

***Delegated Decisions by Leader of the Council - Monday, 14
December 2009***

Statement of Decision

**Grant of Lease to Thame United Football Club in respect of
land owned by Oxfordshire County Council**

Present:

Leader of the Council: Councillor Keith R. Mitchell CBE

Officers: Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer
 Head of Property
 Sue Whitehead (Corporate Core)

Also in attendance:

Other Members: Councillor Nick Carter

Documentation considered:

Report Grant of Lease to Thame United Football Club in
 respect of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council

A copy is attached to the signed copy of this decision.

Summary of representations in person

Councillor Nick Carter, speaking as a local member, supported the request to waive the lease premium to secure a bridging loan from Thame Town Council for the Thame Football Partnership.

The Head of Property drew attention to the request from Councillor Mathew that the assistance given be secured and explained how the current proposals safeguarded the Council. The recommendation was amended to provide clarity over what was being agreed.

Cabinet Member's Comments

The Leader of the Council stated that he wished to support the continued provision of the community facility and felt that the County Council was sufficiently protected.

Decision

Having regard to the arguments and options set out in the documentation before me, the representations made to me and the further considerations set out above, I confirm my decisions on this matter as follows:

that the lease of land at Church Farm, Thame be granted to Thame Town Council, that the premium previously agreed be waived, and that the lease be subject to a condition restricting the lease of the land to provision and use of facilities for community, sports, recreational and social use and that in the event of the land not being used for such purposes the County Council be entitled to terminate the lease.

Note: As set out under Rule 17(a) of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, this decision is exempt from Call-In as it is deemed urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's interests in that the decision of the Thame Town Council the following day - and the financial viability of the scheme itself - is dependent on the decision of the County Council. This matter needs to be determined as soon as possible so that the commencement of the works may start by February 2010 in order to qualify for funding from a number of bodies including the Football Association.

Signed
Leader

Date2010