

CABINET (SPECIAL MEETING)**HELD: 29 FEBRUARY 2012**

Start: 7.00pm

Finish: 7.10pm

PRESENT:

Councillor I Grant (Leader of the Council, in the Chair)

Councillors		<u>Portfolio</u>
I Ashcroft		Public Realm and Human Resources
M Forshaw		Planning and Technical Services
A Fowler		Health and Leisure
Mrs V Hopley		Landlord Services and Community Safety
A Owens		Deputy Leader & Housing (Finance), Regeneration and Estates
D Westley		Resources and Transformation

In attendance	Fillis	Pendleton
Councillors:	Moran	Sudworth

Officers

- Managing Director (People and Places) (Mrs G Rowe)
- Managing Director (Transformation) (Ms K Webber)
- Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration (Mr B Livermore)
- Borough Treasurer (Mr M Taylor)
- Property Services Manager (Mr P Holland)
- Business Development Manager (Mr W Berkley)
- Assistant Member Services Manager (Mrs J Denning)

124. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

125. SPECIAL URGENCY (RULE 16 ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROCEDURE RULES)/URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

126. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

127. MATTERS REQUIRING DECISIONS

Consideration was given to reports relating to the following matter requiring a decision as contained on pages 1393 to 1431 and 1433 of the Book of Reports.

128. FIRBECK AND FINDON, SKELMERSDALE

Councillor Mrs. Hopley introduced the report of the Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration in relation to a proposal to make improvements to Findon and Firbeck, Skelmersdale.

The Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration circulated a letter from the Tenants and Residents' Forum which outlined its comments on the report.

In reaching the decision below, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it and accepted the reasons contained in it.

- RESOLVED:(A) That the scheme for improvement at Appendix A to the report be approved for consultation purposes.
- (B) That Council be asked to provide funding, as set out in paragraph 7 of the report, to support the scheme either now or over a period of time.
- (C) That subject to funding being approved, the Assistant Director of Housing and Regeneration be authorised to appoint dba Management Consultants to undertake a consultation exercise as set out in Appendix B to the report.
- (D) That an exception to Contract Procedure Rule 6 be made in relation to (C) above for the reasons set out in paragraph 5 of the report.
- (E) That the Assistant Director of Housing and Regeneration be authorised to negotiate and agree with the Homes and Communities Agency and St Modwens amendments to the Development Agreement and Collaboration Agreement for Skelmersdale Town Centre to enable the scheme for improvement of Firbeck and Findon as identified in Appendix A to proceed.
- (F) That the Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration suspend any letting to properties within Findon and Firbeck which, subject to consultation in (C) above, may be considered for demolition.
- (G) That the Assistant Director Community Services develop and administer a Grant scheme which will enable owners to be effective partners in the scheme.
- (H) That a further report be brought back on the results of the consultation for a final scheme to be approved together with endorsement of a grant scheme referred to in (G) above.

- (I) That a Cabinet Working Group be established to oversee the project to consist of 3 Majority Group Members and 2 Minority Group Members. Names to be submitted by Leaders of the Groups in due course.
- (J) That call-in is not appropriate for this item as the report is being submitted to Council on 29 February 2012.

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LEADER