

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Ground Floor [REDACTED] Loxley House,
Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 17 February [REDACTED]**

MembershipPresent

Councillor Chris Gibson (Chair)
Councillor Cat Arnold (Vice Chair)
Councillor Jim Armstrong
Councillor Graham Chapman
Councillor Alan Clark
Councillor Michael Edwards
Councillor Gul Nawaz Khan
Councillor Sally Longford
Councillor Brian Parbutt
Councillor Wendy Smith
Councillor Malcolm Wood
Councillor Linda Woodings
Councillor Steve Young

Absent

Councillor Azad Choudhry
Councillor Rosemary Healy
Councillor Toby Neal

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Rob Percival	- Area Planning Manger
Richard Bines	- Legal Advisor
Paul Seddon	- Head of Development Management
Matt Gregory	- Policy and Research Manager
Nigel Turpin	- Heritage and Urban Design Manager
Caroline Nash	- Traffic Management Service Manager
Catherine Ziane-Pryor	- Governance Officer

44 APOLOGIES

Councillor Azad Choudhry – leave
Councillor Rosemary Healy – leave
Councillor Toby Neal - unwell

45 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Brian Parbutt and Councillor Linda Woodings both declared an interest as Non-Executive Director (Nottingham City Council appointed) of Nottingham City Transport in relation to item 5 on the agenda as the item concerns the Island Site which is adjacent to land owned by Nottingham City Transport. As the agenda item was simply for noting both Councillors did not regard their interests as an “Other Interests” requiring them not to participate in the meeting any further, as no decision was to be made in relation to that item of business such that reasonable members of the public would consider their interest as likely to prejudice their judgement.

- (a) Area 8 Committee have considered and support the recommendations within the report;
- (b) Ward Councillors were led to believe that an option to prioritise bus lanes through the site would be included, but it is disappointing that this does not appear to have been formalised. Matt Gregory responded that the document does include an aspiration for public transport through the site but no further detail can be provided yet;
- (c) it is agreed that the City needs to strive for offices on the site, but it is vital that capacity is retained to enable the expansion of the successful Bio-City;
- (d) with the need for new homes within the City, some Councillors questioned the appropriateness for the whole site to be mixed use with residential, office and business premises. Matt Gregory responded that as the site is such a vast area (approximately 17 hectares) by offering mixed use including residential development, developers will find the planning offer more attractive and will be faster to respond than if purely business premises development opportunities were available. In addition, the site is not suitable to support residential gardens attached to conventional housing due to ground contamination.

RESOLVED to note the publication of the draft Island Site Supplementary Planning Document for a period of public consultation.

49 LOCAL PLAN PART 2: LAND AND PLANNING POLICIES DOCUMENT – PUBLICATION VERSION

Matt Gregory, Policy and Research Manager, presented the report of the Deputy Chief Executive /Corporate Director Development and Growth. The report informs the Committee that the Local Plan Part 2: Land and Planning Policies Document (LAPP), which will guide future development in the City up to 2028, is available for a six-week period ending 11 March 2016 to allow formal representations to be made regarding revisions to planning policies and site allocations.

There are 59 Development Management Policies within the document, including:

- Climate change;
- Employment Provision and Economic Development;
- Role of the City, Town, District and Local Centres;
- Regeneration;
- Housing Size, Mix and Choice;
- Design and Enhancing Local Identity;
- The Historic Environment;
- Local Services and Healthy Lifestyles;
- Managing Travel Demand;
- Our Environment;
- Minerals;
- Infrastructure.

The changes to the LAPP publication version, including lists of policies and site allocations, are outlined within Appendix 1 to the report.

Representations will be considered by an Independent Planning Inspector. Once (if necessary) any amendments are made and the Inspector has declared the plan sound, it can then be adopted.

Councillor's discussion included:

- 5080
- (a) Noting the disappointment of Ward Councillors who oppose the sale of Chingford playing field. Ward Councillors believe signs are now in place advertising the development potential of the site which has been used for recreation for more than 60 years and the site remains within the LAPP as a specific Site Allocation with specific development principles. Matt Gregory responded that he would investigate this and report back to the Ward Councillors directly;
 - (b) some Area Committees have considered for a substantial amount of time the area relevant report submitted to them and discussed appropriate planning potential. However the views of the community and the Ward Councillors can be completely undermined. The most significant instance of this is when a free school was approved for a site in the Meadows without the opportunity for citizens and elected members' challenge the development to be heard. This in effect conflicts with the democratic process and is an affront to citizens and the planning process. Matt Gregory responded in agreement that there are mixed messages from Central Government which promotes devolution but at the same time reduces budgets and restricts control. Planning officers have their hands tied and professional views are becoming less important. Councillor Chapman added that whilst Central Government does provide a period of consultation, during which Nottingham City Council does respond, it is a real concern that there are still flaws within the overall process. It is suggested that the Chair, on behalf of the Planning Committee, write a letter to the highest relevant ministerial level outlining the issues. In addition, it was proposed that the Leader of the Council be invited to raise the issue at a future Core Cities meeting.

RESOLVED

- (1) **to note the publication of the Local Plan Part 2: Land and Planning Policies Document (Publication Version) for a six-week period ending 11 March 2016, to allow formal representations to be made;**
- (2) **with regard to the ability of local planning policies and agreements to be lawfully undermined and bypassed without the opportunity for local challenge, specifically relating to when free schools express an intention to establish sites:**
 - (i) **the Chair of the Planning Committee write a letter on behalf of the Committee, to the highest relevant ministerial level, outlining the mixed messages from Central Government around encouraging devolution and yet overriding local democracy;**
 - (ii) **that the Leader of the Council is invited to raise the above issue within the Core Cities Forum.**