

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

21 February 2002
(6.00pm – 12.05am)

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor Lakin), Deputy Mayor (Councillor Slatter), Councillors Bagnall, Benstead, Blencowe, Bradnack, Callaghan, Cowell, Currie, Dixon, Douglas, Dryden, Durrant, Ellis-Miller, Gilchrist, Griffiths, Harrison, Hipkin, Howarth, Howell, James, Johnston, Knowles, Liddle, Mbaya, Nimmo-Smith, Reed, C Rosenstiel, J Rosenstiel, M Schofield, T Schofield, Smart, Smith, Stebbings, Stuart, Talbot, Taylor, Ward, and Woodford

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

02/01 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 6 December 2001 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

02/02 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Levison, Overhill and White.

- **Civic Reception For Retired Employees**

The annual civic reception for the Council's retired staff was to take place on Wednesday 27th March from 6.30 p.m.

- **Civic Reception For Cambridge-Heidelberg Easter Festival**

This year it was to be the turn of Cambridge to host the annual Cambridge-Heidelberg Easter Festival. A civic reception for participants would take place on Easter Saturday, 30th March, at 11.00am at the Guildhall, and the presence of City Councillors would be most welcome.

- **Charter Marks**

The Environmental Health and Waste Strategy Team had been awarded a Charter Mark for the second time. The award was recognition from Central Government of "Excellence in Public Service" and the Mayor congratulated all members of staff in that section on such an excellent performance. The Cambridge Corn Exchange had also won a Charter Mark, for the third time, the first concert hall in the country to achieve this. The Mayor congratulated all involved.

- **Order Of Business**

In accordance with his powers under Standing Order 4(2)(a), the Mayor said that he proposed to vary the order of business for the meeting, so that City Board Adoption Minute 02/A/03 – Housing Development Options – would be considered immediately before Motion C. This would enable both debates on Housing Development Options to take place without a break.

- **Next Meeting**

Members were asked to note that the next Council meeting, on 25th April, was to begin with a training session for all councillors on the new Code of Conduct and the role of the Standards Committee. The meeting would start at the usual time of 6.00pm.

- **Declarations Of Interest**

- City Board Adoption Minute 02/A/01 – Revenue Budgets 2001/02 (Revised), 2002/03 Budget and Capital Bids. Cllr Talbot declared a Code of Conduct (non-financial) interest as his son worked at Parkside Pools
- Motion D – Fairtrade:
 - the following members declared a Code of Conduct (non-financial) interest as members of the Cambridge Co-operative Party: Councillors Bagnall, Blencowe, Bradnack, Cowell, Douglas, Dryden, Gilchrist, C Rosenstiel, J Rosenstiel, Smith, T Schofield, Talbot.
 - Cllr Nimmo-Smith declared a Code of Conduct (non-financial) interest as a close family friend is a Fair Trade goods retailer.
 - Cllr Currie declared a Code of Conduct (non-financial) interest as a member of the Fair Trade Committee
- Motion E – Community Centres
 - Cllr Knowles declared a Code of Conduct (non-financial) interest as member of the Board of the PCG.
 - Cllr Durrant declared a Code of Conduct (non-financial) interest as the Treasurer of a local community centre.

02/03 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public wished to address the Council.

02/04 MINUTES PRESENTED BY COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES FOR ADOPTION

The Council considered the recommendations of the City Board meeting held on 11 February 2002.

02/A/01 **Revenue Budgets 2001/02 (Revised), 2002/03 (Estimates) and Capital Bids**

Councillor Bagnall proposed and Councillor Bradnack seconded the amendment to the adoption minute attached as Appendix A.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost by 21 votes to 15.

