

HEALTH AND CONTROL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7 March 2000 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Attwood (Chair); Councillors Aujla, Butler, Caborn, Mrs Clayton, Cleaver, Mrs Compton, Copping, Crowther, Doody, Gifford, Gill, Golby, Mrs Goode, Harris, Kirton, Mrs Leddy.

(Councillor Caborn substituted for Councillor Mrs Edwards
Councillor Kirton substituted for Councillor Jackson)

690. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2000 having been printed and circulated were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

PART I

(Matters not the subject of powers delegated to the Committee by the Council)

691. **LICENSING OF BUTCHERS SHOPS**

A report from Environmental Health was submitted on the application of the Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) Butchers Shops (Amendment) Regulations 2000. The regulations, which came into force on 1 February 2000, required the annual licensing of retail butchers shops in England handling unwrapped raw meat and selling raw meat and ready to eat foods from the same premises. Licences would be required after 1 August 2000.

The Regulations gave the Council the discretionary power to suspend or revoke a licence which it had issued in respect of a premises which had ceased to satisfy any of the licensing conditions. The licence holder could appeal against the decision by the Council to suspend or revoke the licence.

These were new duties and powers for the Council and there would be a need to extend the Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

RECOMMENDED that

- (1) authority be delegated to the Head of Environmental Health to issue licences under the Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) Regulations 1995; and

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- (2) authority be delegated to the Head of Environmental Health, acting jointly with the Head of Legal Services (or their successors), to suspend or revoke licences issued under the Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) Regulations 1995.

PART II

(Matters delegated to the Committee by the Council)

692. RECYCLING

A report from Engineering was submitted on the progress being made on the recycling initiatives approved at the last meeting of the Committee. The report also set out options for the introduction of a trial scheme to collect green waste from the kerbside.

A further report was submitted at the meeting giving details of recycling costs. At its meeting in January 2000, the Committee had approved a number of proposals for developing recycling, including the relaunch of the kerbside paper collection scheme, the study into the feasibility of development of a collection scheme for green waste and a one day sales event to promote water conservation and home composting. Details of the progress on the sale of water butts and home composters at a one-day event on 7 May 2000 and the relaunching of the kerbside paper collection scheme were set out in the report.

The Council had reached an agreement with the County Council to utilise some of the spare capacity at an on-farm composting site in Gaydon in connection with the development of a kerbside collection scheme for the collection of compostable waste. In order to assess the feasibility, cost, benefit and take up of such a service, it would be necessary to operate a trial scheme in the first instance.

Based on information supplied by contractors and other authorities, the optimum arrangements for a trial scheme appeared to be an opt-out scheme to 2,500 households in the south of the district, (e.g. Whitnash), with each property being supplied with a 240 litre wheeled bin and collections made fortnightly on a Saturday using two rounds of 1,250 properties. The scheme should ideally be run for a whole year with a review of the benefits and dis-benefits after six months. The cost of the one year scheme using wheeled bins would be £81,000. This could be reduced by £21,000 if paper sacks were to be used. However, should the scheme be extended there would be an annual cost of £17,000 for the supply of sacks, whereas the wheeled bins did not need replacing for up to ten years. Should the scheme not continue into a second year, the wheeled bins could be trialed on the paper collection scheme which had proved, in other areas, to increase participation.

Key Issues money for recycling had been set aside previously for funding trial recycling schemes. Approximately £55,000 was still available of the amount allocated for the current financial year. This amount, together with the £40,000 agreed by Strategy Committee on 16 February 2000 and allocated for the next financial year should cover the costs outlined above.

RESOLVED that

- (1) Members note with satisfaction the details of the one-day event planned for 7 May 2000 at St. Nicholas Park, Warwick for the sale of water butts and home compost bins;
- (2) approval be given to proceed with a trial scheme for the kerbside collection of green waste using wheeled bins in accordance with the arrangements and costs set out above; and
- (3) authority be given for the use of allocated Key Issue funding to carry out the trial scheme.

693. PROGRESS ON EMPLOYMENT OF CONSULTANTS BY WARWICKSHIRE WASTE MANAGEMENT FORUM

A report from Engineering was submitted informing Members of the progress to date by the Warwickshire Waste Management Forum in the progress of appointing consultants to investigate the options for developing an integrated waste management strategy.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

694. ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCHEME FOR EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES (EESEE)

A report from Environmental Health was submitted advising Members of a new energy efficiency scheme drawn up by the Warwickshire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre and seeking agreement to the Council being associated with the scheme.

The scheme was aimed at persons in employment with a large local employer. Stratford on Avon District Council and the City of Worcester Council had made a bid to the Energy Savings Trust to obtain a £95,750 from the HECAction fund for 2000/2001 to implement such a scheme. The bid listed Warwick District Council and three other District Councils as supporting the bid.

The company in Stratford, which had not yet been chosen, would have more than 2,000 employees and there would be a likely take up rate of 45% with some 1,700 energy efficiency measures being installed. This would benefit Warwick District Council by contributing to its HECA strategy target of reducing the omission of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere from dwellings by 30% from 1995 to 2005.

