

# Council Meeting

## 21 April 2016

### Addendum Papers – Agenda Items 8 and 11

#### **Agenda Item No.8 - To consider the Minutes of the Cabinet held on the 10 March and 14 April 2016**

Cabinet – 14 April 2016 – Elwick Place Development - Minutes Nos. 389 and 391

Please see comments from Cllrs Adbby and Knowles set out below and the attached Exempt update report.

Cllr Adbby

I would like to make you aware that I support the recommendations within the minutes of Cabinet. I believe that Elwick Place developed would be a great benefit to the economy of Ashford Town Centre and the borough.

Cllr Knowles

The Elwick Place development is essential to Ashford's city centre re-development plan, revitalising the area bringing a mixture of residential, retail and leisure to this area of the Town Centre. The project will complement the existing attractions within the Town adding to the leisure and post work offer, creating more diverse evening economy choices for the hard working people of Ashford and visitors to the town alike.

The development will also bring employment opportunities to Ashford, both in the short term with the construction activities and in the long term staffing the new Cinema, Hotel, restaurant and café's.

I complement the officers and portfolio holders on the robust due diligence process that has been undertaken to get the Council to this stage, and subject to the final pieces of due diligence am totally happy to wholeheartedly support this project, it is dynamic projects such as this that will provide much needed income to the Council and get it away from dependence on Central Govt grants.

**Agenda Item No.11 - Electoral Review Ashford Borough –  
Draft Submission to Local Government Boundary  
Commission on Council Size**

Please see the following additional recommendation:-

(ii) the Corporate Director (Law and Governance) and Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, be authorised to make minor amendments to the document prior to formal submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

## **Council – 21 April 2016 – Elwick Place – comments from Cllr Ovenden**

Fellow Members

Unfortunately I cannot be with you this evening as I will be on Wye Crown lighting a beacon in celebration of our Queen's milestone birthday.

I regret that I cannot participate in the debate over the acquisition of Elwick Place but would like to give my full support to this exciting project. I believe this will provide a much needed boost to the town centre economy and an excellent opportunity for the Council.

I am confident that our team of officers and their advisers have the necessary expertise to guide us through the legal minefield and deliver a deal that will be a positive addition to our current investments.

Noel Ovenden