

## **COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES**

**Date:** Tuesday 1st October 2002

**Time:** 10.30 a.m. – 3.50 p.m.

**Place:** Shire Hall, Cambridge

**Present:** Councillor P W Silby (Chairman)

Councillors: C M Ballard, I C Bates, Dr T J Bear, B S Bhalla, A J Bowen, S V Brinton, J Broadway, C M Carter, M Y Chapple, R L Clarke, J E Coston, R Driver, J A P Eddy, M Farrar, H J Fitch, J L Gluza, P D Gooden, A Hansard, B Hardy, G F Harper, G J Heathcock, W G M Hensley, J L Huppert, S F Johnstone, J D Jones, A C Kent, I C Kidman, S J Kime, M L Leeke, V H Lucas, A R Mair, R B Martlew, L W McGuire, A K Melton, S B Normington, L J Oliver, A G Orgee, D R Pegram, P A E Read, J E Reynolds, C E Shaw, R C Speechley, A B Stenner, P L Stroude, J M Tuck, J K Walters, R Wilkinson, L J Wilson and F H Yeulett

**Apologies:** Councillors: R S G Barnwell, P J Downes, S A Giles, V A Hearne-Casapieri, S J E King, M K Ogden and J A Powley

### **89. MINUTES: 9th JULY 2002**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9th July 2002 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **90. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Tragedy in Soham

The Chairman expressed the County Council's gratitude to all staff who had been involved in events surrounding the recent deaths of Holly Wells and Jessica Chapman. She thanked staff for their hard work and often long hours; the selfless and professional way in which staff had responded to these unique circumstances did them great credit.

#### Retirement of the Lord Lieutenant

On behalf of the County Council, the Chairman expressed best wishes to Mr James Crowden on his retirement on 14th November after 10 years' service as the County's Lord Lieutenant. She welcomed him to the Council meeting and thanked him for his wonderful service to the County over that period.

#### Kelly's Award for Excellence in Purchasing and Supply

The Chairman announced that for the third year running the Council had been shortlisted for the purchasing industry's principal award, the Kelly's Award for

Excellence in Purchasing and Supply. A project to provide a purchasing toolkit for schools, and the Council's entry in the 'Best Use of e-procurement' category had both been shortlisted; ~~the awards would be announced in November~~

#### 2002 Local Government IT Excellence Award

The Chairman announced that the Council had also been shortlisted for the 2002 Local Government IT Excellence Award for achievement in the innovative and effective use of IT to improve service delivery. The Council's Common Assessment Tool project enabled Social care and health staff to carry out assessments of need on pocket PCs instead of the current paper system.

The Chairman congratulated those involved in both awards.

#### CEdRIC

The Chairman reported that the internet site Consumer Education Resource and Information Centre (CEdRIC) had received over 60,000 hits in the two months following its launch, and had been accepted as an approved site by the National Grid for Learning.

#### [Register of Interests](#)

~~The Chairman asked those Members who had completed their Register of Interests electronically to sign a copy of their declaration that morning.~~

#### **91. PETITION ~~\_ TO STOP NEW WILBURTON SETTLEMENT~~ AT WILBURTON**

~~On behalf of Fiona McKay-Rae, the local district councillor,~~ Councillor H J Fitch presented a petition to Council protesting against the possibility of a new settlement at Wilburton.

#### **92. REPORTS OF THE CABINET AND SOCIAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

##### **(a) Cabinet meetings of 23rd July and 3rd September 2002**

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters that the report of the meetings of the Cabinet on 23rd July 2002 and 3rd September 2002 be received and the recommendations adopted; ~~covering the following:~~ Councillor J E Reynolds seconded the motion.

#### Key decision for determination

##### 1) Fairer Charging – Fees and Charging

It was moved by Councillor C M Ballard that the report of the meeting of the Social Services Scrutiny Committee on 10th September 2002 be received.

