

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

held at the Council House, Nottingham,

on Monday 25 June 2007 at 2.00 pm

ATTENDANCES

✓ Councillor Munir	Lord Mayor
✓ Councillor Ahmed	✓ Councillor Jones
✓ Councillor Akhtar	Councillor A Khan
✓ Councillor Arnold	✓ Councillor G Khan
✓ Councillor Aslam	✓ Councillor Klein
✓ Councillor Benson	✓ Councillor Lee
✓ Councillor Bryan	✓ Councillor Liversidge
✓ Councillor Bull	✓ Councillor Long
✓ Councillor Campbell	✓ Councillor MacLennan
✓ Councillor Chapman	✓ Councillor Malcolm
✓ Councillor Clark	✓ Councillor Marshall
✓ Councillor Clarke-Smith	✓ Councillor Mellen
✓ Councillor Collins	✓ Councillor Mir
✓ Councillor Cowan	✓ Councillor Newton
✓ Councillor Cresswell	✓ Councillor Oldham
✓ Councillor Culley	✓ Councillor Packer
✓ Councillor Davie	✓ Councillor Parbutt
✓ Councillor Dewinton	✓ Councillor Price
✓ Councillor Edwards	✓ Councillor Smith
Councillor Foster	✓ Councillor Spencer
✓ Councillor Gibson	✓ Councillor Sutton
✓ Councillor Griggs	✓ Councillor Trimble
✓ Councillor Grocock	✓ Councillor Unczur
✓ Councillor Hartshorne	✓ Councillor Urquhart
✓ Councillor Heppell	✓ Councillor Watson
✓ Councillor Ibrahim	✓ Councillor Wildgust
Councillor James	✓ Councillor Williams
Councillor Johnson	✓ Councillor Wood

15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

In respect of agenda item 8 – NET Phase Two – Transport and Works Act Order Submission, the following members declared interests:-

Councillor Grocock declared a personal interest as a City Council appointed director of Nottingham City Transport Ltd, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting.

Councillor Clark declared a personal interest as a City Council appointed member of the NET Development Board, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting.

Councillor Clarke-Smith declared a personal interest as a City Council appointed director of Greater Nottingham Rapid Transit Limited, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting.

Councillor Davie declared a personal interest as a City Council appointed member of the Greater Nottingham Light Rapid Transit Advisory Committee, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting.

Councillor Long declared a personal interest as a City Council appointed member of the NET Development Board, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting.

Councillor Gibson declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 – Future of the Meadows and Southside Area Action Plan as a City Council appointed director of Nottingham City Transport Ltd, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting.

16 QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Public Petitions

Councillor Cresswell submitted a petition to the Lord Mayor, on behalf of the Moorgreen Tenants and Residents Association, requesting a change to the day on which street cleaning was undertaken, the installation of further litter bins and the provision of more CCTV cameras on this estate.

Councillor Long submitted a petition to the Lord Mayor, on behalf of local residents and workers, requesting a pedestrian crossing at the junction of Aspley Lane and Nuthall Road.

Public Questions

Engaging Local People

Mr Moore asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Consultation and Area Working:-

I believe that one way of improving your local neighbourhood is to engage local people. I do not believe that the current methods of doing this work and so my question is, why can't we have the equivalent of a parish council which is run by local people in the areas of Top Valley, Heronridge and Rise Park? I believe that this will be more effective in dealing with local issues especially if these councillors are elected locally and have some budgetary powers. Such a council should consist of local people and have contacts with the local councillors as well. They should have a clerk to deal with any legal and admin issues.

I do not believe the current system works for several reasons, one of which is that the local councillors are not local to our area, they do not meet with enough local people and do not really know the local issues as well as people who actually live in these areas. Please respond.

Councillor Bull replied as follows:-

Thank you, my Lord Mayor. I don't think Mr Moore is here but I would like to thank him for asking this question.

Hopefully members have got the question in front of them so what I am about to say will make some sense.

I am going to give the answer in three parts; firstly, give you some context to the timely relevance of Mr Moore's question, secondly, the local perspective regarding Nottingham, Top Valley, Rise Park, Heronridge context, and lastly, address the comments that he made about local ward members.

