
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
16TH SEPTEMBER 2009

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Mizon
The Sheriff, Councillor Cunio
Councillors Baillie, Ball, Barnes–Andrews, Baston, Beckett (items 42 onwards), Blatchford (items 37- 41 only), Bogle, Burke, Cooke, Daunt, Davis, Dean, Dick, Drake, Fitzgerald, Fitzhenry, Fuller, Galton, Hannides, Holmes, Jones, Letts, McEwing, Moulton, Norris, Odgers, Osmond, Parnell, Rayment (items 41 onwards), Samuels, Slade, Smith, Sollitt, Stevens, Thomas (Items 37- 40 only), Walker, Wells, White, Willacy, P. Williams and Dr R. Williams.

37. APOLOGIES

It was noted that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Capozzoli, Damani, Marsh-Jenks, Matthews and Payne.

38. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th July 2009 be approved and signed as a correct record.

39. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK

Members were reminded about the 'Get Involved' event being held on 15th October as part of Local Democracy Week. Posters and leaflets would be available shortly.

40. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- (i) The Council received a deputation from representatives of Choices Advocacy concerning employment opportunities for people with learning disabilities within Southampton and the City Council itself.
- (ii) The Council received a deputation and a petition from Peter Nott, Sue Anderson and Keith Hetter concerning the proposed sale of Art Works from the City Art Gallery Collection.
- (iii) The Council received the following public questions:
 1. How does the City Council reconcile the decision announced by Councillor Samuels at the Council Meeting on 15 July 2009 to

sell art-works from Southampton City Art Gallery's collection to provide match-funding for a new Heritage Centre when any such sale would be in direct contravention of its own Collection Management Plan approved by Cabinet in May 2009, which states specifically:

- (i) In Section 3, Paragraph 3.8 that 'the decision to dispose of an item should never be based upon financial gain, and any money raised from a disposal should be applied to the City Council's Art Collection.'
 - (ii) And Section 6 Sub-Section F expressly states that, even where exceptional circumstances apply, 'the income raised should be solely and directly applied to the existing permanent collection. This normally means the acquisition of new items for the collection, but may exceptionally extend to improving collections care.'
 - (iii) And that Section 7, paragraph 8.1 notes that 'It is important to be aware of the risks of making a disposal decision based on short term considerations as museums and galleries all serve a long term purpose. Staff and members of governing bodies should take into account the intentions of their predecessors in developing future priorities. Be aware, too, that future uses of items may not be foreseeable now.....'
2. Does the City Council recognise that the fine quality of the City Art Gallery's collection has been achieved as a direct result of the financial support and generosity of individual benefactors and national funding bodies and that the chances of securing future bequests or support for future purchases has been seriously damaged by the City Council's proposal to sell art-works?
3. Councillor Hannides stated at the City Council meeting of 15 July that there had been extensive and meticulous consultation about the intention to consider selling part of the City Art Gallery collection. Given that Section 6.12 of the Museums Association Code of Ethics specifically requires that where disposal of art-works is considered, the governing body is required to 'seek the views of stakeholders (such as donors, researchers, local and source communities and others served by the museum) who have a vested interest in a proposed disposal. Could we please have exact details of this consultation, particularly of 'local and source communities and others served by the museum', including figures as to number of people consulted, the nature and dates of any such consultation?

Answer

- The Council's Arts and Heritage Collections Development Policy was approved on 1st June 2009.
- Unfortunately the questioner's paragraph numbers do not tally with the approved version.
- In the Policy approved on 1st June 2009, paragraph 8.9.f states "In exceptional cases, the disposal may be motivated principally by financial reasons." – we believe that these are exceptional times generating exceptional reasons for sale – we have no other sources of funding, the proposals generate long term benefit for the collections as a whole, and this is not about meeting a short term revenue deficit. These are the criteria laid out in the policy to be considered as exceptional.
- The Gallery's reputation and standing will be enhanced by the Cultural Quarter development.
- Consultation has been, and continues to be, sound.
 - Members of SHAPe (Southampton Heritage and Arts People), a collection of over 250 individuals and organisations interested in the cultural sector have received 3 letters: 8th June 2009, 29th July 2009, 7th September 2009. The first outlined the initial plans, the 2nd gave more detail and invited feedback, the third confirmed arrangements for an open day on 21st September 2009.
 - The works of art in question have been on display in the City Art Gallery since 7th August, together with information about the proposals and an opportunity to comment. Approximately 5,500 visits to the gallery have taken place since that date. We have received 126 comments.
 - Additional information is being prepared to display in the foyer of the North Block in advance of an open day to be hosted in the gallery on 21st September.
 - Plans for a consultation event in West Quay shopping centre are also well underway, with information about the project and the challenges associated with it being prepared – we anticipate reaching hundreds of people through this process.
 - A web page has been developed to reach a further audience.
 - Officers and members have had a considerable number of meetings with key organisations. On a formal basis, the Cabinet Member presented to the MLA accreditation panel on 30th July, the Arts and Heritage Manager met with the Museums Association on the 10th September.

41. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted, setting out the details of the business undertaken by the Executive (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

The Leader and the Cabinet made statements and responded to Questions.

The following questions were then submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.1:-

1. Question from Councillor Dr R Williams to Councillor Dean

Will Southampton City Council sign up to the "Waste Collection Commitment", a voluntary service commitment for local authorities launched by The Local Government Association and the Waste Resources Action Programme on Monday (Sept 14th)?

Answer

The Council is keen to explore all avenues that will improve waste management and sustainable recycling in the City.

As the Recycling Commitment was only launched on Monday there has not been any real opportunity to consider if and how it will promote these agendas in Southampton and due to other council commitments, I was not able to attend the launch.

We will of course give it due consideration before making a judgement as to whether the Recycling Commitment will be of real benefit to the city and its residents but in principle the administration is committed to sharing best practise and working with WRAP and other interested parties.

2. Question from Councillor Sollitt to Councillor Moulton

Can the Cabinet Member advise how many residents have taken up the pensioner discount on council tax so far and what value this equates to? Additionally could he also advise of the take up of the Special Constable scheme, the value of this and if he is aware of an increase in the number of Special Constables in the city as a result?

Answer

As at the end of August the Older Persons Discount has been awarded to 8,190 applicants, with a total monetary value of £885,000.

The Police Authority did not approve the Special Constable Scheme. Despite this Council approving the discount, I have been advised that until the Police Authority formally agrees the scheme the Council cannot implement it. I am currently in discussions with members of the Police Authority about taking a new paper to them for their approval. Once this is done the scheme can be implemented and it is hoped that this will lead to a substantial increase in the numbers of special constables in the city. Subject to it being legal I would aim to ensure that any Special Constables who have missed out on their discounts during part or all of this financial year will receive a backdated

payment. To this end funds allocated to the scheme for this financial year will be fenced and not reallocated for other purposes.

3. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Moulton

How many pensioner households have applied for the Pensioner discount offered by the Conservative Executive? How many are now in the receipt of the discount and in what Southampton wards are these pensioners in receipt of the discount. Does the Cabinet member believe this appropriate use of funds considering the potential gap in funding put forward for the next budget by this Executive?

Answer

It is not possible to say how many applications have been received to date, this is because quite often the application is requested amongst other similar requests, such as single person discount or benefit application. However as at the end of August the Older Persons Discount has been awarded to 8,190 applicants, with a total monetary value of £885,000.

Unfortunately the Council Tax database does not hold Ward information, however it does hold Work Area information which may assist in this instance.

Work Area	No.	Amount
Town Centre	202	£22,082.70
Northam	47	£5,087.11
Lower Avenue	462	£50,408.68
Freemantle	513	£55,958.25
Shirley	482	£52,605.38
Coxford	980	£106,945.01
Bassett	973	£106,135.70
Portswood	604	£65,901.25
Bitterne	1153	£125,790.46
Sholing	893	£97,464.48
Woolston	1044	£113,881.99
Millbrook	490	£53,414.70
Lordshill	267	£29,135.29
	8109	£884,811.00

I believe that in the current financial situation it is even more important that the Administration strives to keep council tax down as low as possible and in particular be supportive of pensioners who disproportionately are paying far more and a greater proportion of their incomes on their council tax bills.

I am disappointed that the Liberal Democrat Group continue to maintain their opposition to this scheme which has proved extremely successful in benefiting thousands of households in Southampton and continue to push for higher taxes for pensioners.

