

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15 November 2011 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Gifford (Chair); Councillors Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Mrs Bromley, Brookes, Ms Dean, Ms De-Lara-Bond, Dhillon, Mrs Higgins, Weber, Weed and Wilkinson.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Davies, Mrs Falp, and Mrs Mellor.

Councillor Weed substituted for Councillor Gill.

## 53. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Minute number 59, Item number 8 – Executive Agenda (Non-Confidential Items and Reports – Wednesday 16 November 2011

Councillors Dhillon and Mrs Higgins declared prejudicial interests in Strategic Principles for Tourism and the Visitor Economy because they were Warwick Town councillors and left the room for this item.

## 54. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2011 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## 55. **COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

The Committee considered a report from Civic and Committee Services which detailed the response the Executive gave to their comments regarding the reports submitted to the Executive in October.

The report was produced to create a dialogue between the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and it ensured that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were formally made aware of the Executive's responses.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## 56. **FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee considered the Forward Plan which had been published for September 2011 to December 2011.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)**

### **57. REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered a report from Civic and Committee Services on the Committee's work programme for 2011.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

### **58. BOWLS WORKING PARTY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee considered the recommendations of a Member Working Party that was established in early 2011 to consider future provision of bowling facilities in the district and the associated costs of providing these facilities.

The Working Party comprised Councillor Guest (Chair), Councillor Sue Gallagher (Portfolio Holder), Councillor Falp and Councillor Gill. The group were supported by Head of Cultural Services, Sports Parks and Leisure Manager and Sports and Events Officer.

The group met with each of the key stakeholders in order that they had a clear and comprehensive understanding of the current provision, the costs, and the future expectations of the stakeholders.

Following these meetings the Working Party considered a range of options relating to the future delivery of bowling provision in the district and produced a series of recommendations.

The Committee suggested that there should be greater publicity of the facilities offered to promote interest and that commercial sponsorship should be considered in liaison with relevant partners, both of which could help increase income for the venue.

**RESOLVED** that

- (1) the recommendations be noted; and
- (2) no further scrutiny be undertaken on this matter.

### **59. EXECUTIVE AGENDA (NON- CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS) – WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2011**

#### **Item 4 – Dog Control Orders**

The Committee considered the report and made the following comments to the Executive:

Paragraph 7.4 – the list should include Eagle Recreation multi use games area, Leamington instead of Kennedy Square multi use games area.

The Committee was disappointed that some areas clearly demarked by surfacing had not been included, such as the holt and the main play area at Victoria Park. These should be brought forward as soon as possible for addition to the areas excluded.

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)**

The Committee agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group to review the orders in 12 months considering such matters as issues that have come up and the number of breaches of the orders, by area and type of order reported and acted upon.

The Committee recommended that the Executive should respond to the following points to provide clarity for all parties, including:

1. What is the timetable for installation for signage in original areas?
2. What is time frame for introducing these new areas and signage?
3. What is their definition of clearly demarked areas?
4. What is the completion date for the intro of these areas?
5. How are the areas being demarked?
6. Have they informed the Public of how areas will be demarked and how enforcement will operate?

### **Item 8 – Strategic Principles for Tourism and the Visitor Economy**

Councillors Dhillon and Mrs Higgins left the room for this item because they had prejudicial interests as Warwick Town Councillors.

The Committee supported the recommendations of the report but expressed disappointment that it did not have the opportunity to see the addendum referred to in recommendation 2.2.

Overall the Committee was pleased with the work but disappointed that there was not the opportunity for greater member involvement in the draft tourism strategy and encouraged all Councillors to send views to the Economic Development Manager on potential inclusions.

The Committee asked for a presentation on the Tourism Strategy so that members would be aware of its content before it is confirmed.

The Committee asked the Executive to consult with Town and Parish Councils as early as possible regarding the potential contributions towards the provision of tourism to ensure that this can be incorporated in the setting of their precepts in January/February.

## **60. PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting for the following item by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, as set out below:

Minute No.	Para Nos.	Reason
61	3	Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)**

**61. EXECUTIVE AGENDA (CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS) –  
WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2011**

Item Urgent – Disposal of 21 Church Street, Warwick

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report and appreciated why it needed to come as an urgent item.

The Committee asked for opinion on the potential for creating a footpath through the car park to the rear of this property, in line with the Warwick Town Centre Action Group, to see if it was financially viable.

A minority of members of the Committee expressed the opinion that this money should be ring-fenced for use in Warwick.

(The meeting finished at 8.00pm)