Mr Moore's question comes at a particularly useful time since the latest Government thinking regarding governance of our neighbourhoods, which is called the 'Local Government White Paper: Strong and Prosperous Communities', is going through Parliament as we speak and is in the process of becoming law. Within the White Paper, the Government sets out that it expects ward councillors to be champions of the community, that local people should be at the very heart of delivering services and decision-making around those services, and I will just quote a bit - it wants to:-

“reshape public services around the citizens of communities who use them, consulting, involving and encouraging them to have a say about the sort of services they want. Individuals who use services on a personal basis such as home care support, for instance, should be able to decide for themselves how to use the care budget allocated to them and communities that rely on services such as street cleaning or community safety should be encouraged and enabled to have their say in setting priorities and influencing how to spend public funds.”

Although a good portion of that through the area committee structure in Nottingham is already happening, I also agree with Mr Moore that if local public services are to respond to the needs of different residents and communities, then they need to know what the residents want and they need to be able to have the power to influence service delivery in their neighbourhood, and that's not just Council services.

Locally, on finalising the Council's neighbourhood agenda, Nottingham will have services responding directly to individual neighbourhoods, just like Top Valley, Rise Park and Heronridge and I am to further consult with ward members and partners over the detail of Nottingham's response to neighbourhood management over the summer months.

In my view our neighbourhood management model will be just like, in most respects, a Parish Council, in that local services will be geared towards a very local community, we are talking around 3-5,000 population, even less in some cases, and this will be driven by residents and ward members and I will expect that residents and ward members will see a difference in service delivery at neighbourhood level over the next 18 months, as we roll out neighbourhood management. We have neighbourhood managers in place to scrutinise the services that are delivered in our wards and our

neighbourhoods, and the supporting staff below that, but I would further expect over time that staff from the Council and partners will come together to deliver services at a local neighbourhood level, and that's communities like Top Valley, Heronridge and Rise Park.

I personally don't agree that a Parish Council would be better than what we plan, as I believe that this would add another layer of unnecessary and costly local government between the City Council and the people that it represents.

I have had a fairly significant experience of Parish Council structures within Lincolnshire and it's no criticism on the Lincolnshire structure per se, but on a personal level, a criticism of Parish Councils is that they have to decide to set a Council Tax precept, and even then the small budget that they get is not really capable of effecting any real change at the neighbourhood level. So I think it is better for ward members and local residents to come together in a neighbourhood to drive delivery of the City Council's services and also partner services, the police and the NHS as well, without the extra cost of another layer of government. It is better for residents at the end of the day to be able to influence our City Council services and partners in their neighbourhood rather than having that Parish Council.

Thirdly, if you look at the question, Mr Moore has a direct criticism of the ward councillors and I would just state "the local councillors are not local to our area, they do not meet with enough local people and do not really know the local issues as well as people who actually live in these areas."

As far as I am aware, the local ward members have served the communities of Top Valley, Heronridge and Rise Park for well over 10 years, and in one case 19 years. They have lived in the local area in the past and as far as I am aware there is no area in the City that received as many newsletters and questionnaires recently, and throughout the year in fact, from their local councillors. There are a number of councillors in the Council Chamber that aren't lucky enough to live in the ward that they represent, and I am one of them, and I don't think that this lessens the effectiveness of a ward councillor if they don't live in the area.

As long as you are giving advice surgeries, of course some councillors don't have advice surgeries, if you are giving advice

surgeries, regular newsletters, questionnaires, coffee mornings, public meetings; if you are making yourself available for residents then I think that you can remain very, very much in touch with your ward residents and I know that at least two of the three current and present councillors do all of those and more, and the most important thing about ward councillors is their commitment to the communities they represent.

I don't wish to be flippant but a husband and wife team of ward councillors mean that you can pretty much guarantee that they will take the ward home with them, without assuming too much about their conversations at home.

I can detail in writing the many types of consultation that I know this area has been party to and if Mr Moore had come to the meeting, and I hope maybe through some other means he might get to realise this as part of my answer, but if he wants to write to me and give me his address (although I think the ward councillors have a fairly good knowledge of where Mr Moore lives) then I will definitely have no problem listing the consultations that the Rise Park, Heronridge and Top Valley have been part of, even over just the year. I don't have time to list them, I don't want to take up all of the 30 minutes.

