



RURAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

26 MAY 2010

PRESENT:-

Councillors N.R.G Angrave (Chairman)
G.E. Botterill, M.C.R. Graham MBE, A. Freer
R.F. Moore-Coltman, T. Moncrieff
D.E. Orson, J.B. Rhodes, N. Slater

Corporate Director (CM)
Head of Financial Services, Head of Social and Economic Development
Head of Street Scene and Environment, Principal Policy Officer
Democratic Services Clerk

R1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Baguley and Holmes.

R2. MINUTES

(a) Rural, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee : 10 March 2010
R49 – Car Parking

Additional sentence to be included as follows :-

'Other Members discussed the fact that charging for evening parking would be detrimental to the evening economy of the town'.

(b) The minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2010 were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Chairman subject to the amendment at (a) above.

R3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Rhodes declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in any items related to Leicestershire County Council due to his role as a Leicestershire County Councillor.

Leicestershire Waste Partnership Strategy Review 2010

Councillor Rhodes declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above item due to his nephew working for a company involved in the Partnership.

Grove School – Review of Car Parking Scheme

Councillor Freer declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above item due to a personal link with the school.

Councillor Moncrieff declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in the above item due to being a Community Governor at the school.

R4. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Full Council – 21 April 2010 (Minute Number C087 – Questions from Members)
Rural, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee : 10 March 2010

Minute R49 – Car Parking : Review, Councillor Moncrieff stated that the wording in the last paragraph before the resolutions on page 21 did not reflect the debate relating to evening charges.

RESOLVED that the following sentence be added to Minute R49 (Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 March 2010):-

‘Other Members discussed the fact that charging for evening parking would be detrimental to the evening economy of the town’.

R5. TASK GROUPS

(a) the Committee reconstituted the Melton Local Development Task Group with the following terms of reference;

‘To consider the detailed provisions and policies in the emerging Local Development Framework and to advise the Rural, Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee accordingly’.

(b) the Membership for the Melton Local Development Task Group , be as follows :-

- N.R.G. Angrave
- P.M. Chandler
- A. Freer
- A. Jackson
- R. Marks
- T. Moncrieff
- M. Sheldon
- D.R. Wright

(c) the Committee reconstituted the Waste Management Task Group with the following terms of reference;

‘To consider ways of implementing mechanisms for reducing waste going to land-fill whilst, at the same time, recycling as much as possible in an economic and efficient manner and to oversee a procurement process’.

(d) the Membership for the Waste Management Task Group , be as follows :-

- N.R.G. Angrave
- G.E. Botterill
- A. Freer
- E. Holmes
- R.F. Moore-Coltman
- D.E. Orson

(e) the Committee reconstituted the CSA/REEA Car Park Task Group with the following terms of reference :-

- *To consider approval of a business plan to implement a residents permit parking scheme on Housing Revenue Account Car Parks and also the car parks at Saxby Road, Algernon Road and Regent Street;*
- *To consider the introduction of a pay and display car park at Saxby Road.*

(f) the Membership for the CSA/REEA Car Park Task Group, be as follows :-

- N.R.G. Angrave
- C.O. Chapman
- A. Freer
- A. Jackson
- R.F. Moore-Coltman
- M. O' Callaghan
- P.M. Posnett
- M.R. Sheldon

R6. SERVICE PLANS

The Assistant Chief Executive (CW) submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) to provide Members with an opportunity to comment on, and agree, Service Plans for 2010/11.

Street Scene and Environment

Councillor Rhodes stated that some of elements within the service plans did not relate to this Committee. The Head of Social and Economic Development stated that elements from each service plan do fall under different Committees but they had to go the Committee with the best overall fit.

Councillor Graham enquired about the risks involved with the potential of outsourcing the Environmental Maintenance Team. The Head of Street Scene and Environment stated that the risks had been considered at Management Team. D.E. Orson noted that there would be no opportunity to benchmark if the Council did not look outside. Councillor Angrave stated that this matter would need to go through a task group. The Corporate Director (CM) stated that service had been through a value for money process looking at a variety of aspects and the outcome was that the service was value for money.