There would be no direct costs to Warwick District Council.

RESOLVED that the proposal to set up the Energy Efficiency Scheme for employers and employees be noted and the aims of the project in so far as they affect the Warwick District Council area be endorsed.

695. **SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT (SWEEP) -YEAR 2**

A report from Environmental Health was submitted updating Members on the progress made during the first year of SWEEP and seeking agreement as to where to move the centre of operations for Year 2.

The Council had entered into an agreement in 1999 with Stratford District Council and Rugby Borough Council to make a bid to the Energy Savings Trust for HECAAction monies. The bid had been successful and SWEEP had been set up to provide energy efficiency advice and more tangible help in the way of discounts for energy saving measures and access to Government grants to the residents of Radford Semele. Radford Semele had been chosen after consultation with Members and was to receive concentrated attention for the period ending 31 March 2000. After that the project was to move to another village. Details of the progress to date on the Radford Semele scheme were submitted.

The Warwickshire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre, who acted as the Council's agents in running the project, had stated that there was sufficient money available in Year 2 to run the project in a village of similar size to Radford Semele.

When consulted in 1999 Members had been advised that four villages were of a suitable size to sustain the project in its first year but that only two were suitable in all respects. Of the two, Bishops Tachbrook and Radford Semele, members had chosen Radford Semele but had indicated that they would like Bishops Tachbrook to be considered later if it were possible.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the progress made in Year 1 of the project in Radford Semele be noted; and
- (2) Bishops Tachbrook be nominated as the village where SWEEP will operate during Year 2.

696. HOUSING GRANTS 2000-2001

The Committee considered a report from Environmental Health on the amounts of money available for housing grants during the coming financial year and proposing an allocation for each grant type.

In previous years, within the Housing Investment Programme allocation, the Government had set a limit on the resources which the Council could spend in respect of private sector renewal and disabled facilities grants. For the year 2000-2001 however only the spending on mandatory disabled facility grants was controlled in this manner.

The Housing Investment Programme for 2000-2001 included a figure of £370,000 for payment of housing grants and in respect of private sector renewal, and £200,000 in respect of disabled facilities grants. In addition, the Housing Business Unit, through its Housing Revenue Account, had set aside £50,000 for the provision of adaptations for their disabled tenants, which was managed through the disabled facilities grants system by the Environmental Health Business Unit.

The Warwick District Care and Repair Agency had been operating within the district for five years. For the last three years, the Government had supported the running costs of the agency which had had to be matched by the Council. Members had agreed that they would support the Agency at least until the end of March 2002. The running costs of the Agency for 2000/2001 had been estimated at £74,000 and, subject to the Council matching the expenditure, the Government had agreed to grant up to £37,000.

It was suggested that the £570,000 which had been included in the Housing Investment Programme and which had been agreed at Strategy Committee as being available for housing grants in 2000/2001 be distributed between grant types and support for the Warwick District Care and Repair Agency as follows:-

	£
Empty Property Grant	50,000
Common Parts Grant)	
HMO Grant)	
Discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant)	194,100
Renovation Grant*)	
Home Repairs Assistance**	50,000
Insulation Grant (SWEEP)	50,000
Disabled Facilities Grants	188,900
Sub Total	533,000
Support for the Warwick District Care and Repair Agency	37,000
Sub Total	570,000
Council Property Adaptations in Respect of Disabled Persons which are expected to cost more than £3,500	50,000
Total	620,000

* Wherever possible, grants were targeted at properties in the Old Town Area

** The majority of the monies available for home repairs assistance would be directed through the Warwick District Care and Repair Agency

It was normal to delegate authority to the Head of Environmental Health to reallocate money between grant types and offer insulation grants more widely should monies be available.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the suggested allocation of grant monies between grant types and the proposed distribution be approved; and
- (2) the Head of Environmental Health be authorised to reallocate monies between grant types and to offer insulation grants more widely should monies be available.

(Councillor Attwood left the meeting and Councillor Mrs Clayton took the Chair for the following items.)

697. **GENERAL REPORT**

(A) SEWERS FOR ADOPTION

RESOLVED that the sewers listed in Appendix "E" be adopted by the Council as agents for the Severn Trent Water Limited under Section 102 of the Water Industry Act 1991 as public sewers. [Notes Link](#)

(B) PUBLIC HEALTH (CONTROL OF DISEASE) ACT 1984 - CASES 6, 7 AND 8/99-2000

RESOLVED that the circumstances of the cremations which the Council had been required to carry out under the provisions of the above Act be noted.

(C) HOUSE RENOVATION GRANTS 1999/2000

RESOLVED that the details of the number of applications for house renovation grants for the period from 1 April 1999 to 1 February 2000 be noted.

(D) LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 3 February 2000 as set out in Appendix "F" be received. [Notes Link](#)

(The meeting ended at 7.13 pm)