Resolved (by 21 votes to 14) *in relation to the General Fund*

- (1) to approve the overall revised net committee spending budget of £20,497,050 for 2001/02;
- (2) to approve the following revenue budgets of committees and sub-committees for 2002/2003, incorporating the Priority Policy Fund (PPF), Priority Development Programme (PDP) Exit Fund and revenue development bids, savings and review of charges approved by committees and the Board:

	2002/03 £
City Board	7,574,040
Community Development & Leisure	8,540,870
Environment	4,463,320
Housing & Health (General Fund)	1,752,120
Property & Administration	(1,469,470)
	20,860,880
Asset Management Revenue Account	(5,652,900)
Minimum Revenue Provision	(869,910)
Contribution to Capital Spending	5,301,000
Single Status/Job Evaluation	128,280
New IT contract savings	(118,620)
Contributions to Technology Investment Fund	155,000
Pensions Increase	80,000
Spending Requirement	19,883,730
Spending Limit	15,371,390
Contribution from Reserves	4,512,340

- (3) that the total level of net General Fund spending in 2002/2003 be £19,883,730 with a contribution from Reserves of £4,512,340.
- (4) that it be noted that at its meeting on 6th December 2001 the Council calculated the amount of 35,943 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2002/2003 in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;

(5) that the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2002/2003 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a) £89,239,390 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act **[the Council's gross expenditure including a contribution from Reserves for 2002/2003]**

(b) £ 73,868,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act **[gross income]**

(c) £15,371,390 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year **[net expenditure]**

(d) £11,179,720 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant, reduced by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its General Fund to its Collection Fund in accordance with section 97(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1998 **[Council Tax Deficit]** and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its Collection Fund to its General Fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charges) Directions under Section 98 (4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 **[Community Charge surplus]**.

(e) £116.62 being the amount at (c) above less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the amount at (4) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

(f)

Band	£
A	77.74
B	90.70
C	103.66
D	116.62
E	142.53
F	168.45
G	194.36
H	233.24

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (e) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands [**Council Tax relating to the City Council's expenditure**].

- (6) that it be noted that at its meeting on 12th February the Cambridgeshire Police Authority approved, and at its meeting on 19th February Cambridgeshire County Council approved, the following amounts in precepts to be issued to the City Council for the year 2002/2003, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

BAND	County Council £	Police Authority £
A	487.02	63.06
B	568.19	73.57
C	649.36	84.08
D	730.53	94.59
E	892.87	115.61
F	1,055.21	136.63
G	1,217.55	157.65
H	1,461.06	189.18

- (7) that, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 5(f) and 6 above, and subject to the County Council and Police Authority setting their precepts at the levels given in 6 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2002/03 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band	£
A	627.82
B	732.46
C	837.10
D	941.74
E	1,151.01
F	1,360.29
G	1,569.56
H	1883.48

- (8) that all necessary steps be taken to collect and recover the Council Tax;

- (9) that Appendix O of the report of the Director of Finance (agenda item 10) be noted and, for the purpose of Section 45 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council make the following determinations for the financial year 2002/03:
- (i) overall borrowing limit: £51,000,000
 - (ii) short term borrowing limit: £37,000,000
 - (iii) limit on the proportion of interest payable at variable rates: 70%.
- (10) Also in Appendix O, Council approve the lending list additions and deletions.
- (11) Delegate to the Director of Finance authority to finalise changes relating to the reallocation of support service and central costs in accordance with the CIPFA Best Value Accounting Code of Practice. [paragraph 3.3 of the report refers]

in relation to the Capital Plan

- (12) To include all City Board and High Priority Bids, listed in the attached appendix, for funding within the Capital Plan and agree to re-phase the Capital Plan to take account of these bids and to add the Medium priority Bid to the Hold List with no other changes to the Hold List.
- (13) To agree:
- (i) the addition of the £200,000 IEG grant to the Technology Investment Fund [paragraph 10.2 of the report refers].
 - (ii) amendments to reflect the in principle approval of the Computerisation of Land Charges project (City Board information minute 02/a/10 refers).
 - (iii) to include the voice cabling and infrastructure improvements costing £49,000 funded from earmarked reserves [paragraph 10.9 of the report refers]

02/A/02 Going Debt Free

Resolved

- 1) To approve in principle a policy of redeeming all of the Council's long-term debt by 31 March 2003.
- 2) To delegate to the Director of Finance authority to choose when to undertake debt redemption within the overall time scale above, and to report back should he consider that changes in market conditions or changes in legislation warrant delaying such a policy.

02/A/03 Housing Development Options

Resolved (by 21 votes to 18) to agree that the information provided at Environment Committee on 29th January had been sufficient and that a detailed written report on the full implications as requested by Councillor Durrant had not been necessary.

