NWP meeting for the involvement of districts and boroughs in future decisions on waste disposal and had also suggested the possibility of NCC handing over waste disposal powers to the districts and boroughs. SN was concerned that East Northamptonshire Council (ENC) would be asked to raise its annual volume of collected residual waste to meet the targets of short terms contracts in a time when authorities need to reduce the amount of residual waste.	
6.3	It was noted that membership of the NWP cost ENC £30,000 a year and Members discussed whether to continue membership of the partnership. During the discussion the following points were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NWP was no longer a decision-making body and that the partners were not consulted fully. • ENC was paying for the executive officer and administrative costs of running the NWP. 	

Action

- Advantages of continuing membership included pooled resources and the waste education bus and officers.
- NCC would likely still be under an obligation to provide waste education even if ENC was not part of the NWP and, regardless, NCC would have spare capacity on bus which would enable ENC to possibly buy in some level of service
- All bidders for ENC's new contract had pledged to roll out educational programmes.
- Neighbouring boroughs might be interested in co-operative working at a lesser cost than the NWP membership fee.

- 6.4 The working party **agreed** that a report should be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee meeting in January setting out the background to the NWP, what ENC had got from its membership in the past, future aims of the partnership and likely costs. **MD/RR**

7.0 WASTE CONTRACT PROCUREMENT UPDATE

- 7.1 MD reported that submissions had been received from the four remaining bidders and the tenders were currently being evaluated by officers and members of the Waste Contract Project Board. A report would be considered by the Policy and Resources Committee in January to enable recommendations to be considered at the Council meeting in February.

- 7.2 Communications would be a significant part of the next phase of the project. A communications plan had been prepared and a team had been put together. The working party **agreed** that the Chairman should be the working party's representative in the communications team. **MD/CT**

- 7.3 An article would be appearing in the next edition of the Nene Valley News (NVN) explaining the stage reached by ENC in the procurement process and that all proposed solutions include wheeled bins although in certain areas wheeled bins would not be suitable and the contractors had put forward other options. The article would also set out some of the costs of waste collection and disposal, especially of residual waste to landfill, to educate the public.

- 7.4 It was anticipated that some feedback would be received and, with board members, officers had prepared a long list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) that would be provided to the contact centre and published on the website. Members were encouraged to feed back to the communications team, officers and other members any additional questions received from constituents to enable the FAQs to be added to and updated. Regular briefings would also be provided for members when officers and the board had information to share.

8.0 PROVISION OF GREEN WASTE COLLECTIONS

- 8.1 Members discussed the extension of the current green waste collection contract and subsidy until the start of the new waste contract (which would include provision for the collection of green waste) in August 2011. Members **agreed** that the contract should continue but debated whether the subsidy should continue to be provided. **MD/CT**

8.2 It was noted that there was no current budget provision for the extension of the subsidy to August 2011 and that it would cost £16,500. Members understood that savings needed to be made and that ENC had agreed to a policy of not allowing growth bids but debated the impact of removing the subsidy for that period of time. Concerns were raised that removing the subsidy would have a detrimental political and public relations impact for ENC, particularly as membership of the Green Waste Club and tonnages collected had increased noticeably this year. It was also felt that removal of the subsidy would risk negatively impacting upon the roll out of the new waste and recycling collection services.

8.3 After careful consideration it was

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the provision of a subsidy for membership of the Green Waste Club be extended until the termination of the existing waste collection contract.



Personnel Sub-Committee

Minutes of a meeting held on 30 November 2010 at 2.00 pm at East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston

Present:

Councillors

Roger Glithero (Chairman)
Steven North (Leader of the Council)
Philip Hardcastle (Deputy Leader of the Council)

Wendy Brackenbury
Sylvia Hughes

David Oliver
Katy Everitt
Keith Osborne

Chief Executive (DO)
Head of Resources and Organisational Development (KE)
Democratic Services Officer (KO)

Action

1.0 **MINUTES**

1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

2.0 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2.1 Councillor Lisa Costello sent her apologies.

3.0 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/QUESTIONS**

3.1 There were no declarations by, or questions from, Members.

4.0 **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

4.1 Further to minute 7.3 of the last meeting, Members reviewed the Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee.