4. Question from Councillor Burke to Councillor Hannides

Will the Executive reconsider its position of the selling of art works, in the light of the very strong public opposition to this policy.

Answer

The Executive have received a relatively limited number of objections from a vocal but specific part of the community of Southampton concerning our proposals and a number of supportive comments. The plans for the Cultural Quarter including the New Arts Complex, Guildhall Square and the new Museum have been well received and it is widely acknowledged that these could have a transformational effect on the cultural sector in the City and for the future of the City as a whole. Consultation continues, but at this time there are no plans to reconsider our proposal.

5. Question from Councillor Drake to Councillor P Williams

Can the Cabinet Member please let me know what the Council is doing to tackle the increasing problem of Japanese Knotweed across the City including Peartree Green?

Answer

Like many Councillors, I have reported Japanese Knotweed outbreaks.

There have been a number of recent issues in Middle Road & Pinegrove Road that I have been dealing with recently. I have also asked officers to look at Peartree Green.

My understanding is the process for removing Japanese Knotweed is as follows:

1. Arrest the spread of a particular knotweed strand
2. Work toward its gradual eradication through a systematic and carefully timed programme of work involving regular cutting back and careful applications of approved pesticides over the course of a number of years. The majority of this work is carried out by the citywide Park Ranger Team, but in areas where the plant has a very strong hold the assistance of the area parks team is enlisted, and also the valued help of local volunteer groups.

The Parks Team are happy to directly discuss their approach to the problem of Japanese Knotweed within specific affected green spaces such as Peartree Green with any interested parks users, and are extremely grateful for the ongoing help received from local volunteers and 'Friends' groups.

6. Question from Councillor Barnes - Andrews to Councillor Matthews

What employment or training opportunities does the Council offer young people?

Answer

(Answer provided by Councillor Holmes on behalf of Councillor Matthews)

The Council currently has 18 young people in apprenticeship posts, and is engaging 30 new Business and Administration apprenticeship posts across the authority.

Skills Development Zone activities are developing joint training and recruitment across the public sector for young people, particularly those who are not in education, employment and training.

Funding under the new Future Jobs Fund initiative will provide 6 months paid employment for 274 Southampton young people aged 18-24, linked with training opportunities through apprenticeships and Train to Gain.

A contract from V Volunteering provides funded volunteering opportunities and NVQ training for 30 young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), within the Children's Services and Learning Directorate.

Jobs and training for young people are being taken forward through Council delivered pre-employment training programmes for Jobcentre Plus, Section 106 agreements with developers and new arrangements to integrate employment and training objectives in procurement contracts for council services.

Through its Youth Support function, the Council is enabling one to one support for young people to progress into training and employment. In addition, a broad range of other learning and employment activities are led by the City's 14-19 Consortium.

7. Question from Councillor Baston to Councillor Hannides

Will the Cabinet Member for Leisure describe the selection process which resulted in the choice of the items proposed for sale from the Art Gallery Collection?

Answer

There has been a robust curatorial process followed. A guide for short-listing proposed candidates for disposal has been prepared.

8. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Hannides

What happens if the artwork candidates for disposal are not “signed off”* by the Tate, as required and is there a long list of potential art works to sell that are not restricted by bequests?

* Southampton’s Cultural Quarter – The Funding Challenge

Answer

The Executive have been working hard with all stakeholders to ensure that our proposals have a sound curatorial rationale and meet the standards required by the Museum, Libraries and Archives Council and the Museums Association. We are confident that our case is robust and will receive the support of the stakeholders. The Cultural Quarter as a whole is being funded by a wide variety of sources including the City Council, Arts Council England and we hope the Heritage Lottery Fund. We are confident that the proposal we are developing for the Heritage Lottery Fund to consider, will secure a significant amount of funding for the Museums project. With so many funding sources being considered, the Executive remains open to exploring all options to deliver the overall funding required to deliver this transformational project for the City.

The proposal items for sale have been identified through a robust curatorial process concerning their context to the Collections Policy. We have not had any other criteria to develop an alternative list of candidates.

9. Question from Councillor Galton to Councillor Hannides

Can the Cabinet Member update Council on his long term plans for the swimming pool located on the Oasis Academy Lordshill site/ Oaklands bearing in mind the plans to relocate the school from the site?

