

Minutes of the meeting of the **RUGBY AREA COMMITTEE** held at the **TOWN HALL, RUGBY** on the **25 January 2007**.

Present: -

Councillor John Vereker (Chair)
“ Tom Cavanagh
“ Gordon Collett
“ Richard Dodd
“ Katherine King
“ Brian Levy
“ Phillip Morris-Jones
“ Jerry Roodhouse
“ Ian Smith
“ Heather Timms (Vice Chair)
“ John Wells

Officers:

Nick Darwen, Area Manager, Performance and Development Directorate.
Sarah Duxbury, Corporate Legal Services Manager, Performance and Development Directorate.
Mark Gore, Head of Service - Education Partnerships & School Development Division
Jo Ingle, Project Manager, Waste Management, Environment and Economy Directorate.
Pete Keeley, Principal Committee Administrator, Performance and Development Directorate.
Ian McLean, Area Community Education Officer, Adult, Health and Community Services.
Roger Newham, Chief Transport Planner, Environment and Economy Directorate.
Jane Pollard, Scrutiny Manager.
Viv Sales, Principal Education Social Worker.

Also Attended:-

12 Members of the public (approx).

1. General

(1) Apologies

None

(2) Members' Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Members declared personal interests as follows –

- (1) Councillors Tom Cavanagh, Gordon Collett, Richard Dodd, Jerry Roodhouse and Heather Timms - by virtue of them serving as Rugby Borough Councillors.
- (2) Councillor Katherine King declared a prejudicial interest in matters arising from the minute 4 of the meeting held on 21 September 2006 as a Governor of Bishop Wulstan Catholic School.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 23 November 2006 and Matters Arising

(i) Minutes

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Rugby Area Committee held on the 23 November 2006 be approved and signed by the Chair.

(ii) Matters Arising

Minute 4 Bishop Wulston Catholic School.

Councillor Katherine King left the room for this item.

Mark Gore, Head of Service (Education Partnerships and School Development) reported that the proposals for a “fresh start” by the School had been turned down by the Department of Education and Science. He indicated that the Cabinet on the 1 February would decide whether to consult on a proposal to close Bishop Wulstan School with effect from the 1st September, 2007.

Councillor John Vereker reported that a meeting of parents had been arranged for the 6 February and a meeting was to be held with Lord Adonis, Minister for Schools on the 7 February. Seconded by Councillor Gordon Collett, he moved and it was Resolved:

That the Cabinet be asked to postpone a decision until the outcomes of both of the meetings were known and that if necessary the Cabinet be asked to hold a special meeting to determine the issues.

2. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

3. Temporary Arrangements for Public Recycling Facilities in Rugby - Winter 2007/08

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

The report detailed the proposed temporary arrangements that will be put in place to serve the Rugby area with public household waste recycling facilities while the Hunters Lane site was closed for refurbishment from September 2007 to March 2008.

During the discussion the following points were made:

- o With regard to the Stockton Site, there were certain safety issues with the use of the site including reversing vehicles and parking limitations.
- o The Rugby Borough Council felt it had not been fully consulted on the proposals.
- o The environmental costs of travelling to other sites must be taken into account.
- o The proposal could possibly lead to increased fly tipping.
- o Consideration should be given to further temporary arrangements such as the provision of skips at other locations including Hunters Lane and Dunchurch.
- o Wide publicity must be given to the changes and this should include details of the timescale of the temporary arrangements, sites that accept vans and charges.

Councillor Gordon Collett, seconded by Councillor Ian Smith, moved and it was Resolved:

- (1) That members note the proposed temporary arrangements for household waste recycling while the Hunters Lane site is closed for refurbishment.
- (2) That a further report be submitted dealing with members concerns and giving details of other possible temporary options.

4. The Future of the A4071 Bilton Bypass and A426 Newbold Road Dualling Schemes

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

Two improvement lines had been historically protected by the County Council for schemes in Bilton on the A4071, and on the A426 Newbold Road between Avon Mill and Evreux Way. Construction of the Rugby Western Relief Road will remove the justification for these schemes, as traffic is predicted to fall in both of

these corridors. The Area Committee was asked to recommend to Cabinet that these schemes be formally abandoned, and that alternative transport improvements be investigated.

