

**MINUTES OF THE CABINET PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2007**

Councillors *Adje (Chair), *Diakides, *Meehan and *Santry

*Present

Also Present: Councillor Basu

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
PROC33.	<p>MARKFIELD PARK CAFÉ (Report of the Director of Adult, Culture and Community Services - Agenda Item 5)</p> <p>The interleaved report was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).</p> <p>We noted that the main reason for needing to obtain further approval for this project arose from the original Agreed Maximum Price (AMP) not being sufficiently developed at the earlier design stage to provide the costs certainty needed. We also noted that the design and associated costings had progressed and the project had now been more fully costed, as was the case with AMP-based projects.</p> <p>We were informed that in order to avoid this requirement in future a full costing of projects needed to be achieved at the earliest possible stage. However, given that so many of the Council's projects were time-pressured, the risk remained that AMP-based projects might request approval before the design could be fully costed.</p> <p>Concern was expressed about the performance of external consultants and how it might have contributed to the increased costs arising from which we were advised that their performance was currently being reviewed by the Service in conjunction with the Corporate Procurement Unit. In this connection we were advised that the consultants concerned had been drawn from the Council's appropriate framework and that they were likely to come off that framework at the end of the financial year.</p> <p>With regard to the financial implications, we were advised that the shortfall now reported had not been considered in the current budget planning process and consequently the budget proposals for 2008-09 did not include the additional requirement now required. In the event that alternative capital resources were not available to fund the shortfall, the Service would have to identify savings within the overall programme to contain these costs.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That approval be granted to a revised agreed maximum price for the contract for the construction of a café in Markfield Park 	DACCS

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	<p>up to the amount set out in Appendix D to the interleaved report.</p> <p>2. That a further report be made to the Committee on the performance of external consultants and how it might have contributed to the increased costs on the project and, in the meantime, no further work be awarded to the consultants concerned.</p>	HPr
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CHARLES ADJE
Chair