The Council discussed the implications of the proposed changes for service users. Concern was expressed at the timing of the consultation period over the summer, and at the large cumulative increase in the

maximum Home Care charge.

Members noted that the Direct Payments Hourly Rate was set to be equivalent to the Home Care Hourly Charge, and so would increase as a consequence of any increase in the Home Care charge.

It was proposed by Councillor J D Jones and seconded by Councillor M L Leeke that the third recommendation of Cabinet to Council be amended:

Delete paragraph (iii) and replace with the following wording:  
'That the Council agrees not to increase charges in 2002/03 and to only increase them by "normal" inflationary amount in 2003/04'.

More than fourteen members of Council indicated their wish for a recorded vote on the amendment. Details of ~~this recorded vote~~ are attached as Appendix A.

The amendment was put to the vote and was declared to be lost with 20 votes in favour, 29 votes against and no abstentions.

[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrat and Labour groups in favour, Conservative group against.]

Council then voted on the substantive motion, ~~which was seconded by Councillor J E Reynolds, and it~~ was resolved:

- (i) That the responses received to the consultation be noted
- (ii) That the implementation of the first phase of Fairer Charging be approved with effect from 1st October 2002
- (iii) That the preferred options for increasing charges be approved, as follows:
  - £13 per hour charge for home care for 'full payers'
  - £2 administration fee for blue badge applications, rising to the upper permissible limit once new government guidance is issued
  - £2 per visit charge for attendance at/travel to day facilities
  - £2.85 per meal charge for CHOICES meals.

[Voting pattern: Conservative group in favour, Liberal Democrat and Labour groups against.]

*Councillor J L Gluza declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of his mother's receiving care from Social Services.*

*Councillor I C Kidman declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of his father's receiving the*

*CHOICES meals service.*

### Key decisions for information

2) Medium Term Service Priorities (MTSP) 2003 – 2006

Councillor A C Kent expressed concern ~~that debate over this important issue seemed now not to be available to members of the Council, and that there was in particular that it appeared that there was~~ no longer an assumption that increased funding for education would be passported to education. Councillor J K Walters ~~pointed out that all Cabinet papers were in the public domain, and advised~~ that no decision has yet been made about passporting of any education increase in education funding. ~~Councillor S V Brinton suggested that it was important to aid public understanding of the system by greater clarity of presentation.~~

3) Trading Standards Performance Plan

4) Freedom of Information Policy

5) Capital Strategy / Corporate Asset Management Plan

6) Cambridge Sub-Region Implementation Plan

Councillor Dr T J Bear drew attention to the lack of funding from neighbouring councils to offset problems caused to Linton by new housing in Haverhill. Councillor S F Johnstone replied that she was aware of problems with the A604 past Linton, and discussions about funding were under way with neighbouring authorities.

7) Draft Regional Waste Management Strategy Consultation

8) Oasis Centre, Wisbech

9) March and Chatteris Managed Workspace / Offices

10) Historical Resource and Cultural Centre – Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

11) E2B – Formation of Company to Support National Grid for Learning Activity across Eastern Counties

12) Outline Development Proposals arising from the Strategy Review of the Libraries and Information Service

13) Capital Programme – Household Waste Recycling Centre Improvements

Councillor I C Bates congratulated all those responsible for the improvements at the St Neots Household Waste Recycling Centre.

14) Revenue Budget Monitoring 2002/03

15) Social Services Revenue Budget Position

- 16) Supporting People – Strategic Plan
- 17) Commissioning Strategy – Care Placements

Other decisions/matters for information

- 18) Rapid Transit – Bid for Funding Through Local Transport Plan

~~Some Members expressed~~ concern ~~about was expressed at~~ the amount of work still to be done to work out the route for the rapid transit system through Cambridge; Councillor S F Johnstone emphasized that the vehicles would run on road through Cambridge and that a high quality, low cost rapid transport system would be achieved.

