

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th September 2006 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Doody (Chair): Councillors Ashford, Copping, Mrs Falp, Guest, Kinson, Kundi and Shilton.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Kirton

376. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Agenda Item Number 3 – Petition

Councillor Doody declared a personal interest as he sponsored the petition referred to in the item.

Agenda Item Number 4 – NHS Consultation – Acute Services Review

Councillor Copping declared a personal interest as he was the Council's representative on the Health Forum.

Councillors Kinson and Kirton both declared personal interests because of their involvement with the future of the Hospital.

Councillor Kirton declared a personal interest as he spoke about the repercussions of this item.

Councillors Shilton and Doody declared personal interests due to their involvement as Members of the County Council.

Agenda Item Number 5 – Joint Tourism Scrutiny Committee of Warwick District Council and Stratford Upon Avon District Council

Councillor Guest declared a personal interest because he was the Council's representative on South Warwickshire Tourism.

14(H) Conservation Area Extensions in Royal Leamington Spa in Warwick

Councillor Kinson declared a personal interest as he was a resident of Cape Road, Warwick.

377. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2006 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Continued)

378. EXECUTIVE MEETING – MONDAY 24th JULY 2006

The minutes of the Executive meeting held on 24th July 2006 were noted.

379. EXECUTIVE AGENDA – NON CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS

The Committee considered the items which would be discussed at the meeting of the Executive on Monday 11th September 2006.

As a result the following comments were made for forwarding to the Executive:

Agenda Item Number 3 – Petition

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report and agreed that revisions to the waste recycling scheme should be introduced equally across the District.

Agenda Item Number 4 – NHS Consultation – Acute Services Review

Councillor Kirton attended the meeting to address the Committee on this item.

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report subject to the following additions and amendments:

That the Primary Care Trust and NHS Hospital Trust; provide a written response to the Executive of Warwick District Council; in relation to the recommendations below:

That a dialogue takes place with interested parties, including Warwick District Council, on the subject of transferring services away from Warwick Hospital.

Consultation on many aspects of the Health Service have been carried out with undue haste and poor consultation with the residents of Warwick District and their elected representatives. An equalities impact assessment regarding race equality, as required by law, should have taken place.

It was not clear how the intended changes would dovetail together and therefore more consultation was needed.

Overall, public transport within the rural areas of Warwickshire was poor and not a lot better in the urban areas. Glossing over this issue could cause many problems.

Development of a clearly defined standard of service from the newly merged Ambulance Service must be in place to protect residents.

Many services must be considered on their own merits and these include the following: -

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Continued)

ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT must remain at Warwick Hospital to provide the service for local residents; this would be in line with the views of Consultants at Warwick Hospital.

ACUTE MEDICINE this service must be the best for our resident and if it is centralised then that is what must be done. This should be at the discretion of the Consultants and Paramedics.

CHILDREN & PAEDIATRIC ASSESSMENT when considering this subject the family and transport must be considered after the wellbeing of the child. Paediatricians must be retained at Warwick Hospital.

MATERNITY children do not come to order and therefore maternity should be a local service. 219 babies were turned away from the University Hospital in Coventry during the past year and, therefore, it is essential to keep a special care baby unit at Warwick Hospital.

SPECIALIST CANCER SERVICES this service must be the best for our residents and if it is centralised then that is what must be done. Chemotherapy must be provided at Warwick Hospital.

SENIOR CITIZENS transport is a main factor for the elderly. In the Appendix to the report the Committee did not agree with No. 4 Proposal 2 stating that 'There is a general agreement with the proposals on Children's and Maternity Care'.

Also, regarding No. 6 Proposal 4, the Committee wished to add 'with the agreement of a specialist'.

Agenda Item Number 5 – Joint Tourism Scrutiny Committee of Warwick District Council and Stratford Upon Avon District Council

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report and recommended that 2 Councillors and 1 Officer be appointed by both Warwick District Council and Stratford-On-Avon District Council.

Agenda Item Number 6 – Major Contracts

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report but stated that the decisions regarding the timing and arrangements for bin collections were not an issue for it to consider.

The Committee suggested believed that it was essential for the transition arrangements and publicity to be considered. Also in Table 3 – Major Contracts Renewal, the committee suggested that clarification was necessary regarding projected income of £868,400.

Agenda Item Number 7 – Kenilworth Town Centre – Abbey End Access Road

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Continued)

Agenda Item Number 8 – Housing Needs Assessment 2006 and Action Plan

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

Agenda Item Number 9 - Warwick District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership – Potential Merger with Stratford CDRP (Governance Arrangements)

The Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

With regard to the membership section of Appendix A – Outline Terms of Reference & Role of CDRP Member Board (Strategic Level), the Committee recommended that 3 members from each Council and the Police Authority be appointed, together with the same number of Officers involved as at present.

Agenda Item Number 10 – M40 Junction 15 (Longbridge) Bypass

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

Agenda Item Number 11 – 2006/07 First Quarter Performance Results

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

Agenda Item Number 12 – Corporate Improvement Plan Monitoring

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

Agenda Item Number 13 – Financial Assistance Policy for Private Sector Housing Improvements

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

Agenda Item Number 14 – General Reports

(A) Rural Initiatives Scheme Applications

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report and suggested that if after a 12 month period, those who had not yet taken up the offer of grants be contacted regarding progress of their schemes.

(B) Scheme of Delegation – Fixed Penalties

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(C) Environmental Health Enforcement Policies

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Continued)

(D) Kenilworth Market Rental

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(E) Major Work to Council Housing

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(F) Internal Decorations to Town Hall

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(G) Revised Lettings Policy

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report and suggested that the hard to let properties referred to in Appendix 1 of the report be used for housing the homeless.

(H) Conservation Area Extensions in Royal Leamington Spa in Warwick

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(I) Anti Fraud and Corruption

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(J) Quarterly Corporate Risk Register Review

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report. They raised concerns regarding the total risk score column in items 2 and 3 of Appendix A to the report.

(K) Resources Issues Finance Payments Section

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(L) Waiver of HMO Licence Fees for Charitable Organisations

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(M) Additional Staffing Requirements for HMO Licensing

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report but questioned the status of the temporary employment after 5 years due to the financial implications.

EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Continued)

380. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items, by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

381. EXECUTIVE AGENDA – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS

The Committee considered the following confidential items which would be discussed at the meeting of the Executive on Monday 11th September 2006.

As a result the following comments were made for forwarding to the Executive:-

Agenda Item Number 17 – De Montfort Hotel, Kenilworth

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

Agenda Item Number 18 – Leamington Waterside

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

(The meeting ended at 8.15 pm)