4.2 Members recognised that the officer structure had changed and that the Chief Officers and Heads of Service now worked together as CMT. It was further acknowledged that there was a need for some decisions to be taken without delay and the scheduling of Policy and Resources Committee meetings was not always conducive to this. It was considered that these factors justified further delegation to the Sub-Committee.

4.3 It was noted, however, that changes to the Terms of Reference would have implications for the Constitution and the Council's Redundancy Policy.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

- (1) That the changes set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes be approved. **KO/RR**
- (2) That the authority given to the Monitoring Officer during the review of the Council's Constitution to make adjustments to the Constitution to reflect changes to structure and internal arrangements be extended to cover the further adjustments resulting from the changes to the Sub-Committee's amended Terms of Reference, subject to the concurrence of the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee. **SM/KO/RR**
- (3) That the changes to the Terms of Reference be reflected in Section 10 of the Council's Redundancy Policy. **KE/KO**

5.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 5.1 The next meeting was scheduled for 1 February 2011 although an earlier meeting may be necessary. **KO**

6.0 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

6.1 RESOLVED:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

7.0 STAFFING PROPOSALS.

- 7.1 DO and KE submitted two reports on staffing proposals.

RESOLVED:

That Staff Proposal (2) in item 8 be progressed to the next stage, with a view to it being implemented by 31 July 2011. **KE**

It was further

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That option 5 in Staff Proposal (1) be chosen and that the recommendations presented to the Sub-Committee be adopted, with a further report being submitted to confirm the action that has been taken. **DO**

Chairman

Personnel Sub Committee – Terms of Reference

Approved by Council - 1 March 2007 - Minute 391

Proposed changes in bold italics

The Personnel Sub Committee is a standing sub committee comprising 5 6 members of the Council's Policy & Resources Committee established to determine matters relating to personnel and the health and safety of Council employees.

Terms of Reference:

- 1 To consider and determine matters relating to salaries and conditions of service, and health and safety and employment policies relating to all employees of the Council.
- 2 In line with the Council's strategic objectives, to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee, any changes in the Council's establishment resulting from a management review of the structure.
- 3 To receive reports from the Chief Executive on changes in the Council's staff and recommendations relating to training.
- 4 To consider and make recommendations to the Policy and Resources Committee on the appointment of the Chief Officers ***and Heads of Service (two Members of the Sub-Committee – with a reserve Member - to be appointed to an Interview Panel)*** and on any matter relating to the conditions of employment of the Chief Executive, Chief Officers ***and Heads of Service.***
- 5 To make recommendations to the full Council on the appointment or dismissal of the Chief Executive/Head of the Paid Service and on the dismissal of the Chief Officers ***and Heads of Service.***
- 6 ***To consider and approve proposals under the Council's Redundancy Policy for staff below the level of Head of Service.***

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: 15 December 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: - Phil Stearn (Chairman)

David Bateman
Tony Boto
Richard Gell
Marian Hollomon
Dudley Hughes
Barbara Jenney

Gill Mercer
Brian Northall
Duncan Reid
Ron Silver
Clive Wood

318. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

319. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Peter Bedford, Michael Finch and Sarah Peacock sent apologies.

320. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

321. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP) CONSULTATION

The Committee received a presentation from Shaun Hallam, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service's IRMP Programme Manager, on the IRMP 2011 Update & Review Consultation. Last year the Council had received a presentation on the 2010-2013 Strategic Plan which detailed what improvements the Service would be addressing in the next three years. This year, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service had produced an update and review document which was open for consultation until 4 January.

322. ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER

The Council's External Auditor, Neil Bellamy, and the Audit Manager, Yola Geen, presented the Annual Audit Letter 2009/10, which summarised the external auditor's findings from the 2009/10 audit. The Letter included the results of the audit of the Council's financial statements and the auditor's assessment of the Council's arrangements to achieve value for money in its use of resources. The Committee asked questions and noted that the auditor's conclusions were all positive and no issues were raised.

RESOLVED:

That the 2009/10 Annual Audit Letter (attached at pages 440 to 455 be received).

