



Cabinet

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Cabinet held on Tuesday 19 April 2011 at 4.00 pm at Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

PRESENT: Councillor Peter John (Chair)
Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor Fiona Colley
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle
Councillor Barrie Hargrove
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Catherine McDonald
Councillor Abdul Mohamed
Councillor Veronica Ward

1. APOLOGIES

All members were present.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair gave notice that the following additional deputation requests had been received in respect of Item 8, Consultation Options for Future Service Strategy for Southwark Cemeteries as follows:

- Fairlawn Primary School
- Hillyfielders Football Club
- Friends of Peckham Rye Park

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Item 8. Consultation Options for Future Service Strategy for Southwark Cemeteries

Councillor Ian Wingfield, declared a personal and non prejudicial interest, as he was a member of Friends of Peckham Rye Park group who were presenting a deputation in respect of this item.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

Five public questions had been received.

Public question from Mr Mick Barnard:

“How do you justify including as an option the use of the Honor Oak recreation ground for burial use in tonight's report given the remit of the steering group established the last time this issue was last raised and the subsequent agreement with the then Director Fred Manson ?”

Answer of the Cabinet Member for Transport, Environment and Recycling:

1. The report before cabinet provides a justification for the urgent need for a full review of bereavement services in the borough. Burial space is almost exhausted and the council should look to create space that will allow burials to continue for the next few years to deal with the immediate and emerging need.
2. With regard to the steering group it has not been possible to find the paper trail for this group and this will be examined further to establish the group's full background, remit and authority.

The chair allowed Mick Barnard to ask a supplemental question.

The remaining four questioners were not in attendance. It was agreed that the responses would be recorded in the minutes and provided to the questioners.

Public question from Luke Miller, Elephant Amenity Network

“Major changes to the Elephant & Castle regeneration/shopping centre were announced informally in April. When will the reference group for Elephant & Castle be established and what are the governance mechanisms for decision making and public involvement now and once the reference group has been established?”

Answer of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Corporate Strategy:

When the regeneration agreement with Lend Lease was signed in summer 2010, the governance arrangements included a strategic management board made up of senior officers from the council and Lend Lease. This board has been fully operational since the regeneration agreement was signed and officers report progress to cabinet. In addition, as part of the consultation strategy within the master regeneration plan a steering group was proposed.

The aim of setting up the steering group was to put in place an appropriate feedback mechanism to review progress of the project and provide a public forum for discussion and debate in respect of the regeneration and its impact on the wider community. Similarly, a feedback mechanism will be put in place to ensure that the views of the steering group are raised and discussed with the management board in order to ensure that the views and opinions of all interested parties are

considered throughout the development of the project.

The proposed regeneration forum expands on the concept of a steering group to more fully involve the wider public and community in the consultation process. Representatives of Lend Lease along with council officers will be attending Walworth and Borough & Bankside Community council meetings on 3 May to talk about the launch of the Regeneration Forum which is planned for the end of May. Invitations to attend this event will be issued in early May to groups within the area and there will be information about it on the Lend Lease website www.elephantandcastle.org.uk .

The forum will meet regularly during the planning application process and it is intended to provide residents with an opportunity to influence the scheme and discuss issues arising from it. The council and Lend Lease propose that sessions are organised around key development themes such as public realm and transport. The meetings will be independently facilitated and chaired.

Public Question from Jerry Flynn

“The Elephant & Castle website is now managed by Lendlease and there is no apparent means of communication about the wider regeneration. What proposals are there for community involvement across the entire regeneration area and why has the regeneration Steering group (Cabinet 7 July 2010) not been set up? “

Answer of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Corporate Strategy

Lend Lease and the council remain committed to providing residents and stakeholder with an opportunity to influence the preparation of the planning application for the Heygate Estate and shopping centre sites. The council's website will continue to provide information about schemes and projects within the wider Elephant and Castle opportunity area. Lend Lease have taken the responsibility from the council for the www.elephantandcastle.org.uk website and are in the process of adding information to this about their proposals. Further material on their consultation plan for the masterplan which will involve a road show and exhibitions will be added to this over the next month. Lend Lease are currently responding to enquiries from the public that are submitted to the following address: Enquiries.elephantandcastle@lendlease.co.uk

Representatives of Lend Lease along with council officers will be attending Walworth and Borough & Bankside Community council meetings on 3 May to talk about the launch of the Regeneration Forum which is planned for the end of May.

