

MINUTES OF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

25 May 2006
11.10am– 5.20pm

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Hipkin), Councillors Bailey, Baker, Benstead, Blencowe, Boyce, Bradnack, Bruce, Cantrill, Dixon, Downham, Dryden, Durrant, Ellis-Miller, Hart, Herbert, Holland, Holness, Hughes, Hymans, James, Kightley, Liddle, Lynn, McPherson, Nimmo-Smith, Newbold, Reid, Rosenstiel C, Rosenstiel J, Shah, Slatter, Smart, Smith, Stafford, Stebbings, Stuart, Taylor and Ward.

For the Information of the Council

06/32 ELECTION OF MAYOR 2006/2007

Councillor Newbold proposed and Councillor Slatter seconded the nomination of Councillor Dryden as Mayor for the municipal year 2006/2007.

Resolved that Councillor Dryden be elected Mayor for the municipal year 2006/2007 (Councillor Dryden then made the statutory declaration of acceptance of the office of Mayor).

06/33 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2006/2007

Councillor Reid proposed and Councillor Herbert seconded the nomination of Councillor Bailey as Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2006/2007.

Resolved that Councillor Bailey be elected Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2006/2007 (Councillor Bailey then made the statutory declaration of acceptance of the office of Deputy Mayor).

06/34 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20 April 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

06/35 TO NOTE THE RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT

That the following have been elected to the office of Councillor:

Abbey	Miriam Elen Lynn
Arbury	Timothy Derek Ward
Castle	Simon Philip Jonathan Kightley
Cherry Hinton	Stuart Edwin Newbold
Coleridge	Lewis Herbert
East Chesterton	Marian Barbara Holness
Kings Hedges	David Neale Upstone
Market	Colin Richard Rosenstiel
Newnham	Roderick Giles Cantrill
Petersfield	Kevin Wayne Blencowe
Queen Edith's	Alan Reginald Harold Baker
Romsey	Sarah Freeland Ellis-Miller and Rajnikant Zaverchand Shah
Trumpington	Sheila Barri Stuart
West Chesterton	Raymond Alan Boyce

06/36 MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Council noted the appointment of Father Peter Edwards as the Mayor's Chaplain for the municipal year 2006/2007.

06/37 TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR'S CADET FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

The Council noted the appointment of Georgia Towers, representing No. 104 (City of Cambridge) Squadron Air Training Corps, as Mayor's Cadet for the ensuing year.

06/38 TO PASS A RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING MAYOR AND MAYORESS

Resolved unanimously, on the proposition of Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Durrant, that this Council expresses its appreciation of the manner in which the duties of Mayor and Mayoress were discharged by Councillor John Hipkin and his wife Councillor Marie-Louise Holland during their period of office and that the Common Seal be affixed to a copy of this resolution for presentation to them.

06/39 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Adigun-Harris, Armstrong and Upstone.

2. WELCOME

The Mayor extended a special welcome to pupils from Colville School, Cherry Hinton some of whom recently visited the Guildhall to learn about the mayoralty as part of their Citizenship work.

3. VISIT TO SZEGED

The outgoing Mayor, Councillor John Hipkin, had recently led a civic delegation to the twin City of Szeged to take part in the annual Bridge Fair. Councillors Hart and Kightley, the Head of Economic Development & Tourism and a representative of the Cambridge-Szeged Society accompanied him.

4. MAYORAL SUNDAY SERVICE

Members had received notification of the civic service which takes place this coming Sunday at Holy Trinity Church.

5. MIDSUMMER FAIR

Information was going out that day with regard to the arrangements for Midsummer Fair. The proclamation will take place at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 21st June.

6. 800th ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAYORALTY

On 8th May, 1207, Cambridge was granted a Charter by King John permitting it to appoint a Mayor and earlier in the meeting members were very privileged to have that Charter so very ably read by the University Orator, Mr. Anthony Bowen. It was very likely that, this morning, members had witnessed the appointment of the 800th Mayor of Cambridge. A

series of celebratory events was being organised around the time of the anniversary in May 2007. Part of the celebrations will include an exhibition relating to the mayoralty.

7. MAYORAL CHARITIES

The Mayor had undertaken to support:

The Cambridge Breast Unit and Press Relief (a charity run by the *Cambridge Evening News* which in turn supports a number of local charitable organisations)

as his chosen charities for the year.

8. EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Members were reminded that there would be an Extra-ordinary Meeting of Council on 20 June to consider the recommendation from the Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport about adopting the new Local Plan.

06/40 TO ELECT FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOUR BAILIFFS OF THE CITY FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2006/2007

Councillor Nimmo-Smith proposed and Councillor Smart seconded that Councillors Dixon and Stebbings be appointed as bailiffs.

Councillor Herbert proposed and Councillor Bradnack seconded that Councillors McPherson and Hart be appointed as bailiffs.

Resolved that Councillors Dixon, Hart, McPherson and Stebbings be appointed as bailiffs of the city for the municipal year 2006/2007.

06/41 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda Item 10 – External Member of Standards Committee. Councillors Liddle and Ward knew Mrs K English in a professional capacity; Councillor Reid knew Mr Dasgupta as a Board member of Cambridgeshire Community Foundation.

Agenda Item 16 – Notice of Motion, Concessionary Fares: Councillors declaring a personal interest as being over 60: Nimmo-Smith, Bradnack, Smart, Hymans, Hughes, Baker, Hipkin. Notice of Motion, Cambridge Regional College (CRC)/Anglia Ruskin University (ARU): Councillor Herbert working for ARU, Councillor Bradnack a Governor of CRC, Councillor Shah employed by CRC, Councillor McPherson Security Manager at CRC, Councillors Blencowe and Durrant graduates of ARU predecessor, Councillor Hart's son attended CRC, Councillors Rosenstiel daughter applicant for place at ARU.

06/42 TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (15 MAY) WHICH ARE FOR ADOPTION

06/CIV/15 Amendments to the Constitution

Councillor C Rosenstiel proposed the following amendment, seconded by Councillor Smart:

Recommendation 1) Part 4B, Access to Procedure Rules as shown in the appendix be

amended as follows: 23.1.1 - remove underlining and remove the wording in brackets. On a show of hands this was agreed by 25 votes to 0

Councillor C Rosenstiel proposed the following amendment, seconded by Councillor Boyce

Recommendation 6) be replaced with 'To agree the revised Executive Portfolios as circulated around the Chamber'. On a show of hands this was agreed by 25 votes to 12.

Council agreed to a request from Councillor Bradnack, that the recommendations be taken as follows:

Recommendations 1,8 and 10

Recommendations 2-7 and 9

RESOLVED -

To approve the Recommendations 1,8 and 10 as set out in the adoption minute (Unanimous)

- 1) To agree the changes to the Constitution in Part 4B, Access to Information Procedure Rules, as shown in the Appendix with the agreed amendment in 23.1.1 - remove underlining and remove the wording in brackets.
- 8) That :
 - the functions of the Licensing (2003 Act) Committee and the Licensing Committee are combined within one Licensing Committee of twelve members which will also be responsible for the Gambling Act 2005;
 - applications under the Licensing Act 2003 are determined by four sub-committees of three, rather than five sub-committees as previously but otherwise in a similar manner;
 - the officers consider the mode of determination of other licensing applications, including the scope for two sub-committees combining when it is appropriate for more than three members to determine an application.
- 10) That any further detailed drafting changes to the Constitution to reflect these proposals be brought back to the Council in the July cycle.

To approve the Recommendations 2-7 and 9 as set out in the adoption minute (By 25 votes to 11)

- 2) That a Deputy Leader is not separately appointed but that the general functions of the Deputy Leader, as referred to in para 2.4.1 of Part 3 and in Part 4D of the Constitution be performed by the Executive Councillor for Housing.
- 3) That the specific functions of the Deputy Leader in relation to the Grand Arcade redevelopment, as referred to in para 2.4.2 of Part 3 of the Constitution, be performed by the Executive Councillor for Customer Services & Resources.
- 4) That the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme is amended to:

- delete the separate provision of a special responsibility allowance for the role of Deputy Leader;
- assign to the new Licensing Committee those allowances previously approved for the Licensing (2003 Act) Committee; and
- pay one Minority Group Leader Special Responsibility Allowance calculated using a multiplier of one.

