

COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
10TH MARCH 2010

PRESENT: The Chair (Councillor Shepherd)
The Vice-chair (Councillor K. Jones)
Councillors Bava, Gay, Harris, Hodgson, J.M. Hunt, Radford, Ranson,
Seaton and Youell.

APOLOGY: Councillor Sutherland.

38. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20th January 2010 were confirmed and signed.

39. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Disclosures of Personal Interest were made as follows:

- (i) by Councillor Shepherd – personal and prejudicial interest, having been a member of Cabinet and present at the meeting when the decision had been taken, in item 5 on the agenda – Community Safety Scrutiny, with specific reference to the establishment of a community facility in Hastings Ward;
- (ii) by Councillor Ranson – personal interest, as a member of the Carpenters’ Arms Steering Group, in item 5 on the agenda – Community Safety Scrutiny, with specific reference to the work of the Carpenters’ Arms within the community;
- (iii) by Councillor K. Jones – personal interest, as a board member of Charnwood Neighbourhood Housing, in item 5 on the agenda – Community Safety Scrutiny, with specific reference to the establishment of a community facility in Hastings Ward; and
- (iv) by Councillor Radford – personal interest, as a member of the Council/GCR Liaison Committee, in item 9 on the agenda – Work Programme, with specific reference to scheduling the item relating to the Great Central Railway.

40. DECLARATIONS - THE PARTY WHIP

No declarations of the existence of the Party Whip were made.

41. COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY

A report of the Director of Partnerships and Customer Services was submitted, which set out activities in respect of Community Safety during the previous six months and provided information requested in respect of the Community Safety Partnership, including the Partnership Plan, and Police Beat 15 – the Peal Drive and

Hastings Ward Area of Loughborough (item 5 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

A strategic assessment of crime and disorder issues and performance was also considered by the Committee (copy filed with these minutes).

At the request of the Committee, Councillor Snartt, Cabinet Lead Member for Community Safety attended the meeting to assist with the consideration of the item.

The Director of Partnerships and Customer Services and the Head of Communities and Partnerships attended the meeting to assist with the consideration of the item.

At the invitation of the Committee, the following representatives attended the meeting to assist with the consideration of the establishment of a community facility in Hastings Ward:

- Bob Bailey – Secretary, Hastings Community Association;
- Richard Guy – Treasurer, Loughborough East Tenants Association and Chair, Marios Tinenti Centre;
- Neil Lambert – Voluntary Action Charnwood;
- Diane Lockwood – Loughborough East Tenants Association and representative of Chapman Street Garden Project;
- Police Sergeant Jamie Osborne – Beat 15, Hastings;
- Brian Spence – Carpenters’ Arms; and
- Cherie Tinenti – local resident who started the campaign to establish a community facility, and worker at the Marios Tinenti Centre.

The representatives were asked to comment on the impact of initiatives, including the establishment of the Marios Tinenti Centre, in Hastings Ward. The representatives confirmed that recent activities by the agencies involved and the community had increased quality of life in the area, the area was safer, quieter and tidier. People were increasingly going out at night and were attending the Community Flat to speak with and seek help from the agencies. As a result the community was a stronger and safer community.

Councillor Shepherd, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the part of this item that related to the establishment of a community facility in Hastings Ward, since he had been a member of Cabinet and present at the meeting when the decision had been taken, left the room during consideration of this part of the item and took no part in the discussion nor the voting. The Vice-Chair, Councillor K. Jones, took the chair during consideration of this part of the item.

RESOLVED that it be recommended to Cabinet

1. that the Council continue to offer support to the Marios Tinenti Centre and encourage the full and active support of key partners and the community;
2. that residents and community groups in Hastings Ward had turned the area into a community to be proud of and that the Borough Council, and its

strategic partners, continue to provide proactive support to the community and use this as a model to provide similar support to other community projects in order to achieve similar outcomes;

3. that the role of the multi-agency approach to anti-social behaviour was significant to the success of reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and re-building community confidence; and
4. that the education awareness programme concerning burglary and thefts, particularly in student communities, be continued.

Reasons

1. To ensure relevant support for and progress in the community on a permanent basis. The support of the Borough Council along with the strategic partners was pivotal in ensuring that the improvements to community safety and community cohesion was maintained and further strengthened.
2. To ensure that the improved sense of confidence in the community would be maintained and to ensure that new projects, for example, Warwick Way, would be equally successful.
3. To maintain a high profile and professional presence and to continue to respond quickly to community need, including direct intervention, where appropriate.
4. To ensure that the reductions achieved this year concerning burglary and theft, particularly among new students in Loughborough, continued to be maintained.

42. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY UPDATE REPORT

A report of the Director of Leisure and Environment, providing an update on actions currently being undertaken with regard to equality and diversity across the Council, was submitted (item 6 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

At the request of the Committee, Councillor Lewis, Cabinet Champion for Equality and Diversity attended the meeting to assist with the consideration of the item.

The Director of Leisure and Environment also attended the meeting to assist with the consideration of the item.

RESOLVED

1. that the work in progress be noted;
2. that the possibilities explored and the decisions implemented within the resources available, should be transparent and accessible;

3. that the delivery of the Equality and Diversity Action plan be constantly reviewed and challenged to ensure maximum delivery of initiatives within the resources available; and
4. that progress with impact assessments and outputs be reviewed in 12 months and that an item be added in that respect to the Committee's Work Programme.

Reasons

1. To recognise the work that has been achieved with ensuring that the necessary building blocks were put in place so that the Council was able to consider the equality and diversity impact of its actions.
2. To ensure awareness of the equality and diversity impact of particular actions and that these had been fully considered along with the reasons.
3. To enable the impact assessments and activities undertaken by the Council to evolve in the light of new circumstances, legislation or change in resources.
4. To ensure that progress had been made and that demonstrable outputs were being achieved as a result of the impact assessments.

