

COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 13 May 2010 at 8.00 pm in Council Chamber, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

Present: Councillor Mrs Margaret G Sheldrick (Chairman); Councillors Mrs Aldred, R Bayford, S Brown, Bruce, Campbell, Clark, Crotty, Mrs Dark, Day, Ezekiel, Mrs Fenner, Ms Gideon, Goodwin, D Green, Ms Green, Gregory, B Grove, Harker, Harrison, C Hart, Mrs S Hart, Jarvis, King, Latchford, Lawson, Mrs Lodge-Pritchard, McCastree, Moores, R Nicholson, Mrs B Nicholson, Nottingham, Peppiatt, Poole, Mrs Roberts, M Roberts, Mrs Rogers, Mrs Russell, Savage, Scobie, Mrs Sullivan, B Sullivan, Taylor, M Tomlinson, Mrs Tomlinson, Watkins, Watt-Ruffell, Wells, Mrs Wiltshire and Wise

In Attendance: Mr Robin Hills, Independent Member and Chairman of the Standards Committee

170. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Hayton, Councillor Mrs Johnson, Councillors Mrs Jill and J D Kirby and Councillor Ward.

171. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

172. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUSINESS PLAN

Moved by Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Wise:

“that Council approves and adopts the HRA Business Plan 2010-2016”.

MOTION ADOPTED

173. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

The Chairman pointed out that, whereas it should be possible to deal with the next item in open session, it would be necessary to exclude the public and press in the event of an issue being raised in relation to Annex 4 to the report of the Programme Director, Margate Renewal Partnership.

174. DREAMLAND - MARGATE

The Head of Legal & Democratic Services assured Members that officers had considered all options in relation to the Dreamland project and that, although it was expected that the land currently owned by the Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company would, in due course, pass over to the Council, the options which would be available to the Council should that not happen had been taken into account; those options were covered in the exempt annex to the report.

Members made reference to the risks associated with the project, as outlined in the report, but also that the project offered an opportunity to help revitalise Margate and bring benefits to the whole of Thanet in terms of tourism.

In response to a query, the Chief Executive confirmed that there was a risk that funding could be affected by the change in Government.

Moved by the Leader, seconded by Councillor Ezekiel:

1. that a contribution of £2.2 million be made towards the Dreamland project;
2. that, provided additional funding sources have been explored, authority be given to the Director of Finance & Corporate Services to arrange and enter into such agreements as she considers prudent for additional borrowing up to a maximum of £1.8 million to bridge the remaining funding gap.

Councillor D Green asked that his reservations about the Dreamland project be recorded.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Ezekiel, seconded by Councillor Hart:

“that the Leader or his nominee should be represented on the Dreamland Project Board”.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

SUBSTANTIVE MOTION ADOPTED

Tribute was paid to Derek Harding, Programme Director, Margate Renewal Partnership on his work on the Dreamland project.

Meeting concluded : 8.58 pm