

HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
SCRUTINY COMMISSION
10th FEBRUARY 2005 AT 6.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mr. M.R. Lay - Chairman
Mr. M.A. Hall - Vice-Chairman

Mr. D.C. Bill, Mrs. R. Camamile, Mrs. M.J. Crooks, Mr. R.D. Ellis, Mrs. S. Francks, Mr. K.W.P. Lynch, Mrs. M.L. Sherwin and Mr. K. Vessey.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.4, Messrs N.B.L. Davis and J.E. Stanley also attended the meeting.

Officers in attendance: Mr. G.B. Gethin, Mr. R. Grantham, Mrs. P.I. Pitt, Mr. T.M. Prowse, Mr. P. Reid and Mr. D. Tilley.

386 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mrs. E.A. Spencer and Mr. R. Ward.

387 MINUTES (SC41)

On the motion of Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mrs. Camamile, it was

RESOLVED - the minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2005 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

388 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

389 REVIEW OF CAR PARKING (SC42)
DECRIMINALISED PARKING ENFORCEMENT (SC43)

It was moved by Mr. Lay and seconded by Mrs. Camamile that in the absence of the relevant Cabinet portfolio holder these items be deferred until the next Scrutiny Commission Meeting in order to allow the portfolio holder to attend and acquaint Members of the current situation.

It was then moved as an amendment by Mr. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Crooks that whilst accepting the need to defer these items, the Commission deprecated the apparent comments by this portfolio holder in this week's "Hinckley Times". Since the relevant article contained reference to various car parks, including that understood to be owned by Burbage Parish Council, Mr. Hall and Mrs. Sherwin, as members also of that Council, declared an interest at this point and withdrew from the meeting at 6.48 p.m. Upon the amendment being put to the vote, it was declared carried and

RESOLVED - consideration of these items relating to the review of car parking and decriminalised parking enforcement be deferred until the next meeting of the Commission.

Mr. Hall and Mrs. Sherwin returned to the meeting at 6.50 p.m.

390 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME - FIRST DRAFT (SC44)

Further to Minute No. 337 of 6th January 2005, Members gave consideration to a first draft of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2004/05 and to initial proposals for a Work Programme for 2005/06.

Various suggestions were put forward by Members, namely relating to the charging for garden waste bins, the work undertaken by the Performance and Working in Partnership Scrutiny Panels and the inclusion of a glossary in the final document. The Performance and Scrutiny Officer indicated that those sections in the annual report relevant to the Council Services and Finance and Audit Select Committees would be referred to those bodies for comment.

So far as the Scrutiny Commission work programme for 2005/06 was concerned, the Commission referred to the continuing need to review processes for target setting, continuing arrangements for Cabinet portfolio holders to attend Commission Meetings in accordance with the protocol for Scrutiny and the possible enhancement of the role of the Finance & Audit Services Select Committee.

On the motion of Mr. Lay, seconded by Mrs. Sherwin, it was:

RESOLVED -

- (i) the first draft of the Scrutiny annual report of 2004/2005 be endorsed and the final draft incorporating the comments of the Scrutiny Commission be presented to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Commission; and
- (ii) initial recommendations and suggestions for the 2005/2006 work programme be endorsed and having regard to Members' comments, a final report setting out the practicalities for each of these suggested work programme items be also presented to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Commission.

391 CORPORATE PLAN PRIORITIES E AND G - HELP ACHIEVE A SAFER COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE (SC45)

Continuing their review of the Council's Corporate Plan, the Commission were advised of progress with regard to meeting the following 2 objectives:-

Priority E:

Help achieve a safer community, working with the Police and other organisations through the Community Safety Partnership;

Priority G

Develop partnerships with young people to give them a voice in helping to shape our services and develop ideas for their communities.

The need was emphasised for the sustained long-term funding of various projects and the further development of community awareness.

Mr. Bill left the meeting at 7.56 p.m. returning at 7.59 p.m., at which time Mr. Stanley entered the meeting.

Mr. Vessey left the meeting at 8 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mrs. Sherwin and

RESOLVED - the report be noted.

Mr. Davis left the meeting at 8.02 p.m.

392 MINUTES OF HOUSING STOCK OPTIONS APPRAISAL SCRUTINY PANEL - 26TH JANUARY 2005 (SC46)

Placed before Members were the minutes of the above meeting.

393 DATE OF MARCH MEETING OF SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Further to Minute No. 341 of 6th January 2005, it was moved by Mr. Lay, seconded by Mrs. Sherwin and

RESOLVED - the next Scrutiny Commission Meeting be now held on Wednesday 16th March 2005.

394 FUTURE ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Members were requested to give consideration to possible future agenda items for debate by the Scrutiny Commission and the following were agreed:-

Next Meeting

- (i) Priorities C and D of the Corporate Plan (continue to improve people's knowledge and take up of our services and improve the availability of a range of different housing).
- (ii) Attendance by the Leader of the Council to answer questions previously notified to her by Members of the Commission, together with appropriate Officers, as necessary.
- (iii) Audit Commission Annual Audit and inspection letter 2003/04 - attendance at Commission Meeting by a member of District Audit and appropriate Officer.

Future Meeting

The scrutiny of budget proposals prior to consideration by Council.

Additionally, arising from discussions at the Finance & Audit Services Select Committee on 8th February 2005 regarding the I.T. tendering process, Members called for a meeting of the E-Government Scrutiny Panel to be arranged in order to examine this issue and report back to the Scrutiny Commission.

(The meeting closed at 8:24 p.m.)