

## Notice requesting to call in Single Member Decision E3191

### **Proposed Asset Transfer of Land at North Parade Road to the Bath Cricket Club at Less Than Best Consideration**

The undersigned Councillors wish to call in decision E3191 to “Asset Transfer Land at North Parade Road to the Bath Cricket Club at Less Than Best Consideration’ taken on 8 January 2020 by the Cabinet Member for Resources for the following reason

1. There has been no opportunity for Elected Members to scrutinise the proposals.
2. The report was inadequate, lacked information and did not demonstrate how we came to this recommendation.
3. During the planning process Members were not made aware that the development was dependent upon the acquisition of a strip of land owned by Bath & North East Somerset Council.
4. Lack of information relating to the live planning application (19/04142/COND) This concerns discharge of condition 5, access to the site (over the land to be transferred) which is strenuously opposed by the Highways Team as it involves closing North Parade to allow heavy vehicles onto the site. There is absolutely nothing on the council’s website to indicate that the original planning application was controversial, partly over the question of access but there are 201 documents under 17/04338/FUL relating to discharge of other conditions , consultants’ reports etc.
5. There is no recognition of the fact that the chief beneficiary will be the developer of the luxury student hostel.
6. If the planning Committee had been made aware of this, this may have had an impact on the decision that was made.
7. The Developer would have gone into this application knowing that this piece of land was required. Therefore would have made a provision in its budget for it.
8. The report gives insufficient justification as to why this Council is disposing of this land at less than best consideration.
9. The report gives no clear way of measuring the supposed community benefits so it will be impossible to judge in the future whether these benefits have been delivered.

Further to point 8, the report to the Planning Committee stated that because no details of the financial deal between the developer and Bath Cricket Club had been provided, it was unclear what the scale of the proposed investment in community benefits would be and that there was a significant degree of uncertainty around what actual benefit would be derived.

10. We do not know when it was discovered that the development was dependent on this piece of land or who authorised the negotiations with the developer.
11. This Administration pledge to ‘.. work with local communities so they can have a greater say and take more responsibility for what goes on in their area and address the issues that are most important to them. We want to listen to the views of our residents and partners and ensure that the council is operating transparently.’ We believe that this collaborative working can’t take place until there is more transparency in decision making.

9 signatures required.

Councillors

Colin Blackburn (lead)

Doug Deacon

June Player

Paul May

Alan Hale

Karen Warrington

Eleanor Jackson

Grant Johnson

Liz Hardman