

Joint Development Control  
Committee: Cambridge Fringes

18 July 2007  
12:00pm to 1.45pm

**Present:**

**Cambridge City Council:**

Baker, Blair, Blencowe, Durrant,  
Reid, Smart, Slatter, Zmura

**Cambridgeshire County Council:**

Harrison, McCraith, Turner Alternate  
Member: Baldwin

**South Cambridgeshire District  
Council:**

Bygott, Hunt, Kindersley, Mason,  
Nightingale, Smith

<b>FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCILS</b>
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**Peter Studdert, representing Cambridgeshire Horizons in the Chair**

**JDC/1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Cllr Reid nominated Cllr Baker as Chair, seconded by Cllr Smart. Cllr Turner nominated Cllr McCraith as Chair, seconded by Cllr Bygott.

The vote for Chair was tied at 8 votes each. A second vote was called and the vote was tied with 8 votes for both nominations.

The Committee debated the alternatives open to them and it was agreed:

- (i) to appoint Joint Chairs (Baker and McCraith), chairing alternate meetings. On the correct call of a toss of the coin, Cllr McCraith took the Chair for the first meeting
- (ii) not to appoint a vice chair
- (iii) that a protocol for the working of the Joint Chairs be submitted to its next meeting for approval (**action by legal/committee officers**).

**JDC/2 Apologies for absence**

These were received from Cllr Kenney.

**JDC/3 Declarations of Interest**

Members were advised that if they were members of more than one Authority (e.g Parish Council and District Council) they may choose to declare a personal interest for the record.

Cllr Mason – member of Histon Parish Council personal interest.

## **JDC/4      Terms of Reference / Standing Orders**

Cllr Baker proposed an amendment (seconded by Cllr Smart) to the Standing Orders set out in the agenda as follows:

“7.1 Delete and substitute with:

Members of the public have the public speaking rights set out in Annex A.

14.1 Delete and substitute with

‘A member of any of the councils who is not a member of the committee or a member of a parish council (in respect of applications relating to sites in their own parish) may speak at a meeting of the committee at the request or with the permission of that committee or of its Chair made or obtained before the meeting. Such request or permission shall specify the matters in respect of which the member shall be permitted to speak.’;

[Explanatory note: There might be circumstances in which the Committee may wish to permit a city, district or county councillor to speak on applications even if the application does not relate to her/his ward or division. For instance an executive councillor with relevant strategic responsibility may want to address the committee.]

8.2 Delete “rising in their place”

### **ANNEX B Development Control Forums**

1. Introductory paragraph:

Delete: ‘or by request of a Parish Council’.

2. Paragraph 2:

Delete: ‘or Parish Council request’.”

In response to questions from Cllrs Mason , Kindersley and Smith, Cllr Baker stated that his amendment (in relation to Parish Councils) was not intended to reduce the influence of Parish Councils in the development control process, merely to clarify the general public’s rights and their opportunity to engage with the Committee. Cllr Reid suggested that the Joint Committee review its Standing Orders in a year, this was supported by Cllr Smart. Cllrs Mason and Hunt were in favour of retaining the Standing Orders as set out in the agenda and reviewing after six months.

The Committee also considered the recommendations set out on under item 4 on the agenda page. It was noted that the first recommendation had been superseded by the decision to have Joint Chairs. The second recommendation (that the quorum in Standing Orders be amended so that South Cambridgeshire DC Cllrs do not need to attend meetings in respect of applications for which they do not have voting rights) was agreed, noting that it was a practical measure to reduce the risk of the Committee being inquorate. South Cambridgeshire Cllrs indicated that they were likely to attend nevertheless.

**Resolved (by 14 votes to 0)**

(i) To amend the Standing Orders as follows:

6.1 That South Cambridgeshire DC Cllrs do not need to attend meetings in respect of applications for which they do not have voting rights

7.1 Delete and substitute:

Members of the public have the public speaking rights set out in Annex A.