The only regret I have of course, to Rise Park and Top Valley and Heronridge, is that they didn't elect their third Labour Councillor, Gill Haymes, and instead you'll have two Labour Ward councillors working extremely hard to fill the gap caused by electing a Conservative councillor. Thank you.

Bulwell Hall Park

Mr Lawson asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Community Services:-

As a regular user of Bulwell Hall Park, I am concerned at the lack of interest shown in maintaining the park. There are no speed restrictions for vehicles going through the park, a lack of litter/dog mess bins around all the park, cars cutting over grassed areas to reach the lakes, burned out motorcycles and rubbish dumped in the lakes, nature's debris at the base of the trees, trees being set alight, a burned out car at the north east corner, at the base of the railway embankment. The list is endless.

Councillors Hartshorne, Heppell and Klein have stated that they are looking for funding to build a picnic and play area on the park. Should the Council be looking at the park as a whole and not just a small section of the park? Are there any ways that the Council could attract extra funds to maintain the park in the way of lottery funds, government / environment / European help?

We are very lucky indeed to have such a park on the edge of the city with country side surroundings. Please do not let this park fall any further into neglect.

On behalf of Bulwell Hall Park users.

Councillor Unczur replied as follows:-

Thank you, my Lord Mayor, and may I thank Mr Lawson for asking the question this afternoon because it was roughly the same question that he asked me at great length when I knocked on his door when we were electioneering, up your way Alan and Eunice, not so long ago, so he deserves a reply although I actually seem to recall that he got a very lengthy one at the time, bless him.

Now to the question itself, Bulwell Park in particular offers great open space to residents of Bulwell but equally it is a bit of a hidden jewel, and due to its size and provision it can offer much more to a broader reach of visitors and I have certainly had enough people coming to me on that particular subject, and particularly the local councillors who have been mentioned within this question. Recognising that improvements can be made, the Council has sought to be proactive and the Parks and Open Spaces team and Neighbourhood Management Team have recently undertaken work with the Bulwell Angling and Conservation Group to prioritise key issues of concern for future improvements.

Equally, as part of 'Breathing Space', the City's strategic framework for future maintenance and management of all Open and Green Spaces, the Parks Service is currently carrying out consultation within all Neighbourhood Management areas to develop a prioritised action plan of key improvements. This in turn will lead to a 10 year prioritisation investment plan for the entire City's parks.

As the question suggests, this will allow Bulwell Hall Park to have a new landscape master plan produced which will help considerably in future bidding for external funding support. However, I am pleased to confirm that improvements will take place this year on the park's footpaths, to address some of the security issues, restricted and unwanted vehicle access and to improve the quality of the lake. So it's happening. Funding for these works has been secured from the Safer Stronger Communities, Cleaner Greener Fund and work is due to take place in the coming weeks.

In addition to that, starting next week, the redevelopment works will commence on the pavilion within the park and refurbish and extend the current provision to include new golf and improved football changing rooms, new toilets, and the café will be done up. This Pavilion will offer all park users that have not been able to use the facilities previously a much better deal, as well as extended car parking provision (again pushed forward by local councillors), lighting and new landscaping and we will be looking at the picnic areas as well.

We will also be looking at introducing the new pilot programme for our Park Rangers as mentioned, of course, in our manifesto so that the Park Rangers can work with schools and other community groups to make our parks better and actually more enjoyable for one and all. Thank you.

Recycling Bins

Ms Haque asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Transport and Street Services:-

I would like to know why I have to wait until autumn 2007 to receive my recycling bins.

I feel let down by this Council, having been fobbed off with different dates since the start of this year until finally being told it will be this autumn.

Can you explain the sense in this? If I was to get a recycling bin this summer (like the rest of the city), I would be able to recycle the many plastic bottles used in summer, hedge cuttings, garden rubbish etc. Instead, getting one in autumn will mean all of this will go into landfill.

I do not have a car to take them to recycling sites myself and compost all I can in a small garden.