323. PROPOSED REPORTING FRAMEWORK

The Committee considered a report which identified a proposed framework for submission of performance data, previously reported to the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the Performance Working Party, to the Scrutiny Committee and associated training schedule. The proposed framework would

- reflect changes to the Council's committee structure
- ensure the Scrutiny Committee receives an appropriate level of information to ensure it can fulfil its role effectively
- work alongside the Council's management performance reporting framework, which included quarterly performance clinics.

It was proposed that two members of the Committee become Performance Leads in the areas of audit and risk, and national and local indicators. These Leads would attend the quarterly performance clinics. It was expected that the type of issues to be reported to the Scrutiny Committee from the quarterly performance clinics would be:

- High level risks from the Council's risk management system, 4Risk, where actions to mitigate have not been completed on time.
- High level internal audit recommendations that have not been implemented on time.
- Emerging financial risks and significant budget variances
- National or local performance indicators which are consistently not achieved.
- Key service area achievements.

In addition, it was proposed that the Scrutiny Committee would receive a quarterly summary of the internal audit reports issued.

The Committee discussed the proposals and asked that they be reviewed after the first performance clinic.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the proposed Scrutiny Committee performance reporting framework (including report format) be approved.
- (2) That Councillor Dudley Hughes be appointed Performance Lead - audit and risk.
- (3) That Councillor Sarah Peacock be appointed Performance Lead - national and local indicators.
- (4) That the proposed training schedule be approved.
- (5) That the Scrutiny Committee's Terms of Reference be updated to reflect the changes in the committee structures and the reporting of performance.

324. AREA BASED INITIATIVE – RUSHDEN HAYDEN

Members were updated on progress and achievements made with the Area Based Initiative (ABI) that took place in Rushden Hayden through a report and presentation. Throughout the first year (2009) various practical and family orientated events, such as tidy up days, were held so people could understand the opportunities the ABI offered. These events were part of a theme called 'Love your Neighbourhood', which encouraged people to say what they valued and the areas they felt needed improving. Local residents had been asked a number of questions through a doorstep survey in September 2009, which provided the baseline so improvement could be measured over the life of the project. Five priorities had emerged that local people wanted the ABI to tackle over years two and three, and officers illustrated what had been achieved on each:

- Improve Trafford Park
- Improve the way the area looks
- Provide more activities for young people
- Reduce anti-social behaviour in the area
- Improve roads and parking

The Community Development team, partners and Hayden FLAG community group were commended for their work. It was hoped that what had been learnt from the Rushden Hayden and Rushden Pemberton ABIs would inform future community development work and influence the Council's approach to the Big Society agenda.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

325. REVIEW OF SECTION 106 (s106) AGREEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Head of Planning Services updated the Committee in relation to the current position on Section 106 agreements and related monitoring arrangements. The previous scrutiny review in 2004 stemmed from concerns over the robustness of the council's monitoring arrangements, together with the nature of accounting and collection arrangements. An update report was presented to Scrutiny Committee in February 2006 and at that time all recommendations other than 20 and 21 had been completed. The latest report provided to the Scrutiny Committee had been in April 2009. Members had noted the further improvements to processes since the review.

Members were informed of the three main changes since the last report, which were

1. the placing of the planning obligation tests onto a statutory footing (the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy);
2. changes to the Section 106 monitoring post arrangements; and
3. the level of contributions that the Council was able to secure due to the impact of the recession on development viability.

Members were concerned that performance had dipped slightly but noted that the fall was not significant and would be addressed through future structural changes. The Committee was keen to ensure performance did not drop further and asked the Head of Planning Services to ask for the Scrutiny Committee's help if needed.

RESOLVED:

That the current position in relation to Section 106 agreement monitoring arrangements and related issues be noted and that an update report be brought to the Committee in three months.

Chairman

Annual Audit Letter

East Northamptonshire Council

Audit 2009/10

The Audit Commission is an independent watchdog, driving economy, efficiency and effectiveness in local public services to deliver better outcomes for everyone.

Our work across local government, health, housing, community safety and fire and rescue services means that we have a unique perspective. We promote value for money for taxpayers, auditing the £200 billion spent by 11,000 local public bodies.