Public Question from Seeta Rajani

“When will there be a new masterplan for the whole of the Elephant & Castle regeneration area, not just Lend Lease's section, and how and when will local communities and traders be consulted?”

Answer of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Corporate Strategy:

A draft opportunity area framework (OAF) / supplementary planning document (SPD) is being prepared for the Elephant and Castle. This will include guidance on sites for the entire opportunity Area. A draft will be available in October 2011 for comment. Consultation will be for 3 months as set out in the statement of community involvement. A consultation plan will be agreed by cabinet when the document is agreed for consultation. Final adoption is planned for April 2012.

Public Question from Celia Cronin

“Given the recent press reports of massive changes to the council's vision and policy for the Elephant & Castle regeneration, what are the benefits for us in the community of the new plans? What is the extent of the changes in as much detail as possible please and why were the changes made?”

Answer of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Corporate Strategy:

The council's vision for the Elephant and Castle as a new town centre within central London has not changed. The scheme will deliver new homes (including affordable homes), shops, community facilities, public spaces and improved public transport. All of this will directly benefit local residents and in addition it will generate new employment, training and business start up opportunities together with a much improved leisure and cultural offer. Residents will be given an opportunity to view the masterplan in the period leading up to the submission of a planning application and further details on this will be made available via www.elephantandcastle.org.uk and the councils own website.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the open minutes of the meetings held on 15 February (special) and 22 March 2011 be approved as correct records and signed by the chair.

6. PETITION - GROVE VALE TRADERS ASSOCIATION

A petition containing 800 signatures was presented to cabinet from the Grove Vale Traders Association in respect of the proposed traffic calming measures in the area.

The spokesperson expressed concern in respect of the traffic calming proposals and the likely negative impact that they would have on local trading and businesses. It was felt that there was a lack of communication with regard to the number of parking spaces and their location. Additionally concern was also echoed in respect of potential damage to nearby buildings from the proposed speed table.

Cabinet debated the petition and;

RESOLVED:

That a meeting with the cabinet member for transport, environment and recycling, local councillors and the Grove Vale Traders Association be arranged by council officers within the next few weeks to discuss these identified concerns. No work would commence until this meeting has taken place.

7. DEPUTATION REQUESTS

The Chair agreed to accept three late deputation requests from Fairlawn Primary School, Hillyfielders Football Club and Friends of Peckham Rye Park as the item they wished to speak on was on the cabinet agenda for that evening.

Southwark Council's constitution requires that deputations can only be made by a group of people resident or working in the borough. However, the Chair exercised his discretion to allow some members of the deputations who were Lewisham residents to contribute and participate in the deputations. (Friends of Honor Oak Recreation Ground, Fairlawn Primary School, Hillyfielders Football Club)

RESOLVED

That the deputation requests be heard.

Friends of Honor Oak Recreation Ground

The deputation spokesperson addressed the meeting and confirmed that they recognised the challenge the council faces in relation to current and future burial policy, but felt that in view of the extent of public support for the Honor Oak Recreation Ground, that the recreation ground should be protected in perpetuity regardless of burial needs. Schools, football clubs, children and many others had relied on and used the recreation ground for the past fifty years. The Friends asked for a transparent consultation process and for the council to find a cross borough solution to this problem with Lewisham Council.

Fairlawn Primary School

The Headteacher of the primary school addressed the meeting to outline concerns in respect of the Honor Oak Recreation Ground. He explained that Fairlawn primary school is located within Lewisham with 33% of the children attending from Southwark. The recreation ground is used for physical education by the children throughout the year, culminating in a sports day in the summer involving all the pupils of the school. The Headteacher stressed that the current location of Honor Oak recreation ground provides an accessible and safe option (in terms of travel to the site) for the children to undertake physical education and it would be very difficult for the school to find another suitable open space for this purpose.

Hillyfielders Football Club

The deputation spokesperson addressed the meeting and highlighted the work undertaken

by the football club and the vital importance of the Honor Oak Recreation Ground to the existence and continued development of the club. The club provides sporting activities for hundreds of children from the area and the club would find it extremely difficult to find an alternative open space, identifying the problems with neighbouring open spaces. It was felt that the loss of the recreation ground for use by the club would result in the splitting up of the club which was against the community and team spirit which was fostered by the club. Additionally, the club provides opportunities for training and development with plans to offer young people from local colleges work placements within the club. The club also provides a healthy and positive environment for young people and children to develop their sporting and interpersonal skills.

