

**DECISIONS SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED  
BEFORE MONDAY, 22ND MAY, 2006**

**CABINET**  
9th May, 2006

**PRESENT** - Councillor Williams (in the Chair); Councillors Lister, Dixon, Harker,  
D.A. Lyonette, McEwan, Thistlethwaite and L. Vasey. (8)

**APOLOGIES** – Councillor Wallis.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** – Councillor Richmond.

**C205. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

**C206. MINUTES** - Submitted - The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of Cabinet held on 4th April, 2006.

**RESOLVED** - That the Minutes be confirmed.

**REASON** - They represent an accurate record of the meeting.

**C207. MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET** - There were no matters referred back for reconsideration.

**C208. ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY** - There were no issues arising from scrutiny.

**C209. KEY DECISIONS** – There were no Part I key decisions made at the meeting.

**C210. CHILDREN'S HOMES INSPECTIONS** - The Cabinet Member with the Children's Services Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Children's Services (previously circulated) presenting a summary of the reports from the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) following the unannounced inspections of this Council's Children's Homes and Short Break Centre for children with disabilities.

**RESOLVED** - (a) That the findings and recommendations of the Commission for Social Care Inspection reports, as summarised in the submitted report, be noted.

(b) That the full reports be made available from the Children's Accommodation Manager on request.

**REASONS** - (a) To comply with statutory requirements to make the reports public.

(b) To inform Members of the findings of the reports.

**C211. PUBLIC PROTECTION FORUM - Submitted - The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of the Public Protection Forum held on 6th April, 2006.**

**RESOLVED** - That the Minutes be received.

**REASON** - They represent an accurate record of the meeting.

**C212. MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND COLLECTING AND DISPOSALS POLICY - REVISIONS** - The Cabinet Member with the Leisure Services Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Development and Environment (previously circulated) seeking approval for necessary revisions to the Museum's Five Year Development Plan and an updated Collecting and Disposables Policy (both also previously circulated) and requesting that consideration be given to the preparation of a business plan.

**RESOLVED** - (a) That the revised Museum Development Plan and Collecting and Disposables Policy, both as appended to the submitted report, be adopted.

(b) That Officers be authorised to proceed with the preparation of a business plan for the museum to be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet for consideration.

**REASON** - (a) An adopted Museum Development Plan and a Collecting and Disposables Policy are needed to support renewal of the museums accredited status and external funding applications. In both cases, the existing documents are too outdated to be serviced.

(b) Future investment decision required to be supported by a strong business plan.

**C213. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2006/07 - RELEASE OF FUNDS - NORTHGATE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME IN CONSERVATION AREAS (PSCA)** - The Cabinet Member with Regeneration and Planning Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Development and Environment (previously circulated) seeking approval for the release of funds to provide grants for the improvement of older properties in the Northgate Conservation Area.

**RESOLVED** - That the release of £200,000 (£100,000 from English Heritage and £100,000 from the Council's Capital Medium Term Financial Plan) to support the second year of the partnership scheme, as detailed in the submitted report, be approved.

**REASON** - To improve the condition, appearance and economic and social prospects of one of the most historic, but the most run-down, gateways into Darlington.

**C214. CONTRACTS UNDERTAKEN FOR EXTERNAL CLIENTS 2005/06** - The Cabinet Member with the Resource Management Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Community Services (previously circulated) advising Cabinet of work undertaken by Community Services for external clients during 2005/06.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be received.

**REASON** - To advise Members of the level of the external trading undertaken by Community Services.

**C215. ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATIONS - CREATION** - The Cabinet Member with the Resource Management Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Development and Environment (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the process by which three new allotment associations are established, in accordance with the wishes of representatives from each of those sites, and in keeping with the Council's drive to modernise Darlington's allotments service.

**RESOLVED** - (a) That the establishment of new Allotment Associations at Smithfield Road, Dodmire and Brinkburn be endorsed and the granting of agreements, in principle, be approved as outlined in the submitted report.

(b) That the Director of Development and Environment be granted authority, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with the Resource Management Portfolio, to enter into negotiations and agree with the Allotment Associations appropriate terms, safeguards and financial arrangements relevant to each site.

(c) That the Borough Solicitor be authorised to complete the necessary documentation.

(d) That the terms agreed be reported to a future meeting of Cabinet in due course.

**REASONS** - (a) To formalise the creation of Allotment Associations at Smithfield Road, Dodmire and Brinkburn.

(b) To provide the Associations opportunity to improve their allotment sites and to attract external assistance and funding and to reduce the Council's management and maintenance responsibilities.

**C216. MEMBERSHIP CHANGES** - There were no membership changes reported at the meeting.

**C217. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC - RESOLVED** - That, pursuant to Sections 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the ensuing items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in exclusion paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

**C218. KEY DECISION - CENTRAL PARK - ACQUISITION OF PRIVATE INTEREST (EXCLUSION PARAGRAPH NO. 3)** - The Cabinet Member with Regeneration and Planning Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Development and Environment (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to a proposal by English Partnerships and ONE NorthEast for the Council to receive funding to acquire, hold, manage and, where appropriate, demolish those remaining third party interests required for the land assembly at Central Park.

**RESOLVED** - (a) That the process and funding arrangements for the Council to acquire and demolish or hold and manage third party interests at Central Park, on behalf of the Joint Venture partners, as outlined in the submitted report, be agreed.

(b) That the release of capital funding to acquire and demolish properties, up to the value of funding received for those purposes from English Partnership and ONE Northeast, be approved.

(c) That the release of capital funding to manage acquired properties, pending disposal, to be recovered from sale proceeds be approved.

(d) That the Director of Development and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with the Resource Management Portfolio, be authorised to agree management arrangements and to negotiate recovery of the associated costs in the best interests of the Council.

**REASONS** - (a) To progress the site assembly of third party interests at Central Park.

(b) To enable English Partnership to attract additional funding for the Central Park scheme and to maximise the potential of that funding and possibly that of ONE Northeast for the benefit of the proposed Joint Venture partnership.

**C219. SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS (EXCLUSION NO. 3)** - The Cabinet Member with the Resource Management Portfolio introduced the report and schedule of the Director of Development and Environment (both previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the schedule of transaction and seeking approval for the terms negotiated.

**RESOLVED** - That the schedule, as appended to the submitted report, and the transactions be completed on the terms and conditions detailed therein.

**REASON** - The terms negotiated require approval by Council before binding itself contractually to a transaction.

**DECISIONS DATED -  
FRIDAY, 12TH MAY, 2006**