02/05 ORAL QUESTIONS

Question	Question by	Answer by
Would the Chair of the Environment Committee explain the Liberal Democrat Group's policy towards the development of a new bus station on Christ's Pieces?	Councillor J Rosenstiel	Councillor Harrison

02/06 MOTION: AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDER 4 RELATING TO ANNUAL STATEMENTS

Councillor Howarth proposed and Councillor C Rosenstiel seconded the following motion:

- 1) 'That, for this year, the provision in Standing Orders for group leaders to present a preview of their Annual Statement to Council in April be suspended. This will not affect the presentation of Annual Statements at the annual Council meeting in May this year. (Standing Order 4 (1) (j) and the Scheme at Appendix (i) refer.)
- 2) That the future of Annual Statements be reviewed as part of drawing up the new political management arrangements.'

Under Standing Order 7 it was agreed to deal with the motion at the meeting.

Resolved (by 21 votes to 18) that the motion be adopted as proposed.

02/07 MOTION: CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BUS STATION OR ANY EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING FACILITY ON CHRIST'S PIECES.

Councillor Durrant proposed and Councillor Bradnack seconded the following motion:

'This Council is opposed to the construction of a new bus station or any extension to the existing facility on Christ's Pieces. The officers are instructed to inform the County Council and any consultants working on our behalf that this option should receive no further consideration.'

Under Standing Order 7 it was agreed to deal with the motion at the meeting.

Councillor Howarth proposed and Councillor C Rosenstiel seconded the following amendment:

'Delete all and insert: 'The Council notes that in the next cycle the Environment Committee is to consider the consultants' report on the future of the bus station. The Council declares that it is opposed in principle to the construction of a new bus station or any extension of the existing facility on Christ's Pieces and requests that the Environment Committee takes this view into account in making detailed policy on this issue.'

On a show of hands the amendment was carried unanimously.

Resolved (unanimously) that the Council notes that in the next cycle the Environment Committee is to consider the consultants' report on the future of the bus station. The Council declares that it is opposed in principle to the construction of a new bus station or any extension of the existing facility on Christ's Pieces and requests that the Environment Committee takes this view into account in making detailed policy on this issue.

02/08 MOTION: FUTURE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CAMBRIDGE AREA

Councillor Durrant proposed and Councillor Bradnack seconded the following motion:

'Further to the resolution of the Council on December 6th on future housing developments in the Cambridge area, this Council provides the following information relating to individual sites as investigated and numbered in the Cambridge Sub-Region Study (Buchanan).

(The wording of the December 6th resolution is in italics).

The Council, recognising that sufficient land must be identified in the Structure Plan to meet the housing need identified in regional planning guidance, including an adequate reserve for the post 2016 period:

- 1) *In accordance with the decision of the Environment Committee, confirms that the Eastern Urban Expansion is its preferred strategy;*

Sites 187, 215 Marshall North works and adjacent sites
Sites 184, 185, 194, 208 Church End

- 2) *Advises the County Council that the use of green belt land for housing, other than in the Eastern Urban Expansion, should be confined to sites directly related to employment growth, especially the sites close to Addenbrookes and specifically including Clay Farm and the Showground site;*

Site 179 Clay Farm
Site 180 Shelford Road
Site 181 South & West of Addenbrookes
Sites 132 & 133, subject to a definition of "close to Addenbrookes"

- 3) *Advises the County Council to include in its strategic reserve for post-2016 development only those remaining green belt sites identified as recommended for*

development in Table 1 of the officer's briefing paper.

Site 178 Girton Corner, north of Huntingdon Road

Site 193 Girton Corner, north of Huntingdon Road

Site 182 Shelford Road

The following sites were not recommended for development in the officers' briefing paper and are not included in the strategic reserve for post 2016

Site 123 Girton Corner, south of Huntingdon Road

Site 124 Girton Corner, north of Huntingdon Road

Site 137 West Cambridge

Site 140 West Cambridge

Site 132 South & West of Addenbrookes (subject to a definition of "close to")

Site 133 West of Addenbrookes (subject to a definition of "close to")

Site 139 West of Trumpington Road

This Council further instructs the Director of Environment & Planning to provide a detailed briefing paper on this notice of motion for circulation to all members.'