The government go on about global warming - and I want to do my part but find the Council will not help me. If I was to get a recycling bin this summer - I could assist the environment by recycling a great deal.

By having to wait until autumn, this is such a waste.

To conclude:- please can I have my recycling bins this summer and not have to wait until Autumn, after all, I do pay my council tax and expect better service than this.

Thank you.

Councillor Grocock replied as follows:-

Thank you, my Lord Mayor, and can I thank Ms Haque for her question. Lord Mayor, Nottingham City Council will be introducing a draft waste management strategy later this year which sets out an ambitious recycling target of up to 50% to be achieved by 2018, which is two years ahead of the national target. Our Labour manifesto demonstrates commitment in achieving this target, in the promise of doubling our recycling rates to 40% of the City's waste by 2011.

A development budget of £450,000 has been allocated this year in 2007/08 in order to further expand the kerbside recycling scheme. To attain and exceed these targets, the Council will be expanding and improving the kerbside recycling scheme to cover all suitable households within the City by 2010.

The introduction of such a scheme requires very careful planning both in terms of service delivery but also with regard to resources necessary to effectively maintain and operate it. As such there will be a phased introduction of recycling schemes to households across the City and we are in the process of doing that at this moment in time. Six thousand bins were actually delivered just only a few weeks ago and that's gone extremely well but we can't do it all at once.

The Council has already increased its recycling performance from 4% to 22% in just 5 years and this will continue to rise as the kerbside recycling scheme is expanded. Last year the scheme was improved

and expanded to 47,000 households. Another 14,000 households have already been added this year and a further 10,000 will be added in the scheme this autumn which Ms Haque has actually alluded to. By the end of this year, around 71,000 households will be participating in the scheme, which is nearly 60% of the City. This demonstrates great progress indeed in the Council's commitment to provide all suitable households with the kerbside recycling scheme by 2010.

Lord Mayor, I will do my utmost to make sure that we keep on track and try to contain Ms Haque's problems and difficulties by rolling out the scheme on programme as we have identified. Thank you Lord Mayor.

Electronic Bus Timetables

Mrs Williams asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Transport and Street Services:-

When will electronic bus timetables be constructed at bus stops in Clifton, Wilford and the Meadows? I have heard that money has already been allocated. Is this correct?

Councillor Grocock replied as follows:-

Thank you, Lord Mayor, and can I thank Mrs Williams for her question. Lord Mayor, in 2004 I recommended to the Executive Board to approve an electronic information strategy, which is an ambitious £3.5 million plan covering the tail end of the Local Transport Plan One and Local Transport Two period.

The first stage of the roll out was to install electronic departure boards along a number of key corridors in the City area, the City itself and the City Centre. Research indicated that over 50% of the people access information at bus stops and up to 40% find it difficult to read the timetables.

From passenger surveys regarding information provision, the erection of electronic displays have been consistently referenced as one of the best improvements to public transport to date and we have installed 110 signs, with another 30 to be installed by October 2007. This investment so far has been on quality partnership corridors within the

City Centre. These signs will be showing real times as well as schedule information once the new software has been thoroughly tested, with a site acceptance test due to be completed by July 2007.

Passengers will also be able to access real time information on trip time, the web sites and by text. Electronic information implementation programme has had a positive effect on the travelling public with bus operators, employees and employers. Satisfaction rating with public transport information has risen steadily to a current level of 87%. Operators have commented on the quality lift given to this image of bus travel provided by on-street displays.

Work is currently taking place to put electronic timetables along Southchurch Drive in Clifton, Meadows Way in the Meadows and Queens Drive. So far, the poles and brackets have been erected and the electric connections have been put in place.

The displays are awaiting delivery and should be installed by October 2007, which, I assume, Miss Williams particularly knows about. There are already functioning displays throughout Wilford Grove and Bathley Street in the Meadows on route 11 and I hope this programme actually rolls itself out on time and budget within the next few months. Thank you, Lord Mayor.

17 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2007, be confirmed and signed by the Lord Mayor.

18 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no official communications.

19 QUESTIONS

OfSTED Inspections

Councillor Trimble asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People Services:-

Would the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services care to comment on the recent OfSTED Inspections in local primary schools?