5) That the portfolios of Executive Councillors are revised with headline responsibilities as follows:

Arts and Recreation	Arts and Leisure Parks and recreation
Community Development and Health	Community development Economic Development Environmental Health and Protection: (food safety, pests and diseases, health promotion) Cemeteries and Crematorium
Housing	Housing Services: Private Sector Housing Renewal
Environmental Services	Environmental Health and Protection: (pollution, licensing, environmental protection) Street Cleaning Waste Collection Public conveniences
Planning and Transport	Parking Services Building and Development Control Economic Development and Tourism Planning and Transport Policy and Research
Customer Services and Resources	Customer Services Central Services Council tax and housing benefit payment Democratic services Property Services
Strategy	Strategic overview Community safety Equalities Performance management Democratic innovations

- 6) To agree the revised Executive Portfolios as circulated around the Chamber.
- 7) That scrutiny responsibility for cemeteries and the Crematorium is moved from the Environment Scrutiny Committee to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee, and that membership of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee is increased to ten, but that no other changes are made to scrutiny committee responsibilities or size.
- 9) That the functions of executive councillors are therefore subject to scrutiny as follows:

Executive Councillor for Housing	Housing Management Board (for non-strategic housing management)
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	functions) Community Services scrutiny committee (for other housing matters)
Executive Councillor for Arts & Recreation	Community Services scrutiny committee
Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health	Community Services scrutiny committee
Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport	Environment scrutiny committee
Executive Councillor for Environmental Services	Environment scrutiny committee
Executive Councillor for Customer Services & Resources	Customer Services & Resources scrutiny committee
The Leader	Strategy scrutiny committee

06/CIV/16 **External Members of the Standards Committee**

RESOLVED (unanimous)-

Mr A Dasgupta be appointed External Member
Mrs K English and Mr M Williams be appointed Alternate Members
Mr K Barrett be appointed reserve

06/CIV/17 **Election of Leader and Executive Councillors**

RESOLVED (by 25 votes to 0)-

To approve the Leader and Executive Councillors for 2006/07:

Leader – Cllr Nimmo-Smith
Executive Councillor for Customer Services & Resources – Cllr Cantrill
Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health – Cllr Stuart
Executive Councillor for Arts & Recreation – Cllr Smith
Executive Councillor for Housing (and Deputy Leader) – Cllr Smart
Executive Councillor for Environmental Services – Cllr C Rosenstiel
Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport – Cllr Reid

06/CIV/18 **Appointment of Committees 2006/07**

The Mayor drew the Council's attention to the updated nominations to Committees laid around the Chamber. In addition, Council noted that the Licensing Committee spokes was Councillor Downham, and Councillor Bailey was the Alternate member of Strategy Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED (by 25 votes to 0)-

1) To agree the appointments for 2006/07 as follows:

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	SIZE	LIBERAL DEMOCRATS (ALTERNATE)	LABOUR
STRATEGY	9	Adigun-Harris, Armstrong, Boyce, Bruce, Hymans, Shah, Ward (Bailey)	Herbert (spokes) Stafford

CUSTOMER SERVICES & RESOURCES	9	Adigun-Harris, Ellis-Miller, Hymans, Liddle, Joye Rosenstiel, Taylor (James)	Bradnack (spokes) Hughes McPherson
COMMUNITY SERVICES	10	Ellis-Miller, Hymans, James, Kightley, Liddle, Slatter, Upstone (Boyce)	Blencowe (spokes) Hughes Lynn
ENVIRONMENT	9	Bailey, Baker, Holland, Holness, Shah, Ward (Kightley)	Durrant (spokes P&T) Newbold (spokes ES) Herbert
HOUSING MANAGEMENT BOARD	9	Armstrong, James, Kightley, Joye Rosenstiel, Stebbings, Upstone (Ward)	Downham (spokes) Blencowe Herbert
CITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT	6	Boyce, Dixon, Hipkin, Holness (Holland)	Hart (spokes) Hughes