14.1 Delete and substitute

A member of any of the councils who is not a member of the committee or a member of a parish council (in respect of applications relating to sites in their own parish) may speak at a meeting of the committee at the request or with the permission of that committee or of its Chair made or obtained before the meeting. Such request or permission shall specify the matters in respect of which the member shall be permitted to speak;

[Explanatory note: There might be circumstances in which the Committee may wish to permit a city, district or county councillor to speak on applications even if the application does not relate to her/his ward or division. For instance an executive councillor with relevant strategic responsibility may want to address the committee.]

8.2 Delete "rising in their place"

**ANNEX B Development Control Forums**

1. Introductory paragraph:

Delete: 'or by request of a Parish Council'.

2. Paragraph 2:

Delete: 'or Parish Council request'.

(ii) To review the Standing Orders after one year.

**Action by Committee Managers/Solicitor to the Committee**

**JD/5 Scheme of Delegation**

The Joint Committee noted a typographical error in the appendix: add in first line (in bold type here) powers are delegated to the **Joint Planning Director (Growth Areas)**

Cllr Baker proposed the following amendments (seconded by Cllr Smart)

"1 Paragraph 1.a)

After 'Outline or Full Permission in the first line add: 'or is a reserved matters application'.

2. Amend paragraph 1.a) by adding:

'5. waste development

'6. regulation 3 development for all new facilities'."

The Joint Committee agreed that at this early stage of its duties it was important to debate and determine all reserved matters. In noting what Peter Studdert advised about how members would be approving Design Codes and Guides and that the Committee needed a manageable workload, the Committee agreed to review this arrangement in one year. Cllr Smith proposed that 1d) be amended to include a Board Member, the Chief Executive or Directors of Cambridgeshire Horizons. The Committee supported this addition.

**Resolved (unanimous)**

(i) To amend the scheme of delegation as follows:

1 Paragraph 1.a)

After 'Outline or Full Permission in the first line add: 'or is a reserved matters application'.

Paragraph 1d) to read 'the application is submitted by a Member or Chief Officer or planning officer of any member of the Councils or a Board Member, Chief Executive or Directors of Cambridgeshire Horizons'

2. Amend paragraph 1.a) by adding:

'5. waste development

'6. regulation 3 development for all new facilities'.

(ii) To review the scheme of delegation in one year

### **JD/6 Dates, Times and Location of Future Meetings**

Cllr Bygott proposed (and Cllr Hunt seconded) that the Joint Committee met 6 weekly. The proposal was lost by 2 votes for to 12 against.

Peter Studdert recommended to the Joint Committee that it met on a 4 week cycle, Cllrs Kindersley and Reid supported this proposal. Cllr Reid did not support meeting in school half terms and Cllrs Blair and McCraith agreed.

#### **Resolved -**

To meet on Wednesdays at 10am (by 11 votes to 4 votes for 9.30am).

That the dates be agreed in consultation with Joint Chairs and spokes (nb. subsequent to the meeting, this was agreed by the Joint Chairs and the South Cambs Cllrs were all consulted as a spokesperson was yet to be appointed)

The default venue for the Committee would be The Guildhall

### **JD/7 Training**

Referring to the training options listed in the paper, Cllr Reid proposed (seconded by Cllr Smart) the following priority order (i) context of major developments; (ii) dealing with major applications; (iii) technical planning applications. It was noted that the training should be arranged prior to the next meeting of the Committee. Members agreed that training should be offered in two sessions (morning and afternoon).

#### **Resolved (by 11 votes to 1)**

(i) That the training should firstly cover a) context of major developments; b) dealing with major applications; c) technical planning applications

(ii) That the training should be arranged prior to the next meeting of the Committee

(iii) That training should be offered in two sessions (morning and afternoon) and arrangements be agreed by the Joint Chairs.

**Action by Peter Studdert/Democratic Services Manager (SCDC)**

The meeting concluded at 1.45pm

Chair