Councillor Chapman replied as follows:-

Thank you, Lord Mayor, and I thank Councillor Trimble for the question. Since January 2007 there have been 18 OfSTED reports on primary schools and I am pleased to say that 3 of our 17 primary schools have been judged 'outstanding', 10 have been judged 'good' (of these 4 'good' with 'outstanding' features) and 5 have been judged 'satisfactory'.

We are awaiting the outcome of two further inspections that are currently taking place.

Overall this now means that 70% of primary schools in the City have 'good' or 'outstanding' ratings from OfSTED, which is remarkable given the social composition of the City. This is a reflection of the hard work of headteachers, of teachers, of staff, of governors and pupils but, I would also say, the Children's Services department and their support staff.

We continue to work with schools to improve standards of education, achievement and attainment and my personal view is that there are further improvements still to be made and most of the OfSTEDs do say that, even in the case of the outstanding schools. For me, one of the keys is the involvement of parents. This is largely because parents spend far more time with the children than teachers ever do, but also parental support and encouragement can make an enormous amount of difference to a child's willingness to respond to education and it does very, very much complement the work of the teachers and, for this reason, Children's Services has put an enormous amount of energy in developing what I think is one of the most extensive approaches towards encouraging parental involvement, and indeed early intervention, that there is in this country. This, I think, is one of the ways forward and I would urge any Governor in this Chamber, and there are a number, to please look at this new strategy and to take it on board and to make the most of it in their particular school. Thank you.

Level 3 Job Vacancies

Councillor Griggs asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Transforming Neighbourhoods:-

Is the Portfolio Holder aware that 1 in 4 jobs vacancies in Nottingham are for level 3 jobs and does he believe more should be done to encourage and equip Nottingham people to fill these vacancies?

Councillor Clark replied as follows:-

Thank you, Lord Mayor, and I thank Councillor Griggs for her question which addresses and highlights the issue of medium to high level vocational skills issues in the City and questions whether the current provision meets employers' needs.

More can always be done to address any issue but it is usually down to priority and available resources. With regard to level 3 training there has been a markedly improved emphasis on this area over the last 12 months, both regionally and locally.

The Employment Skills and Productivity Partnership, which includes private sector representation, has clearly made this a priority and is leading in channelling funds and staffing resources to this area. As yet it is probably a little early to pass judgement but the initial signs are encouraging.

The main approach for existing employees is through the 'Train to Gain' programme which has recently been launched. Through this, individual employers identify, through a broker, their exact training needs and a bespoke package to suit their needs is produced. Funding is released through the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), though at the moment more funding is released to address level 2 skills. This is an area which we need to monitor to judge progress in meeting the training and employment opportunity gap. In addition, to help match employment market gaps with skills needed, there is currently a major expansion of the Apprenticeship Scheme, which is specifically targeted at level 3. This serves to highlight the emphasis now placed on training provision being demand driven rather than traditionally supply led. This is highlighted through the recent Leitch report, which the Nottingham Skills Board is eagerly waiting to develop following the imminent publication of the implementation plan.

The last vehicle to address this level of training is to address the supply chain, through concentrating on the 14-19 agenda. By focussing on a more vocationally orientated curriculum such as the

new Diploma, addressing teaching methods and by bringing on board, at an earlier stage, employers, it is hoped to keep people engaged for longer with learning.

Indicators so far show that it is beginning to work, with more than ever achieving level 2 and then moving on to level 3. Indeed LSC figures support the fact that once Nottingham people get to level 3, their success rate is very, very good compared to other areas.

I hope that this serves to answer the question raised and in summary my response is, yes we are aware of the technician level vacancy rate, there is a lot of activity around stimulating level 3 skills, but perhaps it's a little early to make a judgement on whether this will meet Nottingham's needs. But we can always do more to help City residents raise their opportunities in life and we are working to raise yet more resources to address the issue.

Further Education

Councillor Newton asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People's Services:-

Would the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services comment upon the potential impact on our local communities due to the current restructuring and reorganisation within the Further Education institutions? Does he share my deep concern over the prevalent lack of consultation, transparency and local accountability?