- 19) Social Services Star Ratings 2001/02

~~Councillor S B Normington, on behalf of Councillor J A Powley, the Cabinet Members for Social Services,~~ congratulated the Director of Social Services and her staff on the achievement of two stars in the Department of Health Social Services Inspectorate performance rating. ~~Councillor S V Brinton endorsed her comments and said that the rating reflected the excellent work of the Director and staff.~~

- 20) Financial Outturn for 2001/02

Councillor J L Huppert expressed concern at two aspects of the accounts which had been brought to the attention of the Policy Scrutiny and Audit Committee at its meeting on 19th September 2002, the change from a predicted underspend of £200,000 in ~~the~~ Older People and ~~the~~ Physical Disability service to an overspend of £1 million, and the double spending of £700,000 designated for National Grid for Learning (NGFL) work when the money was both devolved to schools and spent centrally. Councillor J K Walters explained that although the £700,000 had been spent in advance, funding received in the final year of the NGFL programme would be available to cover this expenditure.

- 21) 2001/02 Performance on Public Service Agreement (PSA) and Key Performance Indicators
- 22) Social Services Inspectorate (SSI)/Audit Commission Joint Position Statement

**(b) Cabinet meeting of 24th September 2002**

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters and seconded by Councillor J E Reynolds that the report of the meeting of the Cabinet on 24th September 2002 be received and the recommendations adopted, covering the following:

Key decisions for determination

- 1) Structure Plan Review – the Examination in Public

The Council discussed the eastward expansion of Cambridge, both in the period of the Structure Plan and beyond 2016. Issues raised included the preservation of the green belt around the City, [the impact on local communities](#) and the need to ensure adequate transport links.

It was resolved that:

- (i) The broad strategy of the draft Structure Plan be maintained, subject to the detailed issues for debate identified in the Cabinet's report to Council
- (ii) The broad approach to Cambridge Airport and land to the east of Cambridge be confirmed, as outlined in the Cambridge Airport Study and the Eastern Cambridge Study, and including the revised policy for the location and phasing of development land to be released from the Green Belt (Policy 9/3c and new Policy 9/3d with supporting text), as set out at Appendix 1 of the Director of Environment and Transport's report to Cabinet on 24th September 2002
- (iii) A criteria based approach be adopted to the identification of any regional airport (Policy P8/12) if a need were confirmed following the outcome of future Government decisions on the SERAS study.

[Voting pattern: Conservative and Liberal Democrat groups in favour, Labour group against.]

*Councillors A J Bowen and J L Huppert declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of their membership of the University of Cambridge.*

*Councillors A J Bowen, H J Fitch and L J Oliver declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of their membership of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.*

*Councillor S V Brinton declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of her membership of the Regent House of the University of Cambridge.*

*Councillors J L Gluza and A G Orgee declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of their employment by organizations which were a part of the University of Cambridge.*

~~*Councillor P D Goeden declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of his employment by UNISON, which involved working with local authorities whose employees paid into the County Council's Pension Scheme.*~~

*Councillor A C Kent declared a personal interest in this item under*

*paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of her membership of the Executive of Cambridge Futures.*

*Councillor S J Kime declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of his ownership of land and property in Cherry Hinton adjacent to land proposed for the eastern expansion of Cambridge.*

~~*Councillor V H Lucas declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of a close relative's involvement in the redevelopment of Cambridge City Centre including the refurbishment of Cambridge Central Library.*~~

2) Annual Library Plan for Cambridgeshire 2002 – 2005

Introducing the Annual Library Plan, Councillor ~~D R Pegram V H Lucas (?)~~ referred to ~~congratulated the staff of the Library Service on the improvements achieved in the County's libraries, which included~~ the replacement and refurbishment of the majority of the key libraries and the implementation of the People's Network and of Learn Direct centres. Members congratulated the staff of the Library Service on the improvements achieved in the County's libraries under difficult financial circumstances.

Councillor M L Leeke then moved the following amendment, seconded by Councillor A C Kent:

That the following addition be made to the recommendation of the Cabinet to Council:

... 'and undertakes to make available sufficient resources so that services are maintained or improved'.