Answer

The completion of the new school is still a number of years away. The Executive continues to be open to proposals to secure a sustainable and viable future for the swimming pool. We continue to evaluate all options.

10. Question from Councillor McEwing to Councillor White

Can the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health give Full Council an update on Whitehaven Lodge and Birch Lawn residential homes?

Answer

Both homes have been subjected to legal processes following a challenge being made by three of the residents to the closures which were agreed by Cabinet in June.

The Council was notified that the Judge had decided not to grant 'leave' to proceed to a judicial review of the closure decision in August. After time for an appeal had elapsed the Council then proceeded to notify residents of this decision. However the Court then over turned its decision (on finding papers lodging an appeal of this decision that had been lost), this appeal is now proceeding and information on this has now been provided to the residents.

The Council's position remains that the decision to close the homes still stands. I am advised that an injunction not to move the three residents is still in force but has not been extended to other residents.

11. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Holmes

Where is Southampton in the national league table in terms of GCSE results? Considering its position and the results what is the authority doing to improve/encourage/lead schools in greater performance, particularly in English and Maths?

Answer

Validated results will not be published until December. Provisional results indicate that the percentage of pupils gaining 5+A*-C including English and Mathematics has remained unchanged in 2009, having risen by 6% in the previous two years. The percentage gaining 5A*-C has risen by 4% in 2009, and by 12% over three years.

The gap with the national average has been reduced on both indicators since 2006.

Further improvement will take place through a programme of leadership development, by encouraging schools to develop even stronger partnership working, by building on the changes implemented as a result of the Learning Futures programme and through a recruitment drive to attract high quality teachers into the City.

12. Question from Councillor McEwing to Councillor Smith

Can the Cabinet Member for Economic Development advise Full

Council what plans the Executive has to support a budget for Christmas lights in our City?

Answer

The current position is that with the exception of the LED light strings in the trees on Above Bar precinct and on the Bargate, the original lighting scheme was not 'green' and therefore if any additional lights are required, new components would need to be purchased. The estimated cost of providing a minimum scheme of LED light strings to all 13 trees in the Above Bar pedestrian precinct is £6,600 and the associated storage costs are £500/quarter. In 2009, this will be funded from a small one-off income from promotional events booked for the Bargate from April to July 2009 within the Economic Development Portfolio.

In the meantime, officers are also exploring sponsorships and funding with City Centre Management to fund additional lighting, for example, the installation and removal of a giant (8m) artificial Christmas tree on top of Bargate and the funding of Christmas lights in future years.

13. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Holmes

What are Southampton's Key Stage two results and where do those results put Southampton in context of the national statistics and what are the Cabinet Member's views on how the City can make improvement?

Answer

Validated results will not be published until October. Provisional results indicate that results in English are 1% lower than 2008, whilst remaining unchanged in Mathematics and Science. In English and Mathematics combined they are 2% lower than in 2008. This matches a decline in the south-east and nationally, based on provisional data.

The gap with the national average is 8% in English, 5% in Mathematics, 3% in Science and 9% in English and Mathematics combined.

The City will make improvement through a planned, systematic programme of leadership development, using the expertise of the many excellent headteachers in the city to influence more widely; through targeting support in individual schools according to need and by robustly challenging schools where results need to improve. Specific projects designed to improve English results will also be implemented.

14. Question from Councillor McEwing to Councillor P Williams

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Local Services advise Full Council why it's acceptable to have a running tap for 10 days as it's not classed as an emergency despite the waste of water resource?

Answer

The Council's policy regarding dripping taps was agreed following consultation with tenants prior to me becoming Cabinet Member for Housing.

Councillor McEwing and I flagged up a case to the Decent Homes team. I understand that following our intervention the tap was fixed the next day. It is Decent Homes intention to review the Council's Repairs Policy with tenants over the next year.

42. MOTIONS

(a) National Health Service

Councillor Baston moved and Councillor Sollitt seconded:-

"This Council fully supports the hard working staff within the NHS services which serve our City, particularly during the present pandemic flu outbreak.

Council therefore condemns the views of one of the Region's Members of the European Parliament, Conservative Daniel Hannan, who has publicly condemned the NHS as a "60 year old mistake".

