

PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Thursday 8 June 2006 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors A Grant, MacLellan, Miller and Stewart.

In Attendance: M Wright and A Sinclair (both Chief Executive's); K Colville, D Francis, T Hart, J Low, J Somerville, S Sprason, T Stanger, A Wilson and L Whiteford (all Corporate Services); N Copland (Education and Children's Services).

Apology for Absence: Councillor Wilson.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CONVENER

In the absence of the Convener, the Sub-Committee unanimously agreed that Councillor Miller take the Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTE

The Minute of Meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 20 April 2006 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. PROPERTY DISPOSALS PROGRAMME 2006/07

There was submitted a report by the Head of Property (06/443) advising the Sub-Committee of the Council's current disposals programme.

Resolved:

- (i) To note and approve the present position with regard to the current programme for the disposal of surplus property.
- (ii) To note and approve the current practice of dealing with (a) receipts from sales of surplus operational property, normally 'pooled' as part of the overall capital resource available within the general capital programme, thus allowing allocation across the board according to the priorities for capital spending set by the Council; and (b) receipts from sales of investment property, normally re-invested in local developments of commercial property, thus making the commercial property self-funding.

5. ENERGY MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Property (06/444) recommending the formulation of a corporate energy management strategy by the Council, together with the adoption of a programme of other measures, in order actively to reduce energy consumption and cut carbon emissions.

Resolved:

- (i) To approve the proposals as set out in Report 06/444.
- (ii) The Head of Property report on a regular basis to future meetings of the Sub-Committee on the progress of the formulation of a corporate energy management strategy and associated measures to be carried out by the Council.

6. BROXDEN BUSINESS PARK, LAMBERKINE DRIVE, PERTH

There was submitted a report by the Head of Property (06/445) recommending that a further development plot at Broxden Business Park be exposed for lease on the open market.

Resolved:

- (i) The Head of Property advertise a further plot on the open market for lease inviting financial bids and proposals for its development, and that the proposals be appraised in accordance with appropriate selection criteria.
- (ii) The Head of Property report to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee the outcome of the marketing and selection process.

7. NEW ASN SCHOOL, PERTH ACADEMY – RELOCATION OF SCOUT HUT (10TH PERTSHIRE (PERTH ACADEMY) SCOUT GROUP)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Property (06/446) seeking delegated authority to agree terms with the 10th Perthshire (Perth Academy) Scout Group for the purchase of their scout hut and the lease of an alternative site for a new build development

Resolved:

- (i) That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Property and the Head of Legal Services to agree, conclude and implement terms for the purchase of the scout hut located in the grounds of Perth Academy and the lease of an alternative site (yet to be determined) for a replacement hut, subject to the total cost being contained within the available approved budget.

8. VACANT PROPERTIES (Art 06/317(6))

There was submitted a report by the Head of Property (06/447) updating the Sub-Committee on vacant Council properties.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the current position relating to vacant properties and that action taken and proposed be homologated.
- (ii) The Head of Property submit a further report on this matter to the Sub-Committee meeting in November 2006.

9. PITLOCHRY HIGH SCHOOL – BIOMASS INSTALLATION

There was submitted a report by the Head of Property (06/448) outlining the issues relating to the use of biomass fuels and recommending that a pilot installation at Pitlochry High School be pursued.

Resolved:

- (i) To agree the installation of the replacement gas fired boilers at Pitlochry High School, subject to provision for subsequent connection to a biomass unit.
- (ii) To remit to the Head of Property, in consultation with the Convener of the Sub-Committee and the Convener of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, acceptance of the contract for procurement of a biomass installation which was a pilot scheme.

10. VALEDICTORY

Prior to the conclusion of business, Councillor Miller reported that, following the review of Property Services, this would be the final meeting of the Sub-Committee to be attended by Steve Sprason, Interim Head of Property. On behalf of the Sub-Committee, Councillor Miller thanked Mr Sprason for his contribution to this review and wished him well for the future.

Councillor Miller further reported that Andy Gillies, Head of Architectural Services, would shortly be retiring from the Council and on behalf of the Sub-Committee, paid tribute to Mr Gillies' commitment and dedication to the Council and wished him well in his retirement.