As a force for improvement, we work in partnership to assess local public services and make practical recommendations for promoting a better quality of life for local people.

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Key messages

This report summarises my findings from the 2009/10 audit. My audit comprises two elements:

- **the audit of your financial statements (page 4); and**
- **my assessment of your arrangements to achieve value for money in your use of resources (pages 5 to 8).**

Audit opinion and financial statements

1 I issued an unqualified opinion on the Council's 2009/10 financial statements on 5 October 2010. Along with five other district councils in Northamptonshire the opinion was delayed as due to the late receipt of assurances from the pension fund auditor.

3 The arrangements to produce the financial statements were sound, but my staff identified errors in the records supporting figures for fixed assets. Officers corrected these.

4 The Council is on track to produce IFRS-compliant accounts for 2010/11 by 30 June 2010.

Value for money

5 I concluded the Council has put in place adequate arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources and issued an unqualified value for money conclusion on 5 October 2010.

Current and future challenges

6 Across the country, councils face severe and long-term social and financial challenges over the next few years.

7 District councils have already had to deal with reduced income from fees and charges. Councils have in-year cuts in government grant from 2010/11 and now face a 26 per cent reduction in central government funding over the next four years following the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review.

8 For councils, the challenge will be to manage services as income from central government falls and to make tough choices on how services are to be delivered within reduced allocations as there will be few opportunities to raise income from fees and charges until the economy strengthens.

9 The Council considered the effect of the CSR on its medium term financial strategy at the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on 8 November 2010. Figures provided by the Chief Financial Officer showed that the Council's own assumptions made in July were more severe than those contained in the CSR, but that without further action to reduce annual expenditure the Council's reserves will be completely spent by 2013/14. The Council is assessing ways to reduce expenditure over the period.

Financial statements and annual governance statement

The Council's financial statements and annual governance statement are an important means by which the Council accounts for its stewardship of public funds.

I gave an unqualified opinion on the Council's 2009/10 financial statements on 5 October 2010.

Overall conclusion from the audit

10 I issued an unqualified opinion on the Council's 2009/10 financial statements on 5 October 2010. Along with five other district councils in Northamptonshire the opinion was delayed due to the late receipt of assurances from the pension fund auditor.

11 The financial statements presented for audit contained three material errors, arising from new accounting requirements for collection fund debtors and creditors.

12 The arrangements to produce the financial statements were sound, but my staff identified errors in the records supporting figures for fixed assets. Officers corrected these.

Significant weaknesses in internal control

13 I did not identify any significant weaknesses in your internal control arrangements.

Readiness for IFRS

14 During the year, I reviewed the Council's preparations for the introduction of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) from 2010/11. The Council is on track to produce IFRS-compliant accounts for 2010/11 by 30 June 2010. It has reviewed its contractual arrangements and contracts to identify whether there are any assets that need to be accounted for by the Council and has already restated its opening balance sheet on an IFRS basis in preparation for this.

Value for money

I considered whether the Council is managing and using its money, time and people to deliver value for money.

I assessed your performance against the criteria specified by the Audit Commission and have reported the outcome as the value for money (VFM) conclusion.

2009/10 use of resources assessments

15 At the end of May 2010, the Commission wrote to all chief executives to inform them that following the government's announcement, work on CAA would cease with immediate effect and the Commission would no longer issue scores for its use of resources assessments.

16 However, I am still required by the Code of Audit Practice to issue a value for money conclusion. I have therefore used the results of the work completed on the use of resources assessment up to the end of May to inform my 2009/10 conclusion.

17 I report the significant findings from the work I have carried out to support the VFM conclusion.

VFM conclusion

18 I assessed your arrangements to achieve economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of money, time and people against criteria specified by the Audit Commission. The Audit Commission specifies each year, which Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE) are the relevant criteria for the VFM conclusion at each type of audited body.

19 I issued an unqualified conclusion stating the Council had satisfactory arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources on 5 October 2010.

20 There is a summary of my findings overleaf.

Criteria	Adequate arrangements?
Managing finances	
Planning for financial health	Yes
Understanding costs and achieving efficiencies	Yes
Financial reporting	Yes
Governing the business	
Commissioning and procurement	Yes
Use of information	Yes
Good governance	Yes
Risk management and internal control	Yes
Managing resources	
Natural resources	Yes
Workforce	Yes

21 I reported my conclusions on each of the relevant areas to the Council in my Annual Governance Report but the key findings are summarised below.

