

CABINET

RECORD OF DECISIONS of the special meeting of the Cabinet held on Monday 10 June 2013 at 1.00 pm in the Guildhall, Portsmouth.

Present

Councillors Gerald Vernon-Jackson (Chair)
Jason Fazackarley
Mike Hancock CBE MP
Lee Hunt
Leo Madden
Hugh Mason (Vice-Chair)
Eleanor Scott
Rob Wood

52 Apologies for Absence (AI 1)

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Darren Sanders, who had sent a written representation.

53 Declarations of Interest (AI 2)

David Williams, Chief Executive declared a non pecuniary interest in that he is a friend and former colleague of one of the bidders.

Councillor Rob Wood declared a non pecuniary interest in that he knows someone on the Board of the current operators of the Pyramids.

54 Exclusion of Press and Public (AI 3)

DECISION:

That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985, the press and public be excluded for the consideration of the following item on the grounds that the report contains information defined as exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972.

Item	Para
55 The Pyramids Procurement and Consideration of Options (Exempt Appendix only)	3

(Paragraph 3 relates to the financial or business affairs of the Council and those of a commercial operator.)

55 The Pyramids Procurement and Consideration of Options (AI 4)

(TAKE IN REPORT OF HEAD OF CITY DEVELOPMENT & CULTURAL SERVICES WITH EXEMPT APPENDIX)

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson proposed that this item be discussed in open session provided that no members wished to discuss the detail in the exempt appendix and this was agreed. He did not therefore move to go into exempt session. The meeting proceeded on that basis.

A written deputation had been received from Mr Daniel Marshman on behalf of the Pyramids Advisory Group which was circulated to Cabinet.

Councillor Jim Patey made a deputation in favour of option (ii) Close, demolish and landscape the Pyramids site pending consideration of alternative uses of the site.

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson was obliged to leave the meeting at 1.12pm owing to other council business and Councillor Hugh Mason chaired the remainder of the meeting.

DECISIONS that:

- (1) Members noted the comprehensive procurement process that has been undertaken which was designed to encourage bids against as wide a range of options as possible.**
- (2) Members noted that the only market interest expressed through the procurement process is to continue to operate the building on a contract for services basis.**
- (3) Members considered whether to:**
 - i. Let a management contract for the continued operation of the Pyramids to the most advantageous bidder, or**
 - ii. Close, demolish and landscape the Pyramids site pending consideration of alternative uses of the site.**

and resolved to let a management contract.
- (4) Having resolved to let a management contract, Members approved acceptance of Bid B as this represents the most advantageous bid as it represents a saving to the Council over 5 years of £800,000 compared to the approved budget and the bid also received the highest score in terms of quality.**

- (5) The City Solicitor and Section 151 Officer be authorised to conclude the procurement process with preferred Bidder B subject to the completion of further due diligence prior to contract award and in the event that financial terms cannot be agreed to the satisfaction of the Section 151 Officer further consideration of the available options be referred back to Cabinet.**

The meeting concluded at 1.28 pm.

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Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson
Leader of the Council

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Councillor Hugh Mason
Deputy Leader of the Council