REGULATORY COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE	SIZE	LIBERAL DEMOCRATS (ALTERNATE)	LABOUR
PLANNING	9	Baker, Dixon, Hipkin, Hymans, Reid, Slatter (Stuart)	Blencowe (spokes) Dryden Durrant
LICENSING	12	Boyce, Dixon, Hymans, Liddle, Colin Rosenstiel, Slatter, Stuart, Upstone	Blencowe Downham (spokes) Benstead McPherson
CIVIC AFFAIRS	6	Boyce, Colin Rosenstiel, Stebbings, Ward (Reid)	Hart (spokes) Bradnack
EMPLOYMENT APPEALS SUB	6	Adigun-Harris, Boyce, Smart, Smith	Downham Hughes
STANDARDS COMMITTEE External Members (1) Dr Clark, (2) Mr Dasgupta Alternate Members K English, M Williams Reserve: K Barrett	8	Hymans, Colin Rosenstiel, Stebbings, Taylor	Mc Pherson (spokes) Dryden
CAMBRIDGE ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT AREA JOINT	6	Bailey, Baker, Reid, Colin Rosenstiel (Holness)	Downham Blencowe

2) That four Area Committees: North (Arbury, Kings Hedges, East Chesterton and West Chesterton) South (Cherry Hinton, Queen Edith's and Trumpington), East (Abbey, Coleridge, Petersfield and Romsey) and West/Central (Castle, Market and Newnham) be appointed with membership comprising those members representing the wards within the relevant Area Committee.

06/CIV/19 Appointment of Chairs and Vice Chairs 2006/07

Councillor C Rosenstiel proposed the Liberal Democrat nominations as set out on the paper laid around the Chamber. The Labour Group proposed alternative Chairs of Scrutiny Committees (except for Housing Management Board where a tenant was nominated) and Chairs and Vice Chairs of Regulatory Committees, which on a vote were lost. The name of the Labour nominee and the vote are included in brackets.

Councillor C Rosenstiel proposed the following amendment, seconded by Councillor Nimmo-Smith:

That with reference to appointment of Chairs and Vice Chairs of Area Committees, Council is recommended:

- 1) To act in accordance with Part 4EE: Area Committee Procedure Rules (page 202 of Constitution – paragraph 6: Who chairs area committee meetings.
6.1 “An area committee shall, at its first meeting of the municipal year, elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.....”
- 2) To agree that the current Chairs and Vice Chairs of Area Committees continue in post until the first meeting in the 2006/07 Municipal Year of the respective Area Committee (with the proviso if the Chair and Vice Chair were not to continue, that a Chair be appointed until that first meeting so that officers can continue Area Committee business).

On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 25 votes to 0.

RESOLVED -

That the following Chairs and Vice Chairs be elected for 2006/07:

Committee	Chair	Vice-Chair
Strategy	Cllr Bruce by 25 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Herbert	Cllr Ward
Customer Services & Resources	Cllr Taylor by 25 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Bradnack	Cllr Liddle
Community Services	Cllr Slatter by 25 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Blencowe	Cllr Ellis-Miller
Environment	Cllr Ward by 25 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Durrant	Cllr Bailey
Housing Management Board	Cllr James by 25 votes to 13 votes for Mr Tony Barnes	A tenant rep. To be appointed on 26 June
City Centre Development	Cllr Dixon by 25 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Hart	Cllr Boyce

	Chair	Vice-Chair
Planning	Cllr Baker by 24 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Blencowe	Cllr Slatter by 24 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Blencowe
Licensing	Cllr Liddle by 24 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Downham	Cllr Dixon by 24 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Downham
Civic Affairs	Cllr Boyce by 24 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Hart	Cllr C Rosenstiel by 24 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Hart
Employment Appeals Sub	Cllr Smart by 24 votes to 13 votes for Cllr Hughes	
Standards	Cllr Taylor	External member – to be agreed

(By 25 votes to 0)

2) To act in accordance with Part 4EE: Area Committee Procedure Rules (page 202 of Constitution – paragraph 6: Who chairs area committee meetings - 6.1 “An area committee shall, at its first meeting of the municipal year, elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.....”

3) To agree that the current Chairs and Vice Chairs of Area Committees continue in post until the first meeting in the 2006/07 Municipal Year of the respective Area Committee (with the proviso if the Chair and Vice Chair were not to continue, that a Chair be appointed until that first meeting so that officers can continue Area Committee business).

06/43 ANNUAL STATEMENTS

Councillor Nimmo-Smith produced a written statement on the Liberal Democrat Group’s priorities, which was appended to the agenda. A Labour Group Annual Statement was circulated around the Chamber.

Councillors Nimmo-Smith and Herbert then each spoke on their groups’ priorities for the forthcoming municipal year.

06/44 ADOPTION OF ANNUAL STATEMENT

Under the Scheme for Annual Statements, that of Councillor Nimmo-Smith was deemed to be a motion for adoption by the Council.