Councillor Chapman replied as follows:-

Thank you, Lord Mayor, and can I thank Councillor Newton also for his question. Within any educational institutions there is always going to be a certain level of review and development of services. It is inevitable.

Currently the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) is leading a review of Further Education. This review includes looking at the curriculum, the recent developments within the 14-19 agenda and the relationship with schools and academies. It is also looking at the division of responsibilities between colleges, and a further factor is the capital needs of the colleges. There are likely to be at least three major submissions to Government for some substantial amount of

investment in all colleges in this City. So there is an enormous amount going on.

The LSC is expected to consult the City Council on these proposals and, indeed, over the 14-19 curriculum there is constant dialogue. Where I do believe there's a problem, which I think is of concern and which the Councillor is, I think, alerting us to, is that at the moment the LSC does not have any mandatory powers. What it can do is cajole, seduce, induce, push, hassle, harry, but it cannot tell colleges precisely what they have to do.

Now I think this is causing serious difficulties because what it means is that there is no proper central planning. As a consequence, I think there is quite a lot of duplication in the curriculum. I think there is quite a lot of indecision over what happens to different buildings, and there's an enormous amount of assets wrapped up in those colleges, and I do think it is not providing the necessary clarity that is required either for communities, or more important still, for the prospective students and I think, in the end, the City is beginning to suffer a little because of this system. I know the LSC is doing its utmost but the system does not allow it to make clean, clear decisions and that is the nub of the problem.

I believe the Government is going to bring in legislation to give more power to LSCs to be able to specify precisely what they require from colleges and I can't wait for that to happen.

20 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2007/08, STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2006/07 AND STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL 2006/07

The report of Councillor Edwards (set out on page 42 of the agenda) and addendum were submitted and the recommendations were moved by Councillor Edwards and seconded by Councillor Griggs.

MOVED by Councillor Price by way of amendment and seconded by Councillor Cowan:-

In recommendation 2.1(a) delete 'recognises' and substitute 'notes' and delete 'significant' and substitute 'limited'.

In recommendation 2.1(c) delete 'successful management' and substitute 'reallocation'.

After discussion the amendment was put to the vote and was not carried.

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Griggs that:-

(1) it be recognised:-

- (a) that there had been significant progress in delivering the actions underpinning the Council's priorities that were set out in the Corporate Plan 2006-11 published in June 2006. Of all performance indicators, 61% demonstrated better performance than in 2005/06 and 62% met or exceeded their target. This built on the general performance improvements that had been made, with over half of the Best Value Performance Indicators (55%) projected to be in the top or second quartile in 2006/07 compared to only 49% in 2005/06;**
- (b) that further work was underway and planned to tackle remaining areas of under-performance and to progress priority areas for improvement. This would be achieved by producing more focused and timely reports and continued development of the performance management framework. The drive for improvement would be supported by our Serving Nottingham Better programme which would be re-focused following our recent Corporate Assessment. Scrutiny would continue to support improvement through activity framed by the Strategy for Supporting Improvement;**
- (c) that there had been successful management of resources – enabling the allocation of over £12 million of extra revenue to our priorities in 2006/07 and £115 million spend on capital works; delivering £8 million efficiency savings and exceeding the targets, with more demanding targets for 2007/08; and all this achieved whilst delivering a balanced budget for Social Services, despite significant pressures and a national backdrop of overspending in Social Services Departments. Improvements in Adult Social Care over the previous year had been recognised by the Audit Commission with an increase in**

the Corporate Performance Assessment (CPA) service block score from 2 to 3;

- (2) subject to the Chief Executive being authorised to make changes in response to observations from the Executive Board and Performance and Resources Standing Panel, and any other minor amendments or corrections as may be necessary, the Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07 be approved;
- (3) subject to the Chief Finance Officer being authorised to make any changes in response to observations from Performance and Resources Standing Panel and any other minor amendments or corrections as may be necessary, the Statement of Accounts for 2006/07, including the Statement on Internal Control, be approved in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003.

