

# DECISION NOTICE



For office use :  
Notice and report e-  
mailed to EMT,  
Democratic  
Services, Comms  
Team and Report  
Author , on  
10.03.16

## NOTICE OF DECISION MADE BY PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION: Casson 3.15

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(To be made available at the main offices of the Council and sent to all members of the Council within 3 working days of the decision.)

The Council's Constitution (Standing Order 27 – Recording of Executive Decisions; Part 3 Section D4 – Delegations to Cabinet members; and Part 4 D Access to Information Procedure Rules) requires that when any decision is made by an individual Portfolio Holder a record of the decision, including a statement of the reasons for it and any alternative options considered and rejected, must be prepared and published normally **within 3 working days**.

In accordance with this requirement notice is hereby given that Councillor A Casson, being the Portfolio Holder for Facilities Management, made the decision detailed below on Wednesday 9 March 2016. This decision is a key decision.

**This notice is published on Thursday 10 March 2016.**

This key decision was not included within the published Key Decision Plan but the Portfolio Holder considered that a decision needed to be taken by Wednesday 9 March 2016 because of the short timescale involved in the negotiation of the purchase of the land. The Portfolio Holder was therefore of the opinion that it was not possible to defer the decision and the decision was made urgently under Part 4 D Access to Information Procedure Rules of the Constitution. Prior to the decision being made the Chairman of the Performance Monitoring Panel agreed that the decision could not reasonably be deferred and could be made under Part 4 D Access to Information Procedure Rules as a matter of special urgency. **In view of the urgency this decision is not subject to call-in and will take effect immediately.**

***MATTER TO WHICH DECISION RELATES***

Acquisition of Land know as Moulton Park (Land Registry Title: LL128115) – To agree the acquisition of Moulton Park under agreed terms. (Report of the Executive Director Commercialisation (S151 Officer) enclosed).

(The report of the Executive Director, Commercialisation (S151 Officer) is not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 in that it contains information which relates to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).

***DECISION (IF URGENT PROVIDE REASONS)***

An initial bid for this land submitted by the Council in December 2015 was rejected. However the owner was willing to enter into exclusive negotiation subject to these being concluded swiftly and contracts being exchanged within 4 weeks. Contract negotiations have been concluded and authorisation of the revised price of £302,000 is approved on an urgent basis together with approval for the Executive Director Commercialisation to authorise exchange and completion of the agreed contract immediately in line with the verbal agreement with the seller.

This decision was urgent because of the short timescale involved in the negotiation of the purchase of the land.

***ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED***

The option to not acquire was considered and rejected in line with the recommendations of the report from the Executive Director Commercialisation.

***REASON OR REASONS FOR THE DECISION***

The South East Lincolnshire Open Space assessment (2012) found that there will be a shortfall of 135ha of Semi-natural green space (defined as open space where biodiversity and environmental education take precedence over recreation in determining management), 22.5ha of amenity green space (defined as areas supporting informal recreation near homes or work) and 3ha of Parks and Gardens up to the year 2031. Moulton has a deficit of Amenity green space of 1.9ha as at 2012 and the acquisition of this land that could be brought into full public access has the potential to contribute towards addressing the shortfalls.

This would contribute to the objectives and commitments under the Corporate Plan “To have pride in South Holland by supporting the District and residents to develop and thrive” and Develop safer stronger healthier and more independent communities.

The location of Moulton Park is almost equidistant between the two main centres of Spalding and Holbeach which means it has the potential to serve a wider area than just Moulton. It has the advantage that it is an existing area of mature parkland and is well suited for this wider context.

The preservation of Moulton Park and potential conversion to open space which may include a children's play area within it are supported by the Parish Council

The Council will retain the option to dispose of the Park at a later date.

***Conflicts of interest declared by an executive member, relating to the decision, and any dispensations granted***

None.

**REPORT**

- 1 Casson 3.15 - Acquisition of Land know as Moulton Park (Land Registry Title: LL128115) - To agree the acquisition of Moulton Park under agreed terms (report of the Executive Director Commercialisation enclosed). (Pages 1 - 8)