Policy and Performance

Councillor Rhodes noted that a Government Minister had confirmed that the regional special strategy and planning guidance would not be continued. The Principal Policy Officer stated that Bob Neill MP had stated that they would provide Councils with the ability to fall back on the housing figure they preferred at the time the Regional Plan was prepared.

Regulatory Services.

Councillor Graham enquired about the high charge for land charges employees. The Head of Financial Services stated that it could be for training but she would look into this.

RESOLVED that the following Service Plans be approved (where applicable to this Committee):-

- Street Scene and Environment
- Regulatory Services
- Policy and Performance

R7. ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN MELTON

The Principal Policy Officer submitted a report on behalf of the Assistant Chief Executive (CW) (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) to consider the implications of the Risk Assessment for local authority services prepared for Leicestershire and its districts as part of a public commitment to identify and manage climate related risk.

Councillor Graham highlighted that the weather was unpredictable and excessive time should not be spent on planning for it. Councillor Rhodes enquired if any effective action had come out of the analysis. The Principal Policy Officer stated that the Highways Authority were taking into account climate change and how this affected gritting.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the results of the Risk Assessment for the likely impact of climate change on delivering Local Authority Services in Melton be noted;
- (2) the arrangements being made, with Leicestershire County Council and partner District Councils, to prepare a future programme of work to reach Level 3 of NI 188 which would include the development of an Adaptation Action Plan be noted.

R8. ACTION FOR MARKET TOWNS CONVENTION- EVALUATION REPORT

The Head of Social and Economic Development submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) for Members to note the Evaluation report received in relation to the National Action for Market Town Convention held in Melton Mowbray on the 13 and 14 October 2009.

Councillor Freer stated that there were numerous positive comments about Melton received at the event. Councillor Moncrieff enquired if any new ideas had come out of the convention. The Head of Social and Economic Development stated that as Melton was a well performing market town in the recession it was more about Melton leading the way and providing organisations new ideas.

RESOLVED that the Evaluation report received in relation to the Action for Market Towns Convention, held in Melton Mowbray be noted.

(Councillor Moncrieff declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in the following item due to being a community Governor at the school.)

(Councillor Freer declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item due to a personal link with the school and here left the meeting.)

R9. **GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL : REVIEW OF CAR PARKING SCHEME**

The Head of Street Scene and Environment submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) to review the parking permit scheme for Grove Primary School that allows Wilton Road Car Park to be used as a short term drop off point for parents after nearly twelve months of operation.

RESOLVED that the current arrangements be renewed for a further twelve months and the approval for further 12 month extensions be delegated to the Head of Street Scene and Environment in consultation with the Chairman of this Committee.

(Councillor Freer here re-entered the meeting.)

R10. **WASTE MANAGEMENT : PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

The Head of Street Scene and Environment submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) :-

- (a) to inform the Committee of the potential for working in partnership with neighbourhood district councils on waste collection and other waste related areas;
- (b) to recommend that officers take this forward at an appropriate meeting of the Leicestershire Waste Partnership.

RESOLVED that the Leicestershire Waste Partnership be requested to investigate how and when partnership working can be introduced in the collection and disposal of municipal waste.

R11. LEICESTERSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY REVIEW 2010

The Head of Street Scene and Environment submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) to inform the Committee of the review of the Leicestershire Waste Partnership Strategy that was currently taking place.

Councillor Angrave stated that if the Council was in financial difficulty then the Council may have to look at green waste charging as a strategy and a full report would go to the Waste Management Task Group for consideration.

Councillor D.E. Orson enquired if the strategy could be amended to 'should be lobbying government'.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the list of options informing a review of the Leicestershire Waste Partnership Strategy be noted;
- (2) the Strategy review be approved subject to any changes made at the meeting of the Member Steering Group (Leicestershire Waste Management Partnership).

The meeting which commenced at 6.30 p.m., closed at 8.45 p.m.

Chairman