Councillor Bradnack seconded by Councillor Herbert proposed the following amendment:

That the Annual Statement be amended to add detailed assessment by appropriate Scrutiny Committees of the policy proposals in the Labour Annual Statement to deliver its six aims – city council services and the policies that are fairer, more affordable, safer, more accessible, less wasteful and more accountable.

On a show of hands the amendment was lost by 13 votes to 23.

Resolved (by 25 votes to 12)

That the Annual Statement of the Liberal Democrat Group, as appended to the agenda, be adopted as Council policy for 2006/2007.

06/45 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No members of the public wished to address the Council.

06/46 **RECOMMENDATION FROM THE LEADER – BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2006**

Resolved

To approve the draft of the Best Value Performance Plan 2006 as included in the agenda and to delegate completion and publication of the document to the Chief Executive.

06/47 **ORAL QUESTIONS**

- 1 Councillor Herbert to the Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport (Councillor Reid)

Given that the developer's submitted planning application for the Belvedere proposed 43 units of affordable housing, worth several multiples of the £2 million eventually settled on,

- why were the 43 units not secured ?
- and
- why did May 2006 Liberal Democrat election literature state falsely to voters that affordable housing was not deliverable in the Belvedere development?

- 2 Councillor Bradnack to the Executive Councillor for Arts & Leisure (Councillor Smith)

What changes will she make to the public sale of Folk Festival tickets in 2007 to ensure that the process is managed efficiently, fairly, and conveniently for Cambridge residents and others, and prevent both

- immediate ticket touting at double prices

and

- the council being pilloried in the local and national media?

- 3 Councillor Downham to the Leader (Councillor Nimmo-Smith)

This year's Mayor's Day Out to Gt Yarmouth on the 31st August has been sponsored by the Gredley Charitable Trust. The only condition Mr Gredley put on this sponsorship was that at least 6 Councillors steward on the coaches and that they return on different coaches. This will be my 4th year as a steward and Cllr Hart, Cllr Blencowe and Cllr Slatter have also been stewards on these outings. As a condition has been made by the sponsor for at least 6 Councillors to steward this year's outing, and given that 3 out

of 4 Councillors are Labour Councillors, can you please confirm that the shortfall of at least 2 Councillors will be nominated from the ruling group?

06/48 **NOTICE OF MOTION – CONCESSIONARY FARES**

Councillor Blencowe proposed and Councillor Bradnack seconded the following motion:

“This Council requests that the Council Leader works together with his county and district council counterparts to set up a concessionary bus fares scheme that enables pensioners and disabled people in the city to be able to travel free county wide as is the case presently for pensioners and disabled people in many of our neighbouring counties and in most parts of the country.

We also request that any such scheme encourages county pensioners and disabled people to use the park and ride service which is not the case under the present scheme. We further request that the Executive Councillor for Planning and Transport produces a long term bus strategy for the city in consultation with the public and our partner councils.”

Under paragraph 13.8 of the Council Procedure Rules it was agreed to deal with the motion the meeting.

Councillor Reid proposed and Councillor Ward seconded the following amendment:

“This Council welcomes the continued efforts of the Council Leader and the Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport to work with the County and other District Councils to set up a county wide concessionary bus fares scheme to enable all over 60s and disabled people in the city to travel free county wide after 9.30.

This Council notes that the Council Leader and the Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport have advocated such a scheme from the outset. Despite putting the necessary funding on the table, the City Council have been unable to implement cross border journeys unilaterally due to the bus operators’ insistence on a County wide arrangement.

The City Council has funded over 60 and disabled City residents to use the Park and Ride buses within the City for free after 9.30 and urges other Councils to follow its example.

Furthermore, this Council requests that the Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport reviews the progress that has been made in implementing the Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan Bus Strategy, in order to agree with the County Council priorities for further action.”

On the show of hands the amendment was carried by 22 votes to 10.

RESOLVED (by 22 votes to 8)

This Council welcomes the continued efforts of the Council Leader and the Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport to work with the County and other District Councils to set up a county wide concessionary bus fares scheme to enable all over 60s and disabled people in the city to travel free county wide after 9.30.

This Council notes that the Council Leader and the Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport have advocated such a scheme from the outset. Despite putting the necessary funding on the table, the City Council have been unable to implement cross border journeys unilaterally due to the bus operators' insistence on a County wide arrangement.