Under Standing Order 7 it was agreed to deal with the motion at the meeting.

Councillor Harrison proposed and Councillor Howarth seconded the following amendment:

'Delete all and insert: The Council notes the decisions of the County Council of 22 January 2002 on its draft structure plan.

The Council specifically welcomes:

1. the County Council's acceptance of the view that Cambridge Airport and associated sites, including land to the east of Airport Way, should no longer form part of the green belt,

2. the County Council's acceptance of the view that sites at Clay Farm, the showground and land to the west and south of Addenbrooke's should no longer form part of the green belt,

3. the County Council's rejection of the view that land west of Trumpington Road should be removed from the green belt,

4. the County Council's rejection of the view that land in the Barton Road area should be removed from the green belt, and

5. the County Council's commitment to a master plan linking the development of Cambridge Airport with the development of sites to the east of Airport Way.

The Council notes that:

a. the County Council has not endorsed the City Council's view that the northern and

north-western sites should only be developed after 2016,

b. the County Council has not endorsed the City Council's view that sites east of Airport Way should be available for development before 2016,

c. the County Council has included a new settlement at Longstanton, the need for which would not have arisen before 2016 had the County Council followed the City Council's view.

The Council, however, welcomes:

i. The County Council's prioritisation of the Airport and southern sites over the northern and north-western sites in the context of a pre-2016 green belt development target which is achievable without the use of the northern and north-western sites, and

ii. The County Council's commitment to an assessment of the traffic impact of the Longstanton development on the north of the city as a condition of further development of the northern and north-western sites.

The Council calls on Environment Committee to elaborate further the Council's response to the draft Structure Plan, bearing in mind the need to work co-operatively with the County Council to redress the sub-regional infrastructure deficit, especially in public transport.'

On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 21 votes to 18.

Resolved (by 21 votes to 18) that:

1) The Council notes the decisions of the County Council of 22 January 2002 on its draft structure plan.

2) The Council specifically welcomes:

i. the County Council's acceptance of the view that Cambridge Airport and associated sites, including land to the east of Airport Way, should no longer form part of the green belt,

ii. the County Council's acceptance of the view that sites at Clay Farm, the showground and land to the West and South of Addenbrooke's should no longer form part of the green belt,

iii. the County Council's rejection of the view that land west of Trumpington Road should be removed from the green belt,

iv. the County Council's rejection of the view that land in the Barton Road area should be removed from the green belt, and

v. the County Council's commitment to a master plan linking the development of Cambridge Airport with the development of sites to the east of Airport Way.

- 3) The Council notes that:
- i. the County Council has not endorsed the City Council's view that the northern and north-western sites should only be developed after 2016,
 - ii. the County Council has not endorsed the City Council's view that sites east of Airport Way should be available for development before 2016,
 - iii. the County Council has included a new settlement at Longstanton, the need for which would not have arisen before 2016 had the County Council followed the City Council's view.
- 4) The Council, however, welcomes:
- i. The County Council's prioritisation of the Airport and southern sites over the northern and north-western sites in the context of a pre-2016 green belt development target which is achievable without the use of the northern and north-western sites, and
 - ii. The County Council's commitment to an assessment of the traffic impact of the Longstanton development on the north of the city as a condition of further development of the northern and north-western sites.
- 5) The Council calls on Environment Committee to elaborate further the Council's response to the draft Structure Plan, bearing in mind the need to work co-operatively with the County Council to redress the sub-regional infrastructure deficit, especially in public transport.'

02/09 **MOTION: USE OF FAIR TRADE GOODS**

Councillor Taylor proposed and Councillor Bagnall seconded the following motion:

'This Council welcomes the initiatives by the Cambridge Fairtrade Committee to encourage the use of fair trade goods, and notes that the Council, as an important consumer and opinion leader, should research, develop, and support a strategy to facilitate fair trade where appropriate as part of its commitment to Local Agenda 21 and in pursuit of the objective of sustainable development.