Council is further concerned that remarks made by Mr Hannan as one of our elected representatives has caused damage to the reputation of the NHS locally, nationally and internationally, putting at risk the positive working relationship between the Council and NHS in our City."

Amendment moved by Councillor Moulton and seconded by Councillor Smith.

Delete the second and third paragraphs:

"Council therefore condemns the views of one of the Region's Members of the European Parliament, Conservative Daniel Hannan, who has publicly condemned the NHS as a "60 year old mistake".

Council is further concerned that remarks made by Mr Hannan as one of our elected representatives has caused damage to the reputation of the NHS locally, nationally and internationally, putting at risk the positive working relationship between the Council and NHS in our City".

and replace with:

"Whilst the Council therefore notes the views of all politicians as to the NHS, Southampton City Council will continue to work closely with both the NHS and the PCT and all medical staff in the City to ensure that

the best possible health outcomes are achieved for local residents.”

AMENDED MOTION TO READ

“This Council fully supports the hard working staff within the NHS services which serve our City, particularly during the present pandemic flu outbreak.

Whilst the Council therefore notes the views of all politicians as to the NHS, Southampton City Council will continue to work closely with both the NHS and the PCT and all medical staff in the City to ensure that the best possible health outcomes are achieved for local residents.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion as amended be approved.

Note: The following Councillors declared personal interests in the above matter and remained in the meeting during the consideration of the matter. Councillors Barnes-Andrews, Letts, Moulton, Rayment and P. Williams in view of having relative(s) employed in the Health Service. Councillor Baillie in view of being employed as a Pharmacist. Councillor Burke as a former recipient of Health Services. Councillor Osmond in view of being a Member of Southampton City Trust and having a relative employed in the Health Service. Councillor Sollitt in view of his employment by the Health Service and Councillor White as a Governor of Southampton University Hospital Trust and Hampshire Partnership Foundation Trust.

(b) Maintenance of Roads and Pavements

Councillor R Williams moved and Councillor Letts seconded:-

“Council notes its serious concern about the worsening situation with regards to injury compensation claims against SCC for trips and falls on the City’s pavements. Council calls on the Executive to make pavement maintenance a priority in their forthcoming budget proposals at least equal to that of the attention currently given to roads maintenance.”

Amendment moved by Councillor Dean and seconded by Councillor Fitzhenry.

In the first line delete the words “serious” and “worsening”.

In the fifth line delete the words “at least equal to that of the attention currently given to roads maintenance”.

and replace with:

“Council welcomes the ongoing year on year extra investment into roads and pavements of the new Conservative Executive, coupled with policy initiatives providing better value for money for the taxpayer after years of Labour and Lib-Dem mismanagement.”

AMENDED MOTION TO READ

“Council notes its concern about the situation with regards to injury compensation claims against SCC for trips and falls on the City’s pavements. Council calls on the Executive to make pavement maintenance a priority in their forthcoming budget proposals. Council welcomes the ongoing year on year extra investment into roads and pavements of the new Conservative Executive, coupled with policy initiatives providing better value for money for the taxpayer after years of Labour and Lib-Dem mismanagement.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion as amended be approved.

43. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES OR THE MAYOR

It was noted that no questions had been received.

44. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

It was noted that no changes to the appointments had been made.

45. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/10 – 2011/12

The report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Local Services was submitted updating the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme approved by Council in February 2009 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the revised Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (ii) that the use of resources to fund the HRA Capital Programme as

shown in paragraph 22 of the report, including the use of unsupported (prudential) borrowing in total of £14.818M, for the following purposes be approved:

- £2.150M to support the overall programme (unchanged from the report in February 2009)
 - £2.600M to fund the Digital TV proposals if this is more cost effectively purchased rather than leased (unchanged from the report of February 2009)
 - £4.706M to fund approximately 50% of the New Build schemes added to the capital programme
 - £5.362M of short term borrowing to sustain the programme in 2010/11
- (iii) that it be noted that the overall shortfall in resources of £2.420M is within the tolerances set by the Chief Financial Officer in the approved Medium Term Financial Strategy and that plans are in place to close this gap.

