

HARTLEPOOL UNITED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

16th January 2006

Present:

Councillor Fortune (In the Chair);
Councillors Peter Jackson and Ray Waller.

Officers: Tony Brown, Chief Solicitor,
Stuart Green, Assistant Director (Planning and Economic
Development)
Steve Carroll, Estates and Assets Manager,
Graham Frankland, Head of Procurement and Property Services
Pat Watson, Principal Democratic Services Officer

7. Declarations of Interest by Members

There were no declarations of interest.

8. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Minute No. 9 – Hartlepool United Football Club (Para. 9) - terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services (para. 9).

9. Hartlepool United Football Club *(Director of Neighbourhood Services and Chief Solicitor)*

Type of decision

Key decision Test (i).

Purpose of the report

To provide up to date information to enable further consideration to be given to the request by Hartlepool United Football Club for the Council to transfer ownership of the football ground and an additional area of land to the North to the owners of the football club.

Issues Considered by the Committee

The report contained details of consultation exercises undertaken, financial implications and strategic planning issues.

The Committee noted that consultation exercises undertaken had failed to reveal any significant support for the release of the Council's interest. The Committee considered that, having regard to the potential for significant redevelopment in the area of the club some time in the future, the uncertainties thus arising were such as to render sale of the Council's interest premature. They recognised that redevelopment proposals were unlikely to be clear for some considerable time and thus saw no prospect for change in the Council's position in the foreseeable future. However, they welcome the Club's proposals for improvement of the ground and encourage the Club to progress them under the Club's current land holding.

Decision

The Committee resolved to decline the Club's offer to purchase the freehold of the premises and the land to the north.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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