Managing finances

22 Financial and corporate planning processes are effectively integrated. The new SCS and Corporate Plan are clearly the key drivers for the service planning process. Members ensure that the plans are affordable and that they continue to enable the Council to achieve its desired outcomes.

23 The Council has a clear understanding of its costs derived through the periodic re-letting of its major contracts and an ongoing assessment of its residual overheads. Shared services arrangements have delivered increased resilience, such as in ICT and finance and therefore more capacity and cost savings.

24 Budget monitoring information is reliable, relevant and understandable, produced on a regular and timely basis, and prompt action is taken to address variances. The reports to the Performance Panel do not demonstrate the linkages between performance and relative cost.

Governing the business

25 Good measures are in place to improve procurement and commissioning that reflect local needs and deliver sustainable outcomes. Effective consultation is supporting the delivery of improved value for money and better outcomes for the community. Better quality customer service and value for money are supported by appropriate investment in technology. Alternative options for procurement are well-developed. The Council uses established partnerships, such as the Welland Procurement Partnership, to maximise its understanding of supply markets.

26 The Council has taken a consistent, robust and effective approach to ensuring data quality over several years. The Audit and Risk Management Committee has oversight of the Council's Data Quality Strategy, and positive progress has been delivered across a range of key areas. The Council demonstrates a clear understanding of the information needs of its decision makers.

28 East Northamptonshire has a formally defined framework for managing and monitoring potential risks, although there are opportunities for refinement and improvement. Management of risk is now embedded within the knowledge, skills and behaviours framework for officers. This strengthens accountability for effective risk management by all staff.

Managing resources

29 The Council has established baselines for the key areas to identify its impact on all aspects of the environment. It is in the process of developing a Use of Natural Resources Strategy which will set out its commitment to reducing its energy consumption and use of natural resources and reduce costs. Active steps have been taken to reduce carbon emissions and improve biodiversity. The Council is working actively with the Wildlife Trust to get additional wildlife sites into positive conservation management. The East Northamptonshire return for 2008/09 was more than twice the percentage of the next highest district within Northamptonshire.

30 The Council is addressing the basics of workforce development effectively, with robust future plans in place to strengthen its approach in this area. It has developed an effective framework to ensure that staff skills are fit for purpose to deliver its priorities. It has a positive track record of effectively engaging staff in organisational change.

Approach to local value for money work from 2010/11

31 Given the scale of pressures facing public bodies in the current economic climate, the Audit Commission has been reviewing its work programme for 2010/11 onwards. This review has included discussions with key stakeholders of possible options for a new approach to local value for money (VFM) audit work. The Commission aims to introduce a new, more targeted and better value approach to our local VFM audit work.

32 My work will be based on a reduced number reporting criteria, specified by the Commission, concentrating on:

- securing financial resilience; and
- prioritising resources within tighter budgets.

33 I will determine a local programme of VFM audit work based on my audit risk assessment, informed by these criteria and my statutory responsibilities. I will no longer be required to provide an annual scored judgement relating to my local VFM audit work. Instead I will report the results of all my local VFM audit work and the key messages for the Council in my annual report to those charged with governance and in my annual audit letter.

Current and future challenges

Financial position

34 Across the country, councils face severe and long-term social and financial challenges over the next few years. Demand for local services is growing and demographic change, particularly an ageing population, places increased pressure on local services.

35 District councils have already had to deal with reduced income from fees and charges. Reduced economic activity has cut income from planning fees, rents, car park charges and capital receipts. Councils have in-year cuts in government grant from 2010/11 and, following the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), face a 26 per cent reduction in central government funding over the next four years with the biggest reduction coming in the earlier years.

36 The government plans to eliminate the structural deficit by 2015/16. Public spending will have to fall and councils are expected to play a major part in helping to reduce the deficit.