43. FEEDBACK FROM CABINET – RETAIL BUSINESS UPDATE – CHRISTMAS 2009

A report of the Acting Director of Programmes and Resources was submitted, concerning the outcomes of the Cabinet decisions taken following consideration of a report in respect of Retail Business Update – Christmas 2009, which the Committee submitted to Cabinet following the meeting held on 20th January 2010 (item 7 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

RESOLVED that a report be submitted to the meeting of the Committee scheduled for 19th May 2010, setting out what actions have been taken and making proposals for Christmas 2010; and that the Committee's Work Programme be amended accordingly.

Reason

The Committee were satisfied with the action taken by Cabinet so far, however, they felt that it was important to ensure that the recommendations made by the Committee were fully implemented by Cabinet and that progress was monitored at a suitable time before Christmas 2010 in order that any further identified action could be implemented.

44. FEEDBACK FROM CABINET – OLYMPICS 2012

A report of the Acting Director of Programmes and Resources was submitted, concerning the outcomes of the Cabinet decisions taken following consideration of a report in respect of the Olympics 2012, which the Committee submitted to Cabinet

following the meeting held on 20th January 2010 (item 8 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

RESOLVED that a report be submitted to the meeting of the Committee scheduled for 9th March 2011, setting out what actions have been taken and making proposals; and that the Committee's Work Programme be amended accordingly.

Reason

The Committee were satisfied with the action taken by Cabinet so far, however, they felt that it was important to ensure that the recommendations made by the Committee were fully implemented by Cabinet and that progress was monitored at a suitable time before the Olympics in order that any further identified action could be implemented.

45. WORK PROGRAMME

A report of the Acting Director of Programmes and Resources, enabling the Committee to consider its work programme, was submitted (item 9 on the agenda files with these minutes).

RESOLVED

1. that the item to be scheduled, in respect Communication and Consultations Team Service Review – to consider the Service Review prior to its submission to Cabinet on 18th February 2010, be deleted;
2. that the item marked to be scheduled, Great Central Railway – to monitor implementation of the recommendations of the Cabinet after an appropriate length of time, be scheduled on 7th July 2010, should this be suitable to representatives from the Great Central Railway, and if not then the item be scheduled on 13th October 2010;
3. that the Director of Partnerships and Customer Services investigate whether there has been any progress with the Sustainable Communities Act and, if appropriate, recommend scheduling on the Work Programme; and
4. that the Scrutiny Commission be informed that the Committee wishes to proceed on the basis of the following work programme, which incorporates decisions made at the meeting:

ISSUE	MEETING
<p>Retail Business Update – Christmas 2010</p> <p>A report of the Director of Loughborough Regeneration setting out what actions have been taken following the Committee’s recommendations in respect of Christmas 2009 and setting out further proposals for Christmas 2010</p> <p>Invite Cabinet Lead Member</p>	<p>19th May 2010</p>
<p>Town Centre Master Plan</p> <p>A report of the Director of Loughborough Regeneration to provide updated information in respect of the Loughborough Eastern Gateway, Inner Relief Road and the Baxter Gate Development</p> <p>Invite Cabinet Lead Member</p>	<p>19th May 2010</p>
<p>Great Central Railway – to monitor implementation of the recommendations of the Cabinet after an appropriate length of time. Response from Cabinet received 20th January 2010.</p> <p>Invite Representatives from Great Central Railway</p> <p>Invite Cabinet Lead Member</p>	<p>7th July 2010 (should this be suitable to representatives from the Great Central Railway, and if not then the item will be rescheduled to 13th October 2010)</p>
<p>Equality and Diversity</p> <p>A report of the Director of Leisure and Environment reporting on progress with impact assessments and outputs; to ensure that progress had been made and that demonstrable outputs were being achieved as a result of the impact assessments.</p> <p>Invite Cabinet Lead Member</p>	<p>9th March 2011</p>
<p>Olympics 2012</p> <p>A joint report of the Director of Loughborough Regeneration and the Director of Leisure and Environment setting out what actions have been taken and setting out further proposals as appropriate for the Olympics 2012.</p> <p>Invite Cabinet Lead Member</p>	<p>9th March 2011</p>

Items still to be programmed:

Sustainable Communities Act - to review the position again when the Secretary of State issues a further invitation for proposals to be submitted to the LGA or when the Amendment Bill becomes law, whichever is the sooner.

Regular items:

Community Safety – every six months – last considered 10th March 2010

Reasons

1. An additional meeting of the Committee was only to be arranged had the Scrutiny Commission decided not to scrutinise the Communication and Consultations Team Service Review, however, the item was scrutinised by the Scrutiny Commission on 16th February 2010; therefore, this item was no longer needed to be included on the Community and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Work Programme.
2. To ensure that the decision of Cabinet to consider recommendations of the Committee had been implemented after an appropriate length of time.
3. To ensure that the provisions of the Sustainable Communities Act were considered, when appropriate.
4. To assist the Scrutiny Commission in respect of its role of managing scrutiny work programmes across Committees and to enable planning for future meetings of the Committee, reports to be prepared and attendances to be arranged.

NOTE:

1. No reference may be made to these minutes at Council on 26th April 2010, unless notice to that effect is given to the Head of Democratic Services by five members of the Council no later than 5pm on Tuesday 30th March 2010 following the publication of the minutes in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2(f).
2. These minutes are subject to confirmation as a correct record at the next meeting of the Committee to be held on 19th May 2010.