Councillor Gordon Collett, seconded by Councillor Tom Cavanagh, moved and it was Resolved:

That Area Committee:-

- (1) Recommends to Cabinet that the A4071 Bilton Bypass and A426 Newbold Road Dualling schemes are formally abandoned without further public consultation once final approval for Rugby Western Relief Road is received from the Department for Transport.
- (2) Endorses a study to determine the feasibility and cost of providing a cycle link over the land retained for the A4071 Bilton Bypass.

5. Development of the Warwickshire Local Area Agreement (LAA)

The report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development was considered.

The report summarised recent progress made in relation to the development of the Warwickshire LAA following the submission of the 'near final' draft to Government Office West Midlands on 8th December 2006. The report sought to inform the Area Committee of the likely outcomes to be included within the final LAA and requests the views of the Area Committee on its priorities for delivery.

During the discussion the following points were raised:

- o Performance management and member input through scrutiny were essential
- o The importance of project management for each target was stressed.
- o The actual lead officer would not necessarily deliver the service and it was important that the appropriate person was clearly identified.
- o The County Council was the accountable body for the LAA for the purposes of the GOWM but is working in partnership to deliver the outcomes agreed by all partners.
- o There will be a statutory duty on certain partners such as district and borough councils to deliver services
- o The local delivery plans of the NHS were out of kilter with the LAA

Resolved:

- (1) That Committee notes the current position in relation to the development of the Warwickshire LAA.

- (2) That a further report is brought to the Area Committee meeting on 24th May 2007 describing the progress made by the County Council and its partners in making arrangements for the local delivery of LAA outcomes.

6. Consultation on Local Area Scrutiny

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development which sought the views of the Area Committee on any appropriate topics for a local area scrutiny exercise.

Following introductory comments from Jane Pollard, Overview and Scrutiny Manger it was Resolved:-

That the Area Committee identifies the following issues for local scrutiny:

- o The provision of services for and issues relating to (non-British) EU Nationals in Rugby
- o The provision of services for and issues relating to travelling families.

7. Exclusions from School

The report of the Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Families was considered .

Viv Sales, Principal Education Social Worker introduced the report which explained the Rugby area's performance against county and national trends, and detailed what was being done to reduce exclusions from school.

During the discussion the following points were made:

- o Future reports should, if possible, indicate if there is any relationship between exclusions from school and areas of nuisance behaviour, which could possibly be shared with other agencies.
- o Profiles of areas would assist in dealing with problems.
- o Costs of exclusion under the new strategy were not yet available.

It was then Resolved:

- (1) That Members note the information given on exclusions from school, lend their support to the introduction of new strategies and request that regular updating reports be submitted.

8. Bretford Road, Rugby Road and Cathiron Lane, Brinklow – Speed Limit Extensions

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy.

A proposal had been advertised to extend an existing 30 mph speed limit on the south side of Brinklow along the Fosse Way towards Bretford and into two side roads, Rugby Road and Cathiron Lane. The Police had objected to the side road extensions. The report recommended that the speed limit extensions be introduced as advertised.

Resolved:

That the proposed extensions of the 30 mph speed limit along B4455 Bretford Road, Rugby Road and Cathiron Lane, Brinklow are implemented as advertised.

9. Use of the Well-Being Fund: Community Building Feasibility Study

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

The report detailed a proposal to use the Well-Being Fund in support of the 'Community Building' project.

Resolved:

That the Area Committee approves the use of £11,000 from the Well-Being Fund towards the cost of developing proposals for a Community Building on the site of the former livestock market in Rugby.

10. Update on Electoral Divisional Panels and Parish Council matters

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

The report provided an update on the issues discussed recently at Rugby Electoral Divisional Panels and the recent joint meeting between the Area Committees of the County Council and the Association of Local Councils.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

11. Any Other Items

There were no urgent items

25th January 2007

12. Future Business Items

The Committee noted the future business items.

.....
Chair of Committee.

The Committee rose at 7.20 p.m.