21 NET PHASE TWO – TRANSPORT WORKS ACT – ORDER SUBMISSION

The report of Councillor Grocock (set out on page 51 of the agenda) was submitted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Grocock, seconded by Councillor Clark that the City Council confirm, by a majority of the Council, as required by section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972, the following decisions taken on 5 March 2007:-

- (1) the joint promotion with Nottinghamshire County Council of an order made under the Transport and Works Act 1992 (“the Order”) by the Secretary of State for Transport:-
 - (a) to authorise the construction and operation of two extensions to the Nottingham Express Transit System, running from the present terminus of the system at Nottingham railway station in the City of Nottingham to:-
 - (i) Clifton in the City of Nottingham; and
 - (ii) Chilwell in the Borough of Broxtowe in the County of Nottinghamshire via Beeston in that Borough (“the Extensions”);

- (b) to make provision in the City of Nottingham and in the Boroughs of Broxtowe and Rushcliffe in the County of Nottinghamshire for the stopping up or diversion of existing rights of way, traffic regulation, street works, the construction of tram stops along the route, park and ride facilities, other associated and consequential works, the compulsory purchase of land and rights in land, the use of land permanently, the temporary possession of land and other works and provisions necessary for the purposes of, or for purposes ancillary to the construction or operation of the Extensions; and**
- (c) to provide for the repeal of provisions of the Greater Nottingham Light Rapid Transit Act 1994 (which authorised the construction and operation of the existing Nottingham Express Transit System), in particular so that from the day specified in the Order the operation and maintenance of the existing Nottingham Express Transit System will be governed by the Order rather than by that Act;**

be approved;

- (2) the Corporate Director of City Development, be authorised in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Transport and Street Services, to take all such steps as may be necessary (including a joint agreement with the County Council) to carry the above Resolution into effect, including all those steps required for the Council to apply for and thereafter to promote its application for the Order; and**
- (3) that the corporate seal of the Council be affixed to any documents required to be sealed in connection with the application for and subsequent promotion of the Order.**

In accordance with Standing Order 19, Councillor Price requested that his abstention from the above vote be recorded.

22 STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT FOR PLANNING

The report of Councillor Clark (set out on page 60 of the agenda) was submitted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Clark, seconded by Councillor Gibson, that the amendments outlined in the Planning Inspector's Binding Report be noted and the revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) be adopted.

23 FUTURE OF THE MEADOWS AND SOUTHSIDE AREA ACTION PLAN (AAP)

The report of Councillor Clark (set out on page 64 of the agenda) was submitted and its recommendations were moved by Councillor Clark and seconded by Councillor Gibson.

MOVED by Councillor Akhtar by way of amendment and seconded by Councillor Sutton:-

Under 2) Recommendations

add new recommendation

“(iv) instructs officers that the Meadows and Southside Local Neighbourhood Plan should take account of all of the comments by the Planning Inspector on the Meadows and Southside AAP.”

After discussion the amendment was put to the vote and was carried.

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Akhtar, seconded by Councillor Sutton, that:-

- (1) the outcome of the Exploratory Meeting called by the Planning Inspectorate on 21st March 2007 be noted;**
- (2) the recommendation to seek a direction from the Secretary of State to withdraw the AAP from the formal examination process and to subsequently remove the Meadows and Southside AAP from the Local Development Scheme 2007 be approved;**

- (3) the intention to develop a Meadows and Southside Local Neighbourhood Plan to provide a land use, investment decisions and transport planning framework for the area, to replace the Meadows and Southside AAP be noted;
- (4) officers be instructed that the Meadows and Southside Local Neighbourhood Plan should take account of all of the comments by the Planning Inspector on the Meadows and Southside AAP.

24 ADOPTION OF THE PLANS SET OUT IN THE LABOUR MANIFESTO AS THE BASIS OF COUNCIL'S POLICIES

The report of Councillor Collins (set out on page 41 of the agenda) was submitted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Chapman, that the plans in 'Nottingham Labour, Proud of Nottingham' be adopted, as a basis of its policies for the current term of office.

In accordance with Standing Order 19, the following members requested that their vote against the above resolution be recorded:-

Councillor Clarke-Smith
Councillor Cowan
Councillor Culley

Councillor Davie
Councillor Price
Councillor Spencer

The meeting closed at 7.11 pm.