

COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4th December 2006

PRESENT:-

Labour Group

Councillor Lane (Chair), Councillor Bambrick (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Lauro and Mrs. Mead.

Conservative Group

Councillors Atkin, Bladen and Lemmon.

CYS/30. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd October 2006 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair, subject to Minute No. CYS/29 (Street-Scene Review) being amended to read “with a report on any proposals to be submitted to the Environmental and Development Services Committee at its Meeting on 9th January 2007 and that the matter be reported to this Scrutiny Committee at its Special Meeting on 15 January 2007”.

CYS/31. **RURAL POST OFFICES – UPDATE AND REPORT BACK ON CONSULTATION**

A copy of a report on Rural Post Offices – Feedback on ‘Drop in’ events held was circulated to all Members present at the Meeting. The Committee was advised that following the agreement at its Meeting on 23rd October 2006, three informal meetings had been arranged for the late afternoon/early evenings of 13th, 14th and 15th November 2006. The purpose of the informal meetings was twofold:

- To enable rural postmasters, Parish Councillors and residents to make any comments regarding possible changes to the rural post office network.
- For Members to explore various options and proposals to support the viability of the rural post office network in the District of South Derbyshire.

Members were advised that the informal meetings were well received and the Council’s initiative in supporting the rural post office network was welcomed. A number of possible options and proposals were discussed with a view to sustaining the rural post office network. These included the provision of Council leaflets/forms, information points and the delivery of some Council services. Suggestions were also considered regarding how the Council’s partners could make use of the rural post office network.

Attendees at the informal meetings were asked to complete a short questionnaire to gain additional information on post offices’ usage and the services provided. The questionnaires returned indicated the importance which residents placed on their local post offices.

It was proposed that a Special Meeting of the Committee be held to which representatives of the National Federation of Sub-Postmasters would be

invited to discuss in detail possible options and proposals to support the viability of the rural post office network in South Derbyshire.

It was agreed:-

- **That a Special Meeting of the Committee be held to consider in detail the possible options and proposals to support the rural post office network in South Derbyshire and that representatives of the National Federation of Sub-Postmasters be invited to attend.**
- **That the above Special Meeting be held during late December 2006/early January 2007 on a date and time to be agreed with the Chair of the Committee.**
- **That any proposals from the Special Meeting (referred to in (2) above) be considered at the Special Meeting of the Committee arranged for 15th January 2007.**

CYS/32. **PRESENTATION: DERBYSHIRE COUNTY PRIMARY CARE TRUST**

The Deputy Chief Executive advised the Committee that most of the directors at the new Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust had now been appointed. He confirmed that following discussions, the District Council's Chief Executive was seeking to arrange a meeting between himself, the Leader of the District Council and the Chair and new Chief Executive of the Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust. These discussions were ongoing and it was likely that a meeting would take place in January 2007.

The Committee was advised that the Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust plans relating to service planning provision and consultation with residents were not yet available.

Members were informed that there would be a benefit to the District Council's scrutiny process by linking in with the County Council's scrutiny of health service issues.

It was agreed:-

- **That Derbyshire County Council's Scrutiny Officer be invited to attend the Special Meeting of the Committee on 15th January 2007 to provide information on the County Council's plans for scrutiny of the health service and any details they may have on the Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust's plans for consultation with South Derbyshire residents on health issues.**
- **That the Chair/Vice-Chair of the County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee be invited to attend the above Special Meeting on 15th January 2007 to provide appropriate information to assist the Committee's consideration of health issues.**

CYS/33. **PRESENTATION: STREETSCENE REVIEW - UPDATE**

A copy of a Progress Report – Joint Review with Derbyshire County Council 'StreetScene' Review together with notes of a meeting held on 29th November 2006 were circulated to all Members present at the Meeting. The following matters were discussed at the StreetScene Review meeting held on 29th November 2006:

- The consultation undertaken by CVS in Swadlincote on what local people thought about the 'StreetScene'.
- Consultation with County Council staff from the Willington depot about their ideas for working better.
- Consultation with members of the District Council's waste management and street cleansing team.

Councillor Atkin felt that the comments of Councillor Southerd in the notes of the meeting held on 29th November 2006 should be highlighted. It was also questioned whether the Clean Team telephone number needed to be kept separate from the "Call Derbyshire" number or whether there should be only one telephone number. It was agreed that this matter needed further consideration and discussion.

It was agreed that a report be prepared for consideration at the Special Meeting of the Committee on 15th January 2007 on the joint review with Derbyshire County Council of the 'StreetScene' review to enable the Committee to finalise recommendations on this matter with a view to them being considered by the Environmental and Development Services Committee at its Meeting on 1st February 2007.

CYS/34. **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2006/07: PRESENTATION**

A copy of the Committee's Work Programme for 2006/07 was circulated to all Members present at the Meeting.

E-enablement Scrutiny of the Outward Looking Agenda

It was agreed that a report on E-enablement Scrutiny of the Outward Looking Agenda be submitted to the Meeting of the Committee on 19th February 2007.

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act Response

It was agreed that a report on the progress on the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act Response be submitted to the Meeting of the Committee on 19th February 2007.

Work Programme 2006/07

It was agreed:

- **That the work undertaken to date in respect of the Committee's Work Programme 2006/07 be noted.**
- **That the Work Programme be included on the agenda for the Special Meeting of the Committee on 15th January 2007 for further discussion and consideration of its contents.**

R. LANE

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 5.20 p.m. Page 3 of 3