

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5 January 2011 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Gifford (Chair) Boad, Mrs Bromley, Davies, Mrs Mellor, McFarland and Wilkinson.

Councillor Mrs McFarland substituted for Councillor Gill.

## 66. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Minute Number 68 – Executive Agenda (Non-Confidential items and Reports) Thursday 6 January 2011 – Executive Agenda Item Number 16 – South West Warwick (Chase Meadow) Community Centre Development

Councillors Mrs Bromley and Mrs Mellor declared a personal interest in Executive Agenda Item Number 16 – South West Warwick (Chase Meadow) Community Centre Development, because they were members of Racing Club Warwick.

## 67. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2010 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## 68. **EXECUTIVE AGENDA (NON- CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS) – THURSDAY 6 JANUARY 2011**

Item 16 - South West Warwick (Chase Meadow) Community Centre Development

The Committee had a concern regarding the money coming from the capital investment reserve and felt that this should come from this municipal year's unspent Rural Initiatives money.

The Committee recommended that the Executive seeks clarification whether the £98,000 commuted sum for ongoing maintenance can be used as a contribution towards the capital cost of building the centre before the section 106 is finalised.

Item 10 – Scoping of High Speed 2 Impacts on Warwick District

The Committee recommended to Executive that Warwick District Council should be asked to match fund any money put in by Kenilworth Town Council up to the value of £50,000. This was because Kenilworth as the town by far the most affected by High Speed 2 and therefore likely to want fund the help and support needed to protect their residents.

The Committee had concerns that the excellent and professional work undertaken by the Alliance of Action Groups would be duplicated and that this would not give best value from public money.

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

### **Item 11 - Local Plan, Annual Monitoring Report & Review of Local Development Scheme**

The Committee agreed that Executive needed to consider the implications of the regulations that would come in through the Localism Bill for the development of the Local Plan. They felt it would be a benefit if a presentation was given to Members regarding any new information and regulations once the implications of the Bill become clearer.

### **Item 13 - Recommendations of the Grants Review Panel on Future Funding of the Voluntary and Community Sector**

The Committee supported the report and felt it was a fairer way of allocating the money. They also commended the working party for producing the report and the Portfolio holder for all the work they put in.

### **Item 15 - Portfolio Holders Statement**

The Committee welcomed the new statements which were an improvement to the information previously received but were concerned at the lack of consistency in the way information was displayed meaning it was not easy to understand. The Committee noted that the revised arrangements meant that the Shadow Portfolio Holders needed to report back frequently to their groups.

## **69. COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

The Committee considered a report from Members' Services which detailed the responses the Executive gave to the Committees' comments on the reports submitted to the Executive on 24 November 2010

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.

The Committee were pleased with the more detailed responses being received from Executive.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **70. FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee considered the Forward Plan which had been published for December 2010 to March 2011 and received a copy of the forward plan for January to April 2011 at the meeting.

The Committee had concerns that there was still not enough information provided for the items included in the dates to be confirmed section, or reasons why these items were late.

The Committee felt that the columns were still not being filled in adequately, however there had been an improvement since the previous meeting.

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

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

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

The Committee considered a report from Members' Services on the Committees' work programme for 2011.

**RESOLVED** that:

- 1) the report was noted;
- 2) the verbal feedback from Councillor Wilkinson on economic development and the Discretionary Travel Scheme Report be submitted to the Committee in January 2011; and
- 3) the Creation of a Volunteering Policy be submitted to the February 2011 meeting

### **72. SCRUTINY OF PARTNERSHIPS**

The Committee considered a report from the Deputy Chief Executive (AJ) which explored the Council's partnership arrangements for the town centres of Leamington Spa, Kenilworth and Warwick.

At the Executive meeting on 17 March 2010 the Council's policy for involvement in partnerships was agreed. At its meeting on 23 June 2010 they agreed that the scrutiny of the Council's partnerships should be undertaken by the Council's Scrutiny Committees.

**RESOLVED** that the partnership arrangements in place for the town centres of Leamington Spa, Kenilworth and Warwick be noted.

### **73. CREATION OF VOLUNTEERING POLICY**

The Committee received a verbal update from the Deputy Chief Executive (BH) regarding the progress of the Creation of Volunteering report. He told the Committee what the report would be based on and that it may not be ready until the February meeting.

### **74. EXECUTIVE AGENDA (CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS) – THURSDAY 6 JANUARY 2011**

There were no confidential Executive items brought forward for discussion.

(The meeting finished at 7.35pm)