It therefore resolves:

1. To express its support for the Cambridge Fair Trade Committee and for the principles of fair trade.
2. To ask the Environment Committee or its successor under the new executive arrangements to consider ways to:
 - promote awareness of fair trade issues and the opportunities for supporting fair trade in the area
 - make publicity and educational information available to local people concerning the

worldwide impact of unfair trade and the opportunities that fair trade provides to sustainable development

- make the Council's employees, the public and local businesses aware of the Council's resolution on fair trade
 - encourage the use of fair trade goods, for example products carrying the Fairtrade Mark and products in vending machines
 - request the Council's venues to stock Fairtrade products in addition to other brands
 - integrate fair trade considerations into the Council's Environment Plan in support of the Council's corporate objective to improve the environment.
3. To ask the Director of Environment and Planning to nominate an officer to liaise with the Cambridge Fairtrade Committee on implementing this resolution.
 4. To ask the Director of Environment and Planning to report annually to the Environment Committee on progress made with implementing this resolution.'

Under Standing Order 7 it was agreed to deal with the motion at the meeting.

Resolved (unanimously) that the motion be adopted as proposed.

02/10 MOTION: PROVISION OF COMMUNITY CENTRES

Councillors Reed proposed and Councillor Talbot seconded the following motion:

'This Council affirms its commitment, within its total budget to:

- a) provision of community centres in areas of social deprivation across the City; and
- b) acting to ensure that existing centres are open for use by local groups and residents during day time and evening hours as a way of meeting their varied needs and instructs the Community Development and Leisure Committee to consider how this can be achieved by re-allocation of its approved budget resources if necessary.

Under Standing Order 7 it was agreed to deal with the motion at the meeting.

Councillor J Rosenstiel proposed and Cllr Knowles seconded the following amendment.

'Delete all and insert: 'The Council notes:

1. the failure of the previous administration of the Council to provide community facilities in many parts of the city, and
2. the commitment of the present administration to work, in partnership with other agencies, to secure improvements in the provision of community facilities.

The Council affirms its commitment to:

1. the provision of community centres, especially in areas of social deprivation

2. acting to ensure that existing centres are open for use at appropriate times to meet varied needs.

The Council endorses the Community Development and Leisure Committee's innovative approach to securing better community facilities in Cambridge.'

On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 21 votes to 15.

Resolved (by 21 votes to 17) that:

- 1) The Council notes:
 - i. the failure of the previous administration of the Council to provide community facilities in many parts of the city, and
 - ii. the commitment of the present administration to work, in partnership with other agencies, to secure improvements in the provision of community facilities.
- 2) The Council affirms its commitment to:
 - i. the provision of community centres, especially in areas of social deprivation
 - ii. acting to ensure that existing centres are open for use at appropriate times to meet varied needs.
- 3) The Council endorses the Community Development and Leisure Committee's innovative approach to securing better community facilities in Cambridge.'

02/11 MOTION: DTLR CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS TO CHANGE THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF PLANNING OBLIGATIONS

Councillor Slatter proposed and Councillor Nimmo-Smith seconded the following motion:

'The Council is very concerned at the serious social, economic and environmental consequences of the scarcity and high cost of housing in Cambridge.

The Council welcomes the opportunity afforded by the DTLR consultation on proposals to change the current system of planning obligations and instructs officers to include in the Council's response strong support for powers to require all but the smallest housing developments, as well as non-residential developments which generate employment growth, to contribute to the provision of additional affordable housing.

The Council recognises that planning obligations for new developments cannot be expected to make up for the current shortfall, and that the Government has a key responsibility to ensure that adequate finance is available to providers of affordable housing in Cambridge.

The Council welcomes the planned visit to Cambridge in March by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Regeneration and instructs officers to impress on him the urgent need for Government help to tackle these problems.'

Under Standing Order 7 it was agreed to deal with the motion at the meeting.

Resolved (unanimously) that the motion be adopted as proposed.

02/12 RECEPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of committees and sub-committees were presented for the information of the Council.

02/13 NOTIFICATION OF SEALING

The Council received notification from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services of the sealing of documents noted in the Council's Sealing Register as having been sealed between 7 December 2001 and 21 February 2002.

The Council concluded its business at 12.05am.

MAYOR