The City Council has funded over 60 and disabled City residents to use the Park and Ride buses within the City for free after 9.30 and urges other Councils to follow its example.

Furthermore, this Council requests that the Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport reviews the progress that has been made in implementing the Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan Bus Strategy, in order to agree with the County Council priorities for further action.

06/49 NOTICE OF MOTION – HIGHER EDUCATION PROVISION AT CRC AND ARU

Under Council Procedure Rules 26.1 and with the consent of the Council, Councillor Nimmo-Smith altered his motion as follows:

Replace all with:

“The Council

1. restates the importance of having available a full range of academic and vocational educational choices for Cambridge residents and to support the local economy;
2. recognises the significant contributions that Cambridge Regional College and Anglia Ruskin University make towards this;
3. values the long-standing valuable partnership between CRC and the City Council in the area of skills training;
4. recognises that CRC has to operate in a very constrained funding climate following the disappointing response to the Tomlinson proposals, and the recent government White Paper on further education;
5. notes the concerns that have been voiced by students and members of the public about the decisions to change A-level arrangements at CRC;
6. acknowledges the reassurances it has received that while traditional AS/A2 provision will in future be available at other centres, the equivalent of A2 level provision will continue to be offered, embedded within CRC's new University Foundation Programme, and that its offer of part-time language A-levels will continue within the countywide programme of community education;
7. calls on the Cambridge Collegiate Board to monitor the additional pressures on other further education centres which could reduce the opportunities for re-taking examinations;
8. invites the Principal of CRC to join in a seminar for members in preparation for policy decisions on the council's support for skills and training programmes;
9. recognises the importance for the skills required by local business of maintaining an adequate range of language degrees in the region particularly following similar cuts at the University of East Anglia, and the Higher Education Funding Council for England's identification of modern foreign languages as a 'strategically important and vulnerable' subject area, and therefore suggests that the Board of Governors of Anglia Ruskin University explores the possibility of submitting a bid to the HEFCE's

Strategic Development Fund for a partnership arrangement to maintain the availability of modern foreign language degrees in this part of the region.”

The motion, as altered, was seconded by Councillor Hymans.

Under paragraph 13.8 of the Council Procedure Rules it was agreed to deal with the motion the meeting.

RESOLVED (by 20 votes to 0)

The Council

1. restates the importance of having available a full range of academic and vocational educational choices for Cambridge residents and to support the local economy;
2. recognises the significant contributions that Cambridge Regional College and Anglia Ruskin University make towards this;
3. values the long-standing valuable partnership between CRC and the City Council in the area of skills training;
4. recognises that CRC has to operate in a very constrained funding climate following the disappointing response to the Tomlinson proposals, and the recent government White Paper on further education;
5. notes the concerns that have been voiced by students and members of the public about the decisions to change A-level arrangements at CRC;
6. acknowledges the reassurances it has received that while traditional AS/A2 provision will in future be available at other centres, the equivalent of A2 level provision will continue to be offered, embedded within CRC's new University Foundation Programme, and that its offer of part-time language A-levels will continue within the countywide programme of community education;
7. calls on the Cambridge Collegiate Board to monitor the additional pressures on other further education centres which could reduce the opportunities for re-taking examinations;
8. invites the Principal of CRC to join in a seminar for members in preparation for policy decisions on the council's support for skills and training programmes;
9. recognises the importance for the skills required by local business of maintaining an adequate range of language degrees in the region particularly following similar cuts at the University of East Anglia, and the Higher Education Funding Council for England's identification of modern foreign languages as a 'strategically important and vulnerable' subject area, and therefore suggests that the Board of Governors of Anglia Ruskin University explores the possibility of submitting a bid to the HEFCE's Strategic Development Fund for a partnership arrangement to maintain the availability of modern foreign language degrees in this part of the region.

06/50 TO NOTE THE RECORD OF MEMBERS' ATTENDANCES AT COMMITTEE, SUB-COMMITTEE AND WORKING PARTY MEETINGS DURING 2005/2006

Resolved that the written questions and answers and the Record of Members' attendances at Committee, Sub-Committee and Working Party Meetings during 2005/2006 be noted.
(A revised copy was sent to members having received amendments to the circulated copy)

MAYOR