37 Some of the reforms announced in the CSR include:

- a settlement for local government that increases local authorities' freedom to manage their budgets;
- the devolution of financial control to local authorities. Ring fencing of the majority of local government revenue grants will end from 2011/12 and, nationally, more than £4 billion of revenue grants will be rolled into formula grant;
- funding to enable local authorities to freeze their council tax in 2011/12; and
- a 10 per cent reduction in spending on council tax benefit.

38 For councils, the challenge will be to manage services as income from central government falls and to make tough choices on how services are to be delivered within reduced allocations as there will be few opportunities to raise income from fees and charges until the economy strengthens.

39 The Council considered the effect of the CSR on its medium term financial strategy at the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on 8 November 2010. Figures provided by the Chief Financial Officer showed that the Council's own assumptions made in July were more severe than those contained in the CSR, but that without further action to reduce annual expenditure the Council's reserves will be completely spent by 2013/14. The Council is assessing ways to reduce expenditure over the period.

40 At the same time, the Government is ending the previous top-down performance framework for councils including the requirement to report nationally on local area agreement targets. The Government is to work with councils to reduce the amount of data local government is asked to collect by central government, and develop a single, comprehensive list, to be reviewed annually.

Future developments

41 At its meeting in October 2010 the Policy and Resources Committee accepted the report of the Scrutiny Review Group and resolved to recommend to Council the abolition of the Audit and Risk Management Committee, and that the powers and responsibility of this committee be transferred to the Scrutiny Committee.

42 The Audit and Risk Management Committee had acted for the Council as 'Those Charged with Governance' and given the responsibility of approving the Council's annual accounts and accepting reports from the external auditor. These are not functions which can be exercised by a scrutiny committee, the remit for which is clearly laid down in the Local Government Act 2003.

43 The Council will need to ensure that the above responsibilities are now exercised either by an alternative, full committee of the Council, or by the Council itself.

44 The Council will also need to ensure that governance arrangements remain effective and that roles and responsibilities continue to be delivered while the changes are made and until the new arrangements become embedded.

Closing remarks

45 I have discussed and agreed this letter with the Chief Executive and the Executive Director. I will present this letter at the Scrutiny Committee on 15 December 2010 and will provide copies to all Council members.

46 Full detailed findings, conclusions and recommendations in the areas covered by our audit were included in the reports I issued to the Council during the year.

Report	Date issued
Audit fee letter	27 April 2009
Audit plan	17 June 2010
Annual governance report	16 September 2010
Opinion on financial statements	5 October 2010
Value for money conclusion	5 October 2010
Annual audit letter	November 2010

47 The Council has taken a positive and helpful approach to our audit. I wish to thank the Council staff for their support and cooperation during the audit.

Neil Bellamy
District Auditor
November 2010

Appendix 1 Audit fees

	Actual	Proposed
Financial statements and annual governance statement	73,521	73,521
Value for money	25,860	25,860
Total audit fees	99,381	99,381
Non-audit work	8,320	8,320
Total	107,701	107,701

Appendix 2 Glossary

Annual governance statement

Governance is about how local government bodies ensure that they are doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner.

It comprises the systems and processes, cultures and values, by which local government bodies are directed and controlled and through which they account to, engage with and where appropriate, lead their communities.

The annual governance statement is a public report by the Council on the extent to which it complies with its own local governance code, including how it has monitored the effectiveness of its governance arrangements in the year, and on any planned changes in the coming period.

Audit opinion

On completion of the audit of the accounts, auditors must give their opinion on the financial statements, including:

- whether they give a true and fair view of the financial position of the audited body and its spending and income for the year in question;
- whether they have been prepared properly, following the relevant accounting rules; and
- for local probation boards and trusts, on the regularity of their spending and income.

Financial statements

The annual accounts and accompanying notes.

Qualified

The auditor has some reservations or concerns.

Unqualified

The auditor does not have any reservations.

Value for money conclusion

The auditor's conclusion on whether the audited body has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of money, people and time.

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0844 798 7070

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- any director/member or officer in their individual capacity; or
- any third party.



Audit Commission

1st Floor
Millbank Tower
Millbank
London
SW1P 4HQ

Telephone: 0844 798 3131
Fax: 0844 798 2945
Textphone (minicom): 0844 798 2946

www.audit-commission.gov.uk

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