

# CABINET

**13 SEPTEMBER 2012 - 2.00PM**



**PRESENT:** Councillor A K Melton(Chairman), Councillor C J Seaton(Vice-Chairman), Councillor T R Butcher, Councillor J F Clark, Councillor Mrs J French, Councillor S Garratt, Councillor P Jolley, Councillor P Murphy, Councillor D C Oliver, Councillor C C Owen

By invitation from the Chairman: Councillor M F J Cotterell, Councillor P Hatton, Councillor M Humphrey, Councillor A Miscandlon and Councillor J Chambers.

**C20/12      TO SIGN AND CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 26 JULY 2012**

**It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of 26 July 2012 be signed and confirmed.**

|  |
|--|
| <b>* FOR ADOPTION BY THE COUNCIL *</b> |
|--|

**C21/12      PARKS AND OPEN SPACES – DOG CONTROL ORDER CONSULTATION**

Councillor Murphy presented the Parks and Open Spaces - Dog Control Order Consultation report.

Councillor Melton thanked Councillor Murphy and officers for their hard work involved in preparing the Dog Order Consultation report and stated that it would be welcomed by many people, including dog owners.

Councillor Garratt asked if the statement within the report "dogs under control" meant dogs on a lead or under control by the owner, to which Councillor Murphy stated that it did not mean on a lead but controlled by the owner.

Councillor Owen asked about a number of recreational grounds within March that had not appeared in the report to which Councillor Murphy stated that there were bylaws governing those areas.

Councillor Butcher asked if an authorised officer could request loose dogs to be put on leads at Coates Green and the Manor Leisure Centre to which Richard Cassidy confirmed this was the case. Councillor Butcher asked if Fenland District Council had the same powers over "common land" to which Richard Cassidy confirmed that it had. Councillor Garratt stated that with regard to the Manor Leisure Centre, the opposition was probably from dog owners rather than those playing in the field and the concern had come from those worried about irresponsible dog owners. An authorised officer can request that a dog is placed on a lead but cannot be there all the time to control this and therefore Councillor Garratt stated he felt strongly that the decision should be changed to dogs must be on a lead. Councillor Melton stated that further discussions will take place to discuss and ratify any additional land and proposed that the Order be adopted.

It was DECIDED that:

- The Dog Control Orders, as set out in the report be **ADOPTED** to come into force from Monday 15 October 2012;
- A fixed penalty is set with regards to the non-compliance of the Orders at £75, reduced to £50 if paid within 14 days of the issuing of a fixed penalty notice.

|   |
|---|
| <b>* FOR INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL *</b> |
|---|

**C22/12**      **BUSINESS RATES RETENTION – POOLING SUBMISSION**

Councillor Clark presented the Business Rates Retention - Pooling Submission report.

Councillor Melton thanked Councillor Clark and officers for the hard work involved in bringing this report forward. He believed that pooling business rates was the way forward and believed that Fenland would be better off in the medium to long term within this arrangement.

It was DECIDED that:

- The benefits and risks of pooling business rates be **NOTED**;
- The business rates pooling and governance proposal be **APPROVED**;
- Authority is delegated to the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Quality Organisation, for agreeing minor changes as appropriate in time for sign-off to be secured and the proposal be submitted to the DCLG.

5:15pm

Chairman