

2 FEBRUARY 2011

**NOTE: THIS SUMMARY IS NOT THE FORMAL MINUTES OF THE
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE. IT IS INTENDED TO
GIVE EARLY NOTICE OF THE DECISIONS TAKEN.**

**IF YOU REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE
MEETING PLEASE CONTACT EMMA MILLWARD ON [01926] 456114.**

1. Emergency Procedure

The Emergency procedure for the Town Hall was announced.

***2. Substitutes**

Councillor Ms Dean substituted for Councillor Gill.

***3. Declarations of Interest**

These would be detailed in the minutes.

***4. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2011 were taken as read and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

***5. Comments from the Executive**

The report was noted.

***6. Forward Plan**

The report was noted.

***7. Review of the Work Programme**

Additions to the work programme:

- (1) A scrutiny of Crime and Disorder report be submitted to the Committee on March 1 2011.

***8. Development of Volunteering Policy**

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the specific issues to be addressed in any future policy to include any financial implications, ways to encourage volunteering, how to avoid discouraging volunteering and to identify what work could be carried out with other authorities and organisations;
- (3) recommendation 2.3 for a Task and Finish Group to be agreed and a scoping document to be submitted to the Committees meeting on 29 March 2011; and

- (4) a task and finish group not to be established until the election in May 2011 have taken place and the new Committee has been established.

***9. Benefit Appeals Process**

The report was noted.

***10. Executive Agenda (Non-Confidential Items and Reports) – Wednesday 9 February 2011**

Item 11 – Feasibility Study of various WDC assets in Leamington

The Committee were pleased with the report overall and were impressed with the amendments made to recommendation 2.6. However, the Committee asked for the four year business plan that would be submitted by the Head of Cultural Services and the Spa Centre Manger as mentioned in the recommendation to be submitted as soon as possible.

The Committee supported the study of the assets within the report.

The Committee, whilst understanding the decisions also expressed their disappointed that the business case for the One Stop shop at the Pump Rooms would need to be deferred as they felt there was a need for this service within Royal Leamington Spa.

Item 6 – Budget 2011/12 and Council Tax – Revenue and Capital

The Committee had concerns regarding the legality of creating two separate pots for the Urban Initiatives Grant and the Rural Initiatives Grant because Council had already agreed that there would be one to fund both and that this decision made by Council would not be able to be changed until after a 6 month period had lapsed.

The Committee continued to support the principle that there should be only one pot to fund both the Rural Initiatives Scheme and the Urban Initiatives Scheme and that this fund should have the budget of £150,000. Any of this money that had not been committed to a project by the end of the municipal year should not then be carried over into the following years budget but instead put back into general balances.

The Committee felt that if there were to be two separate pots more funding should be made available for the Urban Initiative schemes than the Rural Initiative Schemes, with the criteria for the urban applications being different to the ones used for rural applications and potentially a need to limit how much each application could receive because of the difference between the areas

There was a strong concern from a member of the Committee that the funding for the urban grant was not enough for its size and population.

The Committee also expressed their thanks to the Grants view Panel for getting funds agreed for the Urban Initiatives Grant.

The Committee had concerns regarding 8.3.5 which gave the Committee the impression that any new proposals for funding an Assisted Travel Scheme, that were agreed as a result of Overview and Scrutiny's report being submitted to Executive on 2 March 2011, would not be considered until the 2012/13 service plans were developed. The Committee wanted reassurance that if their recommendations were agreed this could be funded with the budget from

Item 15 – Impact on Financial Reductions on Warwick District Council and the Area

The Committee agreed that the high level meetings as mentioned within the report should go ahead but felt that if there were local issues being decided upon and discussed they felt that local members should be involved in these discussions at the appropriate stage.

The Committee agreed that the local health service sector should be included in the high level meetings that would be taking place with other organisations as detailed in recommendation 2.2.

(The meeting finished at 7.35pm)