46. THE GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/09 - 2011/12

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning was submitted updating Council on any major changes in the overall General Fund Capital Programme since it was last reported on 18th February 2009 (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the revised General Fund Capital Programme and use of resources be approved;
- (ii) that the addition of new funding for the Southampton New Arts Centre be approved;
- (iii) that the addition of the Relocation of Town Depot Scheme and financing be approved;
- (iv) that the capital budgets and financing for Disabled Facilities Grants be approved;
- (v) that the use of unsupported borrowing of £10.4M and £4.4M to help finance the Town Depot Relocation Scheme and the Guildhall Square Scheme respectively be approved;
- (vi) that the addition of £440,000 to the Economic Development Capital Programme to finalise the Development Agreement for West Quay Phase 3 be approved;
- (vii) that the revised Prudential Indicators, reflecting the updated capital programme, as detailed in Appendix 4 to the report be approved; and

(viii) that the revised position in respect of the deficit on the Capital Programme and the action that is being taken to address this be noted.

47. TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF GAMBLING ACT 2005 POLICY

The report of the Solicitor to the Council was submitted seeking the adoption of a revised draft Gambling Act Policy for consultation purposes (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the draft revised Gambling Act Policy be endorsed for consultation purposes; and
- (ii) that a further report be brought back to Council for consideration in January 2010 following consultation.

48. WESSEX YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM (YOT) ANNUAL YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2009

The report of the Cabinet Member for Young People and Skills was submitted seeking approval of the Wessex Youth Justice Plan as part of the Council's Policy Framework (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the Wessex Youth Justice Plan 2009/10 be approved as part of the Council's Policy Framework.

49. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC – CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS INCLUDED IN MINUTE 50

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and the public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the confidential appendices to minute 50.

Appendices 1 and 2 are considered to be confidential, the confidentiality of which is based on category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. It is not in the public interest to disclose this because doing so would prejudice the Authority's ability to achieve best consideration for the disposal of land (the identity of the preferred developer and the figures associated with the land transaction are commercially sensitive).

50. REDEVELOPMENT OF FORMER TYRRELL & GREEN DEPARTMENT STORE FOR AN ART COMPLEX AND ENABLING DEVELOPMENT

The report of the Cabinet Member for Economic Development was submitted seeking authority to select the preferred developer and the preferred developer bid proposal (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the necessary additional funds in the capital programme be allocated to enable acceptance of the preferred developer proposal for the redevelopment of the former Tyrrell & Green site, for the Council's fit out of Southampton New Art Complex and any necessary associated costs to progress the scheme (as outlined in Confidential Appendix 1 to the report);
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Resources be granted delegated authority, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources and Workforce Planning, to determine the most appropriate way of financing this sum, to include a mix of new borrowing and the use of future capital receipts; and
- (iii) that the contribution of LAGBI grant to the scheme be approved and the increase of £500k in the overall amount of fundraising required to support the scheme be noted, together with the Council's previous assurance to underwrite any shortfall in the final sum achieved.

51. SEEKING ATTORNEY GENERAL'S APPROVAL ON THE PROPOSED FINANCIAL PROCEDURES FOR ART DISPOSALS

The report of the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Heritage was submitted seeking the Attorney General's approval on the proposed financial procedures for art disposals (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) that, in principle, the retention of works of art and financial value in the Chipperfield Bequest Fund, whilst enabling the disposal of two items - Sir Alfred Munnings' 'After the Race' and either Rodin's 'Eve' or 'Crouching Woman' to enable the investment of the receipts of sale in the Sea City Museum project be approved;
- (ii) that the Director of Neighbourhoods be authorised to make a formal application to the Attorney General to seek her consent to the proposed disposals and purchases as documented in the report;

- (iii) that it be noted that, subject to the approval of the Attorney General to the proposed disposals and purchases, the matter be brought back for final decision of the Council as both trustees and as corporate body;
- (iv) that it be noted that consultation with the public, interested bodies and key stakeholders will be continued and will inform the final decision of the Council; and
- (v) that delegated authority be granted to the Director of Neighbourhoods, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Heritage to do anything necessary to effect the trustees' decisions.

52. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – SUMMARY OF CALL-IN ACTIVITY

It was noted that there had not been any use of the call-in procedure over the last three months.