

The **NUNEATON & BEDWORTH AREA COMMITTEE** met
In the **CONFERENCE ROOM, ELIOT PARK INNOVATION
CENTRE, 4 BARLING WAY, NUNEATON** on 23 May 2007.

Present:

Councillor	Barry Longden (Chair)
“	John Burton
“	Alan Farnell
“	John Haynes
“	Pat Henry
“	Bob Hicks
“	Mick Jones
“	Frank McCarney
“	John Ross
“	June Tandy
“	Kam Singh (Vice Chair).

Officers:

Roger Bennett, Traffic Projects Group, Environment and
Economy Directorate.

Jean Hardwick, Principal Committee Administrator,
Performance and Development Directorate.

Alison Hallworth, Adult and Community Team Leader,
Performance and Development Directorate.

Nigel Mills, Chair of the ACLP

Heather Shearer, Area Manager, Performance and
Development Directorate.

John Scouller, Head of Skills, Tourism and Economy,
Environment and Economy Directorate.

Pam Williams, Area Administrative Officer, Performance and
Development Directorate.

Also present : Mr. R. Reid (Member of the public).

1. Appointment of Chair

Resolved that Councillor Barry Longden be appointed as Chair for the ensuing
year.

2. Appointment of Vice Chair

Resolved that Councillor Kam Singh be appointed at Vice Chair for the ensuing
year.

3. General

(1) Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Richard Chattaway and Sid Tooth.

(2) Declarations of interest

Declarations of interest were recorded as follows –

(1) Councillors Pat Henry and John Ross declared personal interests relating to any item on the agenda by virtue of them serving as Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough councillors.

(2) Councillor John Ross declared a personal interest in item 4, Review of Parking Policies, because he had business connections with provision of mobility equipment.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting of 28 March 2007 and Matters Arising

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Nuneaton and Bedworth Area Committee meeting held on 28 March 2007 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

Matters Arising

None

(4) Chair's correspondence and announcements

Meeting with Area Chairs – Locality Arrangements

Heather Shearer reported that Nick Gower-Johnson had asked for Members' views on whether the briefing on Locality Arrangements should be delivered by way of a substantive agenda item for a future meeting or by way of a Member workshop.

Members agreed that the briefing should be included on the agenda of a future meeting.

2. Public Question Time

None

PART A Non-Executive Functions

None

PART B Executive Functions

3. Area Community Learning Partnership (ACLP) for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough, Progress Report 2006/07 and Action Plan for 2007/08

Nigel Mills presented the report of the Strategic Director for Children Young People and Families, which summarised progress made by the ACLP during 2006/07 and gave the outline for proposed partnership activity for 2007/08.

In response to Members' comments Nigel Mills said that –

- (1) reference to 'young carers' was included in the Community Health Strategy.
- (2) 'raising aspirations' was included with the wider partnership plan but perhaps needed to be added to the Learning Strategy. He undertook to raise this at the next partnership meeting.
- (3) A designated person was appointed in each school for looked after children. He was unsure whether these were trained specifically but support was given by TLAX (Training Support Group). Councillor John Burton reported that the Government had given a grant for the appointment of a 'virtual' head teacher for all looked after children.

In response to concern expressed by the Chair about how the outcomes of this and other linking strategies would be monitored Heather Shearer said that work was still ongoing on how performance would be monitored and this would also address cross-cutting issues.

In reply to concern expressed about children not in school Nigel Mills said that there was a multi-agency enhanced support networks scheme, with a lead professional, dealing with these families and that a pilot scheme had been started in Rugby and would be rolled out across the county. Heather Shearer undertook to circulate a copy of the publicity leaflet on the scheme to Members.

Resolved that -

- (1) the progress made in the development of the Community Learning Strategy and the multi-agency Community Learning Plan for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough is noted.
- (2) the detailed progress report against 2006/07 actions be endorsed.
- (3) the Area Committee gives its comments on the draft outline plan and actions for 2007/08.
- (4) a finalised Area Community Learning Plan for 2007/08 is made available to the Area Committee for information in late summer/early autumn.

4. Review of Parking Policies

Roger Bennett presented the report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Economy following the request by the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee that Area Committees' views be sought on the proposed changes to the parking policies.

During the discussion the following comments were noted –

- (1) That the issues of parking on pavements was fraught with controversy and difficulties and could not be easily overcome without sufficient funding and was potentially dangerous for pedestrian.
- (2) That Members were fully aware of all the problems and issues surrounding parking on pavements, which were long standing, had increased over the years and were common across all areas of the county.
- (3) That the proposals did not do anything to resolve the long-standing issues.
- (4) That the main issues raised at PACT meetings was parking on double yellow-lines and on street corners, which were causing major concern but could not be easily resolved.
- (5) That parking on grass verges was of concern and should be addressed by either the use of "grass Crete" or tarmac.
- (6) That mixed messages were being received about the legality of parking on the pavement and about Police enforcement.
- (7) That residents parking should not include permits for charities etc.
- (8) That, if parking on pavements was allowed, then sufficient space should be left to enable free passage by mobility vehicles, wheelchair users and pedestrians and that each street should be assessed individually.
- (9) That decriminalisation of parking might resolve the issue as had happened in Rugby where exception had been made for particular areas and parking on pavements formalised.

In response to concerns and questions Roger Bennett –

- (a) explained that Appendix B to the report set out the legal position of parking on the pavement and what was proposed was to legalise what was already happening and to provide sufficient parking spaces.
- (b) parking provision for individual streets would only be introduced if there was sufficient space and in consultation with residents.

Resolved that -

The comments made by Nuneaton and Bedworth Area Committee on the draft policies be submitted to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5. Future Agenda Items

Resolved, having considered the report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development, that the Area Committee agrees the schedule of reports for future meeting as listed.

6. Any Other Business

There were no items of urgent business.

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Chair of the Committee

The Committee rose at 7:00 p.m.