Friends of Peckham Rye Park

A spokesperson for the Friends of Peckham Rye Park addressed the meeting and outlined concerns in respect of the potential loss of Honor Oak Recreation ground and the resulting pressure this would create for Peckham Rye Park. The deputation spokesperson informed the meeting that Peckham Rye was a Victorian park and was not suitable for intensive use for sports activities. It was felt that the removal of any open space like Honor Oak recreation ground from an urban area would be untenable.

The leader thanked the deputations for attending cabinet and presenting their views.

MOTION OF ADJOURNMENT

At 5.00pm it was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the meeting stand adjourned.

The meeting reconvened at 5.25pm

8. CONSULTATION OPTIONS FOR FUTURE SERVICE STRATEGY FOR SOUTHWARK CEMETERIES

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposal in paragraph 21 of the report to create short term burial space at an estimated cost of £410,000 be agreed subject to agreement within the council's capital programme.
2. That consultation on the longer term options set out in paragraph 23 of the report to address the problem of the borough's burial space shortage be undertaken. Cabinet views the use of Honor Oak Park Recreation Ground as the least preferred option.
3. That the consultation plan for the longer term options for Southwark's cemeteries at Appendix 2 of the report be agreed.
4. That following consultation a report on the outcomes of the consultation and the option/s for a long term solution be prepared for a future cabinet meeting.

5. That cabinet seeks to work with Lewisham and other London authorities on joint solutions to the burial space shortage problem.

9. CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND VISION FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

RESOLVED:

1. That the charter of rights for adult social care services, as set out at Appendix A of the report be adopted.
2. That the charter of rights be reviewed periodically to ensure that there is consistency between the principles of the charter and the direction for the future of adult social care.
3. That the draft vision for the future of adult social care in Southwark, as set out in Appendix B of the report, be agreed.

10. DISPOSAL OF SITE AT 117-119 IVYDALE ROAD, LONDON, SE15

RESOLVED:

1. That the head of property be authorised to dispose of the council's freehold interest in 117-119 Ivydale Road ("the Land"), for the consideration set out in the closed version of the report.
2. That authority be delegated to the head of property to agree any variation to the terms agreed.

11. DISPOSAL OF 51 LORRIMORE ROAD, WALWORTH, LONDON SE17

RESOLVED:

1. That 51 Lorrimore Road (The Property) be sold on the open market subject to the council discharging its obligation to obtain the best consideration that can be reasonably obtained.
2. That authority be delegated to the head of property to market the property and agree detailed terms for its sale.

12. VARY TERMS OF DISPOSAL - SILWOOD PHASE 4B, ROTHERHITHE, LONDON SE16

RESOLVED:

1. That the head of property be authorised to vary and agree the terms of the disposal of the site known as Silwood Phase 4B in accordance with the terms set out in the closed cabinet report.

2. That the earmarking of the net receipts from the disposals into the housing investment programme be agreed.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was moved, seconded and;

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of the exempt information as defined in category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules of the Southwark Constitution.

13. MINUTES

The minutes of the closed section of the meeting held on 22 March 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

14. DISPOSAL OF SITE AT 117-119 IVYDALE ROAD, LONDON, SE15

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this report. See item 10 for decision.

15. DISPOSAL OF 51 LORRIMORE ROAD, WALWORTH, LONDON SE17

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this report. See item 11 for decision.

16. VARY TERMS OF DISPOSAL - SILWOOD PHASE 4B, ROTHERHITHE SE16

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this report. See item 12 for decision.

The meeting ended at 6.15pm

CHAIR:

DATED:

DEADLINE FOR NOTIFICATION OF CALL-IN UNDER SECTION 21 OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES IS MIDNIGHT, TUESDAY 3 MAY 2011.

THE ABOVE DECISIONS WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTABLE UNTIL AFTER THAT DATE. SHOULD A DECISION OF THE CABINET BE CALLED-IN FOR SCRUTINY, THEN THE RELEVANT DECISION WILL BE HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING THE OUTCOME OF SCRUTINY CONSIDERATION.