

RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16 July 2002 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Caborn (Chair); Councillors Mrs Boad, Darmody, Dray, Mrs Evans and Windybank.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Crowther (Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Strategic Leadership)

227. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made under this item.

228. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 21 May and 18 June 2002 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as the correct record.

229. COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

A report from Policy Services was submitted on the Comprehensive Performance Assessment.

At its meeting held on 21 May 2002, the Committee had considered a report on Comprehensive Performance Assessment which the Government intended to introduce to build on existing audit inspections, and other assessments, and to include assessment of corporate capability.

Details of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment had been provided at that meeting. The corporate assessment part of the process considered the response to four questions:-

- (a) What was the Council trying to achieve?
- (b) How does the Council set about achieving its priorities?
- (c) What has the Council achieved/not achieved to date?
- (d) In the light of what the Council has learnt to date, what does it plan to do next?

At its last meeting on 18 June 2002, members had brain-stormed on question (a) and the officers had made appropriate notes. Details of these notes were set out in the report.

Members had a further brain-storming session on question (b) above, and the officers made appropriate notes.

RECOMMENDED that the third and fourth questions be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting, along with the results of the discussions at this meeting and the meeting on 18 June.

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230. EFQM

The Committee received a presentation from Mark Gwynne on the EFQM.

The Chair thanked Mark for his informative presentation.

231. LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP/COMMUNITY PLAN

A report from Policy Services was submitted giving details of the feedback from the recent Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) seminar and the first draft of the Partnership audit.

The report also asked the Committee to consider the questions that arose in respect of the formation of an LSP, and the roll forward of the Community Plan for Warwick District. The Strategic Director had posed a number of questions in the report and had listed a number of possible responses.

The Committee were also asked to identify the main points that should form recommendations to the Joint Member Panel, the Executive and the Council, regarding an LSP, and the roll forward of the Community Plan for Warwick District.

This Committee had been tasked to review the Community Plan process and to make recommendations about the establishment of an LSP for the District, and about how the Community Plan should be rolled forward. In meeting this obligation, the Committee had requested a survey of participants in the Community Plan process and an audit of partnerships in the District and that a seminar be held to raise awareness of LSPs. The survey of participants had been reported to the Committee earlier in the year. Attached to the report now submitted was the first draft of the partnership audit and a summary of the responses from the workshops, and the flip chart notes of the LSP seminar. Also attached to the report was the first progress report on the implementation of the current Community Plan for Warwick District.

Research of LSPs in other areas was still being undertaken but an excerpt from a recently published research document relating to LSPs, in a variety of areas and types of local government, was attached to the report. A full copy had been placed in each Group room.

A prospectus of a recently established LSP at a district level was also attached to the report.

It was proposed that officers of the Community Plan Action Team should bring from their respective organisations the questions and possible answers about LSPs and the roll forward of the Community Plan. This would allow

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organisational issues to be identified and resolved. It would also help to shape the nature of a LSP. That process would lead to further reports to the Committee and the Executive and then to two events in October where a proposal would be subject to a wider involvement of other agencies, the business sector and community groups. This would then determine the LSP for the area and the process for rolling forward the Community Plan.

Members discussed and decided on the various questions posed by the Strategic Director.

RECOMMENDED that

- (1) the feedback from the recent Local Strategic Partnership seminar and the first draft of the partnership audit be noted;
- (2) the Strategic Director be asked to draw together the replies decided at this meeting to the questions posed, and circulate to other Members for comments;
- (3) the main points set out in the report that should form recommendations to the Joint Member Panel, the Executive and Council regarding the LSP and the roll forward of the Community Plan for Warwick District be accepted; and
- (4) the progress report on the implementation of the current Community Plan for the district be considered at the next meeting, but that the details be not re-circulated.

232. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

A report from the Asset Management Steering Group, which provided Members with an update on progress on the Asset Management Plan, was submitted.

RECOMMENDED that the report be noted.

233. EXECUTIVE MINUTES

The minutes of the Executive held on Monday 24 June 2002, which came within the remit of the Committee was submitted for information and scrutiny.

RECOMMENDED that the minutes be noted.

234. EXECUTIVE AGENDA (NON CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS)

The Committee considered items 4,6,7, 11, 12 and 14 on the agenda for the meeting of the Executive on Monday, 22 July 2002.

RECOMMENDED that

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- (1) the recommendations in the reports on items 4, 7, 12 and 14 be supported;
- (2) the recommendation in item 6 be supported but:-
 - (a) the Committee express its concern over the lack of communication between the Business Units and the lack of monitoring of the poor performance by the Contractor as highlighted in the report;
 - (b) a report be requested on the fee the Council would charge Royal Priors should the Council continue to manage the car park at Royal Priors after 1 October 2002;
 - (c) a report be requested on how the new Contractor is to be monitored; and
- (3) the recommendation in the report at agenda item 11 be supported and arrangements be made for the CVS to make a presentation to the Committee on its finances.

235. WORK PLAN 2002/2003 AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER PRIORITY AREAS

The Committee considered a report from Policy Services updating the Scrutiny Committee's work plan for the year and monitoring the progress against the Portfolio Holder priority areas.

It had been agreed to consider the Committee's work plan as a standing item on each agenda. The current work plan reflected items raised by the Committee at previous meetings and was detailed in an appendix to the report.

The Executive had agreed service plans relating to the work of each Portfolio Holder at its meeting on 25 June 2001. Development priorities and work programmes for the Portfolio Holders covered by this Committee were detailed in an appendix to the report.

The reports due at this meeting on the Credit Union and the Highways/Sewerage Agency support costs would now be submitted to the meeting on 13 August 2002.

RECOMMENDED that the progress against the Portfolio Holders
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