~~Councillor I C Kidman congratulated library management and staff on their achievements in difficult circumstances~~ Members discussed the need for a review of the Libraries infrastructure and the view of Cabinet, consultants and the Education, Libraries and Heritage Scrutiny Committee that the current arrangements were not sustainable. Members noted that additional funding was required for the Library Service and noted that resources would were to be allocated through the Medium Term Service Priorities process.

The amendment was put to the vote and was declared to be lost.  
[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrat group in favour, Conservative group against and Labour group abstaining.]

Council then voted on the substantive motion and it was resolved:

‡

That the Council adopts s the Public Library Plan for Cambridgeshire for 2002-2005.



[Voting pattern Conservative group in favour, Liberal Democrat and Labour groups against.]

*Councillor V H Lucas declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of a close relative's involvement in the redevelopment of Cambridge City Centre including the refurbishment of Cambridge Central Library.*

#### Other decision/matters

3) Statement of Accounts 2001/02

It was resolved:

That the Statement of Accounts for 2001/02 be approved.

[Voting pattern: unanimous]

*Councillor J E Coston declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of her membership of the Cambridgeshire County Council Pensions Scheme.*

*Councillor M Farrar declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of his receiving a pension under the Cambridgeshire County Council Pensions Scheme.*

*Councillor P D Gooden declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of his employment by UNISON, which involved working with local authorities whose employees paid into the County Council's Pension Scheme.*

#### Key decisions for information

4) Burnsfield Infant and King Edward Junior Schools, Chatteris: Proposal for Relocation / Amalgamation of the two Schools

*Councillor A K Melton declared a personal interest in this item under paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct by reason of his membership of the governing bodies of both Burnsfield Infant and King Edward Junior Schools, and of his child's attendance at Burnsfield Infant School.*

5) MTSP Options for Public Consultation

#### Other decisions/matters for information

6) Grant Formula Review: County Council's Proposed Response

7) Beacon Council Status: Applications by Cambridgeshire County Council

8) Comprehensive Performance Assessment: Corporate Assessment

**93. COUNCIL CONSTITUTION –**  
**(a) NOTICE OF MEETINGS, QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS**  
**(b) OFFICER STRUCTURE**  
**(c) FINANCIAL AND CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES**  
**(d) PENSIONS CONSULTATIVE GROUP**

It was proposed by Councillor P W Silby, seconded by Councillor R Driver and resolved that the following amendments to the Council's Constitution be approved:

- (a) That "five clear days" be substituted for "three clear days" in paragraph 6 of the Council Procedure Rules (page 79/80) and in paragraph 4 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (Page 90)
- (b) That "14 days" be substituted for "10 days" in paragraphs 9.5 and 10.1 of the Council Procedure Rules and in paragraph 3.1 of Annex B and paragraph 3.1 of Annex C to those Rules and that the last sentence of paragraph 3.1 of Annex C be deleted
- (c) That the Council's Management Structure (Page 143) be amended to add "Customer Contact" to the list of functions headed by an Assistant Director or Head of Service under the Director of Resources
- (d) That the Council's Management Structure (Page 142) be amended to add "Policy and Performance" to the list of functions headed by an Assistant Director or Head of Service under the Director of Social Services.
- (e) That paragraph 3.3 of the Financial and Contract Procedure Rules (Page 121 of the Constitution) be amended to add  
"(d) variations on home to school transport costs arising from the number of school days in the financial year"  
to the list of items which will be credited/debited to balances.
- (f) That the terms of reference of the Pensions Consultative Group set out in Annex B of Article 10A (Page 35 of the Constitution) be amended to read as set out in Appendix 2 to the signed copy of the minutes.

**94. QUESTIONS ON POLICE AND FIRE ISSUES**

- (a) The Council received the report of the Chairman of the Cambridgeshire Police Authority. There were no questions on the report.
- (b) The Council received the report of the Chairman of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority. There were no questions on the report.

