

<b>ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	<b>Agenda Item No.</b>
<b>6 NOVEMBER 2008</b>	<b>Public Report</b>

## Report of the Director of Strategic Resources

Report Author – Paulina Ford, Performance Scrutiny and Research Officer  
Contact Details - 01733 452508

### EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

#### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to notify the Panel of the Executive Decisions which have been taken and which relate to the Panel's remit.

#### 2. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

- 2.1 Links to the Corporate Plan, Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement are contained within the individual decisions notices.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

##### 3.1 The Green Backyard

##### **Decision**

Authority to use the ex-allotment site owned by PCC, located on London Road for a period of three years for the purpose of creating an exemplar environmental demonstration facility. The project will cover all aspects of sustainability, enabling people to grow and produce their own food, encouraging communities to adopt renewable and sustainable ways of living, run skills courses to allow people to gain the knowledge required to adopt behavioural change.

This decision supports the city's aspiration to become the environment capital of the UK.

The project will be managed by Peterborough City Council in conjunction with Eco Arts Projects through a Social Enterprise company currently being set up known as 'Seeding Futures'. The Council has still to decide what resources it will put into the project, which will be subject to the appropriate decision making process.

##### **Reasons**

The ex-allotment site on London Road is recommended as the most suitable location for this project for the following reasons:

This site has been disused for over 10 years, this project will put a short term use to this derelict piece of land for the benefit of the local community.

City Council will be reducing the maintenance liability on the land and receiving an annual lease. Anticipated annual benefit for the council is £2,400.

This land is included in phase 3 of the Carbon challenge site, a decision to its long term use will not be made for a minimum of three years, the period of the lease agreement for this project.

Other sites across the city have been ruled out in favour of this site due to its excellent location in the centre of Peterborough which ensures that the project is accessible to all.

A public consultation event was carried out on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2008, which saw approximately 80 individuals from the local community and across the city attend. All feedback was positive and has been formally recorded.

Although there is one drawback of using this particular site (the short 3 year lease), it is felt that the other positive factors outweigh this element. We are committed to ensuring that should this project be proved successful the Council will work with the Project Co-ordinators to secure a long term site for continued development.

### **3.2 The Barnack Conservation Area Appraisal**

#### **Decision**

The Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration & Growth is requested to approve boundary changes to the Barnack Conservation Area (plan available on request).

#### **Reasons**

A review of the Barnack Conservation Area has been carried out as part of the Council's on-going review of all 29 of Peterborough's designated Conservation Areas. A detailed Appraisal has been prepared for the Area and, following public consultation and subsequent amendment, it was adopted at Planning and Environmental Protection Committee meeting on 4th March 2008 as the Council's planning guidance and strategy for the Area.

The Barnack Conservation Area Appraisal fulfils the Local Planning Authorities obligations under the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to 'draw up and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of (Conservation Areas) areas'. The Appraisal identifies the special character of the Barnack Conservation Area and confirms that it merits designation as a conservation area. It also includes a Management Plan (as required by regulations) which identifies works and actions to secure the preservation and enhancement of the conservation area. The Appraisal examined certain sites on the edge of the conservation area and concluded that these areas were worthy of inclusion in the conservation area to enhance and safeguard the character of the conservation area.

### **3.3 The Werrington Conservation Area Appraisal**

#### **Decision**

The Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration and Growth was requested to approve boundary changes to the Werrington Conservation Area (plan available on request).

#### **Reasons**

A review of the Werrington Conservation Area has been carried out as part of the Council's on-going review of all 29 of Peterborough's designated Conservation Areas. A detailed Appraisal has been prepared for the Area and, following public consultation and subsequent amendment, it was adopted at Planning and Environmental Protection Committee meeting on 4th March 2008 as the Council's planning guidance and strategy for the Area.

The Werrington Conservation Area Appraisal fulfils the Local Planning Authorities obligations under the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to 'draw up and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of (Conservation Areas) areas'. The Appraisal identifies the special character of the Werrington Conservation Area and confirms that it merits designation as a conservation area. It also includes a Management Plan (as required by regulations) which identifies works and actions to secure the preservation and enhancement of the conservation area. The Appraisal examined certain sites on the edge of the conservation area and concluded that these areas were worthy of inclusion in the conservation area to enhance and safeguard the character of the conservation area.

### **3.4 Parking Review**

#### **Decision**

The Cabinet Member is asked to authorise:

- a) The introduction of zonal parking charges i.e. the parking charges are greater in those car parks closer to the city centre.
- b) A reduction in the maximum stay permitted in the Car Haven Car Park from 4 hours to 3 hours.
- c) The reintroduction of the 30 minute tariff in all car parks.
- d) An increase in the evening rate from £1.20 to £1.50 in all car parks where evening charges currently apply i.e. Pleasure Fair Meadow, Horse Fair Meadow, Dickens Street, Wellington Street, Bishops Road, Riverside, Car Haven, Brook Street, Trinity Street, Market Multi Storey Car Park and Craig Street.
- e) The revocation of the £4 all day charge operating in the Pleasure Fair Meadow, Horse Fair Meadow, Wellington Street, Dickens Street and Craig Street car parks introduced for the Town Bridge Works.
- f) An increase in all weekly, monthly, quarterly, annual and evening season ticket prices by 3% per annum.
- g) An increase in the cost of the Market Traders permit over a 3-year rolling increase to £30/month in year 1; to £40/month in year 2; and, to £50/month in year 3.
- h) The removal of free parking for blue badge holders from all off-street locations following accessibility improvements within the car parks, thereby making all off-street bays payable by all users.
- i) An increase in the fee for residents permits to £19 per annum for the first vehicle, £38 for the second vehicle and £57 for the third vehicle.
- j) The introduction of a six month residents permit for £12.
- k) The introduction of a charge of £5 to amend all forms of permits (residents, visitors and carers etc) and season tickets.
- l) The introduction of regular visitor's permits at a cost of £19 for the first vehicle and £38 for the second vehicle.
- m) The introduction of a scratch-card system for visitor permits at a charge of £10.00 per book by March 2009.
- n) The introduction of a carers permit at the same cost as a residents permit i.e. £19 per annum.
- o) The introduction of a 6-month visitors and carers permits at a cost of £12

#### **Reasons**

The income from parking forms an important element of the Environment and Community Services Department's budget. An increase in parking charges was identified through the budget setting process to support the Council's budget. Income from the proposed changes should be used to support the Council's car park improvement programme (CPIP), the programme of highway maintenance works and subsidised bus services in Peterborough.

### **4. IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Any specific implications are contained within the individual decision notices.

**5. EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- 5.1 The Panel is asked to consider the Executive Decisions which are relevant to the remit of the Panel and which have been made since the last meeting and if felt appropriate, to identify any decisions they may wish to examine in more detail.

**6 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Executive Decision notices from 15 September 2008.