

HINKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
SCRUTINY COMMISSION
2nd JUNE 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, Mr. R.D. Ellis, Mrs. D. Finney, Mr. R.J. Furniss, Mr. K.A.J. Hunnybun, Mr. K.W.P. Lynch, Mrs. M.L. Sherwin, Mrs. E.A. Spencer, Mr. J.E. Stanley and Mr. R. Ward.

Officers in attendance: Mr. S. Atkinson, Mrs. P.I. Pitt, Mr. T.M. Prowse and Mr. D. Tilley.

35 APOLOGIES & SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mr. P.T. Andrews, Mrs. S. Francks and Ms. J.E. Price and the following substitutions authorised in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3:-

Mrs. Finney for Mrs. Francks
Mr. Furniss for Mr. Andrews

36 MINUTES (SC1)

Prior to confirmation of the minutes discussion arose with regard to the standing of the Task and Finish Group created to review car parking and associated issues (minute number 436 of 21st March 2005 refers). It was generally agreed that this should be a joint Member/Officer working group who would examine all aspects and ultimately report with firm proposals to the Scrutiny Commission, Cabinet and Council.

On the motion of Mr. Lay, seconded by Mr. Lynch it was

RESOLVED - the minutes of the meeting held on 21st April 2005 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

37 BEST VALUE/CORPORATE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2005-2006 (SC2)

The Chief Executive advised the Commission on the structure and framework of the above, to which all political parties had contributed. The intention was to integrate the three main corporate policy documents (Best Value Performance Plan, Corporate Plan and CPA Improvement Plan) into a single document, as a focus for this Council's vision for the next three years.

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

RESOLVED - approval be given in principle to the revised structure for the Best Value/Corporate Performance Plan for 2005/06.

38 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME - 2005/06 (SC3)

Members' approval was sought to the above, which, it was reiterated, was a management tool which could be adapted and expanded upon to suit the priorities of the Commission and Select Committees throughout the year. It was intended to have this as a standing item on all future agendas to afford Members the opportunity to consider any proposed amendments to the Programme. It was moved by Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Furniss and

RESOLVED - the overview and scrutiny work programme for 2005/06 attached to the report of the Chief Executive be approved.

39 CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF SCRUTINY BODIES (SC4)

Having been reminded of the composition and membership of the two Standing Committees and the ad hoc scrutiny panels set up last year it was suggested that discussions be held with the respective group leaders to establish the future composition of these.

Consideration was also given to a suggested calendar of meetings and on the motion of Mr. Lay, seconded by Mr. Lynch it was

RESOLVED - the proposed dates for Scrutiny from June 2005 to May 2006 as set out in the report be approved, subject to the Finance and Audit Services Select Committee meeting on 3rd August, as against 25th July 2005.

40 DRAFT EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY (SC5)

Consideration was given to the above, previously considered by Cabinet on 20th April 2005, and which was currently out for consultation. Although mindful that only limited financial assistance could now be given to persons wishing to improve their properties it was moved by Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Bill and

RESOLVED - the draft Empty Homes Strategy be accepted in principle and the concern of the Scrutiny Commission in respect of the low level of grant assistance currently available for bringing empty homes back into use be noted.

41 MINUTES OF SELECT COMMITTEE/SCRUTINY PANEL MEETINGS

Placed before Members were the minutes of the following:-

- a) Finance and Audit Services Select Committee - 7th April 2005 (SC6)
- b) Housing Stock Options Appraisal Scrutiny Panel - 11th May 2005 (SC7)

42 FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS - JUNE/SEPTEMBER 2005 (SC8)

This having been circulated to Members, the Commission did not at this time identify any key decisions due to be taken by the Cabinet that it wished to consider.

43 CONSIDERATION OF WORK PROGRAMME

No amendments were proposed to the overview and scrutiny work programme at this time.

(The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.)