

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 23 June 2014.

PRESENT: Mr A J King, MBE (Chairman), Miss S J Carey, Mrs T Dean, MBE, Mr R A Latchford, OBE, Mr L B Ridings, MBE, Mr D Smyth and Mrs P A V Stockell

ALSO PRESENT: Mr G Cooke

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr K Hollidge (Surveyor), Mr R Jones (Surveyor), Mr R Lemerle (Disposals Surveyor), Ms R Spore (Director Property & Infrastructure Support) and Mrs A Hunter (Principal Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

14. Apologies and Substitutes
(Item A1)

There were no apologies or substitutes.

15. Declarations of Interest
(Item A2)

Mr Ridings made a declaration in Item B4 – Disposal of Land at Langton Lane, Canterbury as his grandson attended the Simon Langton School for Boys.

16. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2013
(Item A3)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2013 are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

17. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

18. Disposal of Gatland House, Gatland Lane, Maidstone
(Item B1)

- (1) Roderick Le Merle (Surveyor) introduced the report which asked the Property Sub-Committee to consider and either endorse or make recommendations on the Cabinet Member's proposed decision to sell Gatland House on the terms outlined and to delegate authority to the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to adjust the final terms of the proposed sale, if necessary, to conclude the transaction.

- (2) Questions were raised about the future demand for school places, other options for disposal of the site and the ownership of the sports field and pavilion. Mr Le Merle undertook to confirm the ownership of the sports field and pavilion.
- (3) RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member's proposed decision to sell the property on the terms outlined be endorsed and that authority be delegated to the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to adjust the final terms of the proposed sale, if necessary, to conclude the transaction.

(Voting: For 6; Against 1; Abstentions 0)

19. Disposal of 15a Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge
(Item B2)

- (1) Richard Jones (Disposals Manager) introduced the report which asked the Property Sub-Committee to consider and either endorse or make recommendations on the Cabinet Member's proposed decision to sell 15A Shipbourne Road on the terms outlined and to delegate authority to the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to adjust the final terms of the proposed sale, if necessary, to conclude the transaction.
- (2) RESOLVED:
 - (a) That the Cabinet Member's proposed decision to sell the property on the terms outlined be endorsed and that authority be delegated to the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to adjust the final terms of the proposed sale, if necessary, to conclude the transaction.
 - (b) That a further report be received by the Property Sub-Committee with detailed information about the completed sale and use of the land.

20. Funding approval for the construction of Sevenoaks Grammar School Annexe
(Item B3)

- (1) Rebecca Spore (Director of Property and Infrastructure Support) introduced the report which asked the Property Sub-Committee to consider and either endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Democratic Services on his proposed decision to begin construction of the Sevenoaks Grammar School Annexe and Trinity Free School.
- (2) Questions were raised about risk, the funding arrangements for both schools and the costs of proceeding with one building project without the other.
- (3) It was proposed by Mr Smyth, and seconded by Mrs Dean, that the Property Sub-Committee re-considers the matter before a decision is made to proceed with the Grammar School Annexe without explicit authority where required by the Secretary of State. Upon being put to the vote the motion fell.

(Voting: For 2; Against 5; Abstentions 0)

(4) RESOLVED

- (a) That the proposed decision to begin construction of the Sevenoaks Grammar School Annexe and the Trinity Free School be endorsed;
- (b) That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Group Spokesmen be consulted by email at the point of the decision being made.

(Voting: For 5; Against 2; Abstentions 0)

21. Disposal of land at Langton Lane, Canterbury

(Item B4)

- (1) Keith Hollidge (Surveyor) introduced the report which considered the proposed disposal of land at Langton Lane, Canterbury. In response to questions it was confirmed that the developer would bear the costs of any planning application.
- (2) RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member's proposed decision to sell the land on the terms outlined be endorsed and that authority be delegated to the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to adjust the final terms of the proposed sale, if necessary, to conclude the transaction.