

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

18 January 2007

The Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee will meet at the **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK** on **THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2007** at **10:00 a.m.**

The agenda will be: -

1. General

(1) Apologies for absence

(2) Members' Disclosure of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Members should disclose the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a prejudicial interest the Member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies.

Personal interests relating to any item on the agenda arising by virtue of the Member serving as a district/borough councillor are declared below:

North Warwickshire Borough Council – Councillors Joan Lea and Ray Sweet

Warwick District Council - Councillors Josie Compton and Eithne Goode

Rugby Borough Council – Councillor Gordon Collett

Stratford District Council - Councillor John Appleton

(3) Minutes of the meetings held on 9 November 2006 and matters arising

2. Public Question Time

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting is available for members of the public to ask questions on any matters relevant to the business of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Questioners may ask 2 questions and can speak for up to three minutes each.

To be sure of receiving an answer to an appropriate question, please contact Jean Hardwick on 01926 412476 or e-mail jeanhardwick@warwickshire.gov.uk at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting and ensure that Council staff are aware of the matter on which you wish to speak.

3. Street Lighting Hours of Operation

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

At present virtually all street lights in Warwickshire operate throughout the night. Savings would be made to the street lighting energy budget by switching off all (or selected) street lights after midnight. The report provide information on the options which might be considered.

Recommendation

That the Committee support :

- (1) The proposal for switching off all (or selected) street lights after midnight, subject to risk assessments being carried out.
- (2) Trials to be carried out to check the effects of switching off selected lights particularly on levels of illumination.

For further information please contact Peter Samwell, County Highways Project Manager, Environment and Economy Directorate Tel: 01926 736530 e-mail petersamwell@warwickshire.gov.uk.

4. Update on Maintenance of Highway Trees in Warwickshire, Verge Parking and Verge Maintenance

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

The report updates Members on progress, following the report to Environment Overview and Scrutiny on 17 January 2006 on highway trees, and provides additional information on verge parking and maintenance.

Recommendation

That Members –

- (1) note progress on inspecting and maintaining highway trees and support the current review of arrangements in the former Agency areas, and that Members consider appropriate funding for sustaining highway tree stock through replacement planting.
- (2) Recommend that Cabinet formally adopt the approach for dealing with requests to facilitate verge parking, as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of this report.

For further information please contact Ken Simons, Forestry Officer, Environment and Economy Directorate Tel: 01926 736491 e-kensimons@warwickshire.gov.uk.

5. Speed Management Strategy.

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

At its meeting of 9th November 2006, the Committee instructed that a draft Speed Management Strategy should be prepared for consideration by this Committee and ultimately Cabinet. This report submits a first draft for consideration.

Recommendation

That –

1. The draft Speed Management Strategy be submitted to the five Area Committees and to Warwickshire Police for comment.
2. Officers submit a revised draft, which takes into account the views expressed at this meeting, by Area Committees and by Warwickshire Police for consideration by this Committee prior to its ultimate submission to Cabinet.
3. The Committee supports the officers' view that in April 2007 they should commence the technical parts of the review of the speed limits on A and B roads requested in Circular 1/2006.

For further information please contact Malcolm Graham, Senior Engineer, Environment and Economy Directorate, Tel: 01926 412179 e-mail malcolmgrahame@warwickshire.gov.uk

6. Warwickshire Rural Strategy – Nomination of Members to Working Group

Report of the Strategic Director for Performance and Development.

The County Council will shortly be commencing work on a Rural Strategy. It has been agreed that a Member Working Group should be established to help steer its development. This report asks for three nominees to join that group.

Recommendation

That the Committee nominates three of its members to join a new Warwickshire Rural Strategy Working Group

For further information please contact Paul Williams, Scrutiny Officer, Performance and Development Directorate Tel: 01926 418196 [e- paulwilliams@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:paulwilliams@warwickshire.gov.uk)

7. Future Work Programme and Items Relevant to the Work of this Committee

(a) Provisional Items for Future Meetings

A table setting out provisional items for future meetings is attached.

(b) Forward Plan Items

Cabinet – 11 January 2007

Local Transport Plan Settlement 07-08 and Outline Transport Capital Programme for Traffic 2007-08 to 2009-10

Local Transport Plan Funding of Safety Cameras 2007-08

DeTrunking of Roads

Heathcote – Warwick Technology Park and Footway/Cycle Schemes

Cabinet – 1 February 2007

Development of a new household waste recycling centre to serve Nuneaton. (EXEMPT)

Rugby Western Relief Road – Construction of the Works

Cabinet - 7 June 2007

Speed Management Strategy

8. Any Other Business

Which the Chair decides is urgent.

Shire Hall,
Warwick.

JIM GRAHAM
Chief Executive

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Membership

County Councillors:- John Appleton, George Atkinson, Ken Browne (Chair), Jose Compton, Gordon Collett, Eithne Goode, Mick Jones, Katherine King, Joan Lea, Bryan Levy, Ray Sweet (Vice Chair) and John Whitehouse.

Cabinet Portfolio Holder:- Councillor Martin Heatley (Environment).

The reports referred to are available in large print if requested

General Enquiries: Please contact Jean Hardwick on 01926 412476

E-mail: jeanhardwick@warwickshire.gov.uk.