

Cabinet

Monday 28 September 2009

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs Pengelly, in the Chair.
Councillor Fry, Vice Chair.
Councillors Bowyer, Brookshaw, Michael Leaves, Monahan and Dr. Salter.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Jordan, Ricketts and Wigen

The meeting started at 9.00 am and finished at 9.25 am.

Note: At a future meeting, the Cabinet will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

64. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct from Members in relation to items under consideration at this meeting.

65. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 September, 2009 were signed as a correct record.

66. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

In accordance with paragraph 10 of the Constitution, the following question was submitted to which the Chair on behalf of the relevant Cabinet Member, responded as set out below.

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
7 09/10	Mr F Sharpe	Councillor Jordan	Athenaeum Theatre
Please could the residents of Plymouth be given an update regarding the Plymouth Athenaeum Theatre as a meeting planned for 21 st September at the Council House was apparently cancelled?			
Response: Plymouth City Council is working to support all parties involved, this includes the Athenaeum Society and the Theatre Forum. We have had discussions with the developers of the adjacent site, to gain a full understanding of the wider plans of the whole area. A provisional meeting was set up on the 21 st September to meet with the members of the theatre forum to discuss progress of any discussions, but at that stage, there was insufficient information to have a meaningful discussion. We recognise the important contribution of the Amateur Dramatic Theatre Groups and the Athenaeum Society to Plymouth's cultural landscape. Plymouth City Council is currently reviewing all open and staged venues to support the on going work of the theatre groups, and we hope to be able to meet with them in the near future to discuss possible options.			

67. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

68. **HOUSING STOCK TRANSFER**

The Director for Corporate Support submitted a written report together with a schedule of representations received in response to the Public Open Space Notices.

Cabinet Members were advised -

- (i) of three further representations from Councillors as follows -
 - (a) Councillors King and McDonald do not wish the land to be sold at Cremyll Street but would agree to a garden / planting or car parking for local use. They assume therefore that the land will transfer over to Plymouth Community Homes (PCH) rather than be sold off beforehand in which case they are confident that a community approach to the land in question would be taken by PCH in accordance with local wishes to not have the land sold;
 - (b) Councillor Berrow would rather keep this land within the Council ownership rather than anybody else in terms of potential land values for these sites at a later date and also to stop green spaces disappearing within the City boundaries when not accepted by the local population.
- (ii) that the wooded area at Pennycross (Plan 42) would probably not transfer but a final decision had yet to be made;
- (iii) that following the comments on land at Mirador Place (Plan 184), the plan had been amended and the position clarified;
- (iv) that negotiations were continuing on the liabilities and corporate impact of the transfer on the Council;
- (v) that following the Member briefing, a written response would be sent to all Members on the questions raised, together with appropriate maps;
- (vi) that the Minister required 14 days from the Council's decision to consider consent to the transfer.

Resolved that –

- (1) the latest position on the transfer negotiations and preparations was noted;
- (2) the Director for Corporate Support continues to exercise his delegated authority to finalise negotiations on the transfer agreement;
- (3) the representations received in response to the Public Open Space Notices and Councillors are noted;
- (4) approval is given to the disposal of open space to Plymouth Community Homes as recommended by the officers subject to the Council's approval on the stock transfer;
- (5) the City Council is Recommended to proceed with the transfer of the Council's housing stock to Plymouth Community Homes subject to the

Council's final approval of the Valuation Agreement, the terms of the disposal contract and to the Council obtaining all necessary consent.

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