



RURAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

6th March 2013

Present:

M. Sheldon (Chairman) G.E Botterill, M. Gordon, E. Holmes, L. Horton, J.B Rhodes,
J. Simpson.

Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods,
Head of Regulatory Services, Head of Central Services, Planning Policy Officer,
Administrative Assistant for Communities and Neighbourhoods.

R53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor E. Hutchinson, P. Baguley, J. Orson.

R54. MINUTES

The public and exempt minutes of the meeting held on the 9th January 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

R55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Rhodes declared a personal interest in any item involving the County Council. Councillor Gordon declared a personal interest in Item 11 by virtue of being in receipt of rent and council tax benefits. Councillor Sheldon declared a personal interest in Item 8 by virtue of being an Asfordby Parish Councillor.

R56. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from other committees.

R57. UPDATE ON DECISIONS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report to update Members in respect of decisions from previous meetings.

RESOLVED that the Update on Decisions be noted

R58. BUDGET MONITORING TO DECEMBER 2012

The Head of Central Services submitted a report providing information on actual expenditure and income incurred on this Committee's services compared to the latest approved budget for the period 1st April 2012 to 31st December 2012. The Head of Central Services explained that the financial position up to the end of January had been included in Appendix B for the high risk budgets and brought Members attention to 3.6 of the report outlining overspending and shortfalls.

The Recommendation was proposed by Councillor Rhodes and seconded by Councillor Holmes.

RESOLVED that the financial position on each of this committee's services to 31st December be noted.

R.59 CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING TO 31ST JANUARY 2013

The Head of Central Services submitted a report on the progress of schemes within the Capital Programme to 31 January 2013 and explained that 4 out of the 5 schemes budgets will be carried forward to next year's budget.

The Recommendation was proposed by Councillor Rhodes and seconded by Councillor Holmes.

RESOLVED that the progress made on each capital scheme be noted.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Rhodes, was elected as Chairman for the next item, which was proposed and seconded by Councillor Holmes and Botterill.

R.60 ASFORDBY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted a report seeking Members approval on the designation of the Asfordby Neighbourhood Planning Boundary. The Planning Policy Officer explained that a Neighbourhood Plan must have conformity to the Core Strategy and explained that the Asfordby Parish Council has currently received no objection to the plan.

At this point Councillor Holmes, Botterill, Gordon and Simpson declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of being on the development committee.

It was clarified that Asfordby Hill, Valley and Village are all included in the Asfordby Neighbourhood Plan.

The recommendation was proposed and seconded by Councillor Rhodes and Councillor Horton

RESOLVED that

- 1) the content of the report be noted and the designation of the Asfordby Neighbourhood Planning Boundary be agreed.
- 2) The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods be given delegation to make future decisions in relation to Neighbourhood Planning and Neighbourhood Development Orders.

Councillor Sheldon was re-instated as the Chairman of the Committee

R61. **TOWN CENTRE PERFORMANCE 2012**

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report for Members comments on the Town Centre Performance Report 2012 outlining statistics of the past 5 years. An amendment was made to point 3.3 in respect to car parking occupancy to 29% and 66% respectively.

It was suggested by a Member that a greater amount of support for the Melton Museum should be received from the Council. It was also brought to Members attention that there had been a significant event in 2011 in the town centre on the day on which the footfall figures had been collected which resulted in the high figure.

The recommendation was proposed by Councillor Rhodes and seconded by Councillor Holmes

RESOLVED that the Town Centre Performance Report 2012 be noted

R.62 **STRATEGIC JOINT WORKING (WASTE MANAGEMENT)**

The Head of Regulatory Services presented a report to inform Members of the Leicestershire Waste Partnerships (LWP) proposal to consider Strategic Joint Working opportunities for its partners as well as Melton Borough Councils own considerations for neighbour authority joint working opportunities.

Discussion took place over Councils with similar approaches to Waste Management and the benefits of joint working and about the County having a disposal waste site to reduce transport.

Recommendations 2.1 and 2.2 were proposed by Councillor Holmes and seconded by Councillor Rhodes.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the method and direction within the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) Strategic Joint Working (SJW) Leicestershire Environment Board (LEB) report: Strategic Joint Working in Waste- A Route Map be noted.
- 2) the proposed direct outline discussions with Neighbouring Authorities in regards to joint working opportunities be noted and supported.

R63. **EXEMPTIONS AND CONCESSIONS FOR REPLACEMENT WHEELED BIN CHARGES**

The Head of Regulatory Services submitted a report seeking Members agreement to the proposed exemptions and concessions for replacement wheeled bins for which charges are to be introduced from April the 1st 2013.

Discussions took place around the exchanges of a small bin for a large bin and whether or not a delivery charge for this exchange should be made. It was also suggested by Members that deliveries of these exchanges take place once a few bins are to be delivered in the same area. It was also suggested by Members that the arrangements about bin exchanges that have been made already with residents be honoured.

RESOLVED that the following exemptions and concessions for replacement wheeled bins charges were approved by the committee.

1) NO CHARGE FOR THE FOLLOWING:

All first bins – that is where no bins exist or bins going to new residents or tenants or approved and provided first additional bins for large families or those with medical conditions – all the above remain free of any direct charge.

2) CHARGE APPLIED TO ALL REPLACEMENT BINS :

- a) if any of the wheeled bins require replacing due to residents / customer fault the (2013/14) £35 charge applies (charges will be reviewed annually as part of the annual budget setting process)
- b) BIN 'Exchanges' – swapping a 240l bin for a 140 or vice-versa :£15 delivery charge

3) CONCESSIONS :

A single concession to the above charges to be offered as a 75 % discount to be applied to:

- a) All properties/households where the named owner/signatory to lease or rental agreement is in receipt of an income related benefit
- b) 'Exchanged' bins: requests made before 1/4/2013 to be without charge, even if fulfilled after this date.

The meeting which started at 6:30pm closed at 7:20pm

Chairman