



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
POLICY, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
BOARDROOM, PHOENIX HOUSE, MELTON MOWBRAY

11 JUNE 2010

PRESENT:-

Councillors M.C.R. Graham (Chairman)  
R. Marks, A. Jackson, J.T. Orson  
M O' Callaghan, J.B. Rhodes, D.R. Wright

As Observer

Councillors Wyatt and Moncrieff

Corporate Director (CM) Corporate Director (KA)  
Head of Financial Services  
Head of Street Scene and Environment, Head of ICT Services  
Change Team Consultant (CC), Democratic Services Clerk

A. Beattie (EC Harris - Senior Project Manager)  
D. Oxnard (EC Harris - Project Cost Manager)  
S. Crosby (Archial – Director)

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P1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Angrave and Posnett.

P2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Rhodes stated that he would not take part in the debate on the above item due to conflicting legal advice on Member interests from Melton Borough Council and Leicestershire County Council. Councillor Rhodes stated that he would not declare an interest on this item but would withdraw from the meeting.

Councillor J.T. Orson stated that he would also leave the meeting on the same grounds as Councillor Rhodes due to being a Leicestershire County Council Member.

The Corporate Director (CM) stated that the Council could procure advice from Counsel on the matter to clarify the situation. Councillor O' Callaghan suggested getting Counsel's opinion with Leicestershire County Council.

P3. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

MINUTE C9 : SPECIAL COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE : 9 JUNE 2010 WILTON ROAD: PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Councillor O' Callaghan moved the recommendation from the Community and Social Affairs Committee with the amendment that that the opening period be extended to 6 October 2010 to ensure they are open during the Food Festival.

Councillor Wyatt stated that money was available from the Local Development Framework funds. The Head of Financial Services stated that they may be able to release some money but it would go to the Budget Strategic Working Group for consideration.

Councillor Rhodes stated that it was a very important issue and seconded Councillor O' Callaghan's motion. Councillor Jackson noted that he considered it to be a modest proposal.

Councillor O' Callaghan stated that a considerable amount of effort was put into attracting tourists to Melton and having the facility at Wilton Road would assist with this.

Councillor Graham emphasised the importance of having a balanced budget. The Head of Financial Services stated that some very difficult decisions would have to be made for 2011/12 and the toilets had not been ranked in terms of priorities against other projects. The Head of Financial Services further stated that the temporary nature of the re-opening needed to be communicated clearly so that public expectations were managed.

Councillor J.T. Orson suggested a press release to go through Councillor Graham for approval before its release. Councillor Wright stated that by opening the toilets 2 days per week, people's expectations would be raised.

Councillor Marks enquired if the efficiency survey had been completed yet. Councillor J.T. Orson stated that a resolution had been taken to the Policy, Finance and Administration Committee about electronic working which could have released some money, but Members had rejected the proposals.

On being put to the vote, the motion to temporarily re-open the toilets was carried with 5 in favour and 2 against.

(Councillors Rhodes, O' Callaghan and Jackson requested that their vote for the motion be recorded.)

(Councillors Graham and Wright requested that their vote against the motion be recorded.)

**RESOLVED** that

- (1) Wilton Road Public Conveniences re-open (with a minimal refurbishment) from 1 July 2010 until 6 October 2010, 2 days per week (and ad hoc days as required) on a Tuesday and Saturday with no charge being implemented for this facility and a roving attendant to cover Wilton Road;

- (2) one-off funding of £7,000 be met from the Corporate property repairs and renewals fund;
- (3) Revenue costs for 2010/11 of £5,800 be met from implementation in 2010/11 of policies to secure additional income streams from coach parking and advertising revenue;
- (4) Usage and effectiveness of a roving attendant was monitored and reviewed by the Community and Social Affairs Committee after the end of the opening period (6 October 2010).

The Corporate Director updated the meeting that she had contacted Standards for England whilst the meeting had been progressing regarding the County Councillors position with regards to the following item and their advice was that it was a prejudicial interest due to the financial arrangements.

(Councillor J.T. Orson withdrew from the meeting.)

(Councillor Rhodes withdrew from the meeting.)

#### P4. OJEU PROCESS AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW CONTRACTOR

The Corporate Director (CM) submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) to recommend, following an extensive OJEU process and following receipt of a detailed report from our consultants on the process, the successful contractor's appointment. The report also requested Members to consider the value engineering options, as proposed by the successful contractor and as detailed in a technical report, and as summarised in part B of this report, considering the financial position overall, to ensure that the project is procured within budget.

It was confirmed that the identity of the preferred contractor would not become public until the expiry of the 10 day standstill period enabling other contractors to raise any concerns during this period.

The Corporate Director (CM) stated that :-

- The Council Business Development Committee had received a detailed presentation of the report in the morning and was recommending the Policy, Finance and Administration Committee to approve the recommendations within the report
- There would be a standstill period of 10 days
- The tender price index was slightly lower than expected and officers were not expecting any other changes apart from minor variations to the settlement sum
- There would be settlement soon after signing the contract
- A good level of specification had been selected for the Building
- Some Value Engineering savings could be revisited at a later stage if further savings had to be found
- The contingency funds had been agreed as adequate by the Council's Project Managers
- Value Engineering options would enable the project to be delivered within budget

The Corporate Director (CM) confirmed that the Sub-Committee had recommended that sprinklers were not installed. Mr S. Crosby stated that the request for sprinklers regularly came up from insurance companies but there were risks of them being activated accidentally and there were also issues about their visual impact. Councillor O' Callaghan suggested the reasoning for not having sprinklers be included in the resolution. The Corporate Director (CM) stated that a paper would be formed and made available for future reference on the matter.

**RESOLVED** that the recommendations in the report be approved.

The meeting which commenced at 14:00 hrs closed at 15.09 hrs.

Chairman