**95. WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

No written questions had been submitted under Rule 9 of the Council Procedure Rules.

**96. ORAL QUESTIONS**

Three oral questions were asked under Rule 9 of the Council Procedure Rules:

Councillor J E Coston asked why the local member had not been informed of the recent press release about library services in Milton. Councillor J K Walters apologised for the omission and undertook to endeavour to ensure it would not recur.

Councillor J L Huppert expressed his concern at the lack of interest from the press in proceedings of the County Council and suggested that journalists should receive full meeting papers. Councillor J K Walters replied that to send full papers out to all the press would not necessarily be cost-effective, but he would be happy to supply full papers to any journalist on request.

Councillor R B Martlew stated that Grantchester Parish Council had worked hard on the millennium pathway project to establish a riverside pathway through Grantchester Meadows, yet the Parish Council had not been consulted about the opening process, or acknowledged on the route plaques. The fact that it was a millennium project was also not made clear on the plaques. Councillor L J Oliver agreed to address this.

#### **97. MOTIONS**

Members noted that no motions had been submitted under Rule 10 of the Council Procedure Rules.

#### **98. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

It was resolved unanimously to approve the following appointments:

- Environment and Transport Scrutiny Committee – replacement of Councillor A B Stenner by Councillor R S G Barnwell as a member of the Committee
- Social Services Scrutiny Committee – replacement of Councillor A Hansard by Councillor R S G Barnwell as a member of the Committee.



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Chairman

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**CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
DIVISION LIST**

**Appendix A**

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 1st OCTOBER 2002**

**Fairer Charging – Fees and Charges - Amendment**

Delete paragraph (iii) and replace with the following wording:

‘That the Council agrees not to increase charges in 2002/03 and to only increase them by “normal” inflationary amount in 2003/04’.

COUNCILLOR	Party	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Bailey P D	LibD				/
Ballard C M	Lab	/			
Barnwell R S G	Con				/
Bates I C	Con		/		
Bear T J	LibD	/			
Bhalla B S	Lab	/			
Bowen A J	LibD	/			
Brinton S V	LibD	/			
Broadway J	LibD	/			
Carter C M	Lab	/			
Chapple M Y	Con		/		
Clarke R L	Con		/		
Coston J E	LibD	/			
Downes P J	LibD				/
Driver R	Con		/		
Eddy J A P	Con		/		
Farrar M	LibD	/			
Fitch H J	LibD	/			
Giles S A	LibD				/
Gluzza J L	Lab	/			
Gooden P D	Lab	/			
Hansard A	Con		/		
Hardy B	Con		/		
Harper G F	Con		/		
Heame-Casapieri ;V A	Con				/
Heathcock G J	LibD	/			
Hensley W G M	Con		/		
Huppert J L	LibD	/			
Johnstone S F	Con		/		
Jones J D	Lab	/			

COUNCILLOR	Party	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Kent A C	LibD	/			
Kidman I C	Lab	/			
Kime S J	Lab	/			
King S J E	Con				/
Leeke M L	LibD	/			
Lucas V H	Con		/		
Mair A R	Con		/		
Martlew R B	LibD	/			
McGuire L W	Con		/		
Melton A K	Con		/		
Meyland-Smith E	LibD				/
Normington S B	Con		/		
Ogden M K	Con				/
Oliver L J	Con		/		
Orgee A G	Con		/		
Pegram D R	Con		/		
Powley J A	Con				/
Read P A E	Con		/		
Reynolds J E	Con		/		
Shaw C E	Lab				
Silby P W	Con		/		
Speechley R C	Con		/		
Stenner A B	Con		/		
Stroude P L	Con		/		
Tuck J M	Con		/		
Walters J K	Con		/		
Wilkinson R	Con		/		
Wilson L J	Con		/		
Yeulett F H	Con		/		
TOTAL		20	29	0	9