

ITEM 4

Time commenced - 6.00 pm
Time finished - 8.51 pm

CULTURE AND PROSPERITY COMMISSION 26 SEPTEMBER 2005

Present: Councillor Travis (in the Chair)
Councillors Graves, Jackson, Rawson, Troup and West

12/05 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dhamrait and Willitts.

13/05 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

14/05 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

15/05 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2005 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Items for Discussion

16/05 Derby Markets

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate Services providing an update on progress made against the 11 recommendations set out in the 2001 Best Value Review report. It was reported that the Waste Management trials were successful with the only problem being that composting closed down for part of the year.

Councillor Graves commented that he felt the Commission should highlight the issue of the composting facility being closed for part of the year.

It was reported that there was a problem with toilets, particularly the Allenton toilets which were subject to vandalism during times when the market was closed. The solution to this had been to close the toilets when the market closed. This had resulted in an improvement in the situation.

Richard Williams, Head of City Development and Tourism who was also present at the meeting reported that the provision of external signage in the City was being investigated. The Commission noted that a working group had been set up to carry

out a gap analysis of signage provision in the City, which would include appropriate signage to the Markets.

Resolved to

- 1. Note the report.**
- 2. Recommend that Council Cabinet give consideration to the following issues arising from the Best Value Review of the Markets Service:**
- 3. that ways are found in which to either reduce or recycle other waste materials produced by the markets, including plastics, glass and polystyrene**
- 4. that all year round provision is made to compost the vegetable waste from market stalls**
- 5. that external signage to Derby's markets be improved and that they be included in the city centre signage strategy**
- 6. that stall holders are discouraged from allowing goods to encroach into the aisles as this has a detrimental effect on the access to the market by disabled users**
- 7. that a rolling programme is developed to ensure minor maintenance to Markets buildings is carried out more frequently. In the longer term it is recommended that consideration should be given to resurfacing work at the Cattle Market and the Wholesale Market and to re-wiring the Wholesale Market.**

17/05 Derby Cityscape Masterplan

The Commission received a presentation from John Cadwallader, Managing Director of Cityscape Limited and Richard Williams, Head of City Development and Tourism on the Cityscape Masterplan. The presentation outlined the plan for Derby city centre over the next few years and went on to discuss the impact of the extended Eagle Centre and how some of the planned actions by Cityscape could mitigate some of the issues. One of the major plans of the Cityscape scheme was to convert the "Princes Supermarket" site and to redevelop Sadler Gate and Friar Gate to extend their already good reputation for independent retailers. The plan included providing better accommodation for independent retailers which would encourage more to the area. The hope was that this would develop into a tourist attraction area like The Shambles in York. It was also planned to encourage the extension of the creative industries. It was reported that the planning application for the redevelopment of "Princes Supermarket" would be in by March 2006, although the details of the application was partly dependent on whether the Council would be vacating Middleton House.

Other developments in the city such as Quad were encouraging other developers to consider developing in Derby. Quad being in the northern part of the city would

encourage visitors to see the whole of the city rather than spending all their time in the Eagle Centre area.

Councillor West asked about the proposal for a footbridge over the River Derwent. John Cadwallader replied that there was no funding for this bridge at the moment however Cityscape had paid to have the footings installed so that it would be easier to build once funding was received. Two bridges were proposed within the Masterplan.

It was reported that at Becket Well, alternative schemes were being looked at as it was an important site that needed to be redeveloped. It was hoped that the site would be developed into a commercial centre. The existing Debenhams site would be bought by Westfield as part of the deal to get Debenhams to move into the Eagle Centre. So it was hoped that they would be able to get another large retailer to occupy the site.

The issue in relation to the extension of the Eagle Centre was the impact this would have on the northern part of the city and whether it was going to be sustained. The Eagle Centre would be as big as Meadowhall once completed and it was hoped would attract a lot of people into the city.

Richard told the Commission that City Centre Management is being re-launched in partnership with the Derby Chamber of Trade. The Chamber will take responsibility for City Centre Management functions and the development of a Business Improvement District (BID) proposal. He told the Commission that if the businesses in the BID vote yes to a company being established approximately 1% would be levied on those businesses rates. The voting is based upon one vote per property within the District and the Council would be part of this. Richard told the Commission that he considered this would benefit the areas of the City around Iron Gate, Sadler Gate and St Mary's Gate and could result in around £350,000 per year for the BID Company. The Commission noted that previous BID Companies have used their money for additional cleaning, wardens, CCTV, marketing and promotion.

Another key issue regarding the extension of the Eagle Centre was to try and capture as many of the jobs for local people. Based on the experiences of the Bull Ring in Birmingham, £150,000 of funding was put in for a training and recruitment centre, to try and capture as many of the jobs for local people as possible.

Councillor Travis asked about car parking. Richard Williams replied that traffic and parking for Westfield would have been looked at as part of their planning application. Within the Masterplan was a plan to make the link from the train station to the city centre more attractive and easy to find to encourage more people to use the train.

Resolved to note the presentation

18/05 Work Plan for 2005/06

The Commission received a report from the Director of Corporate Services on the Culture and Prosperity Commission Work Plan for 2005/06.

The Commission discussed looking at various topics including the success of the second day of the Darley Park Concert, library provision in Derby, provision of outdoor sports facilities and safeguarding and promoting allotments.

Resolved:

- 1. to ask the Assistant Overview and Scrutiny Coordination Officer to draft a scoping report for a review into the City's allotments**
- 2. to receive a presentation on library provision in the City at a future meeting of the Commission.**

19/05 Cycle England Bid

The Commission received a report of the Director of Corporate Services on the Council's bid to receive funding as a Cycling Demonstration Town.

Resolved to note the report and support the bid.

20/05 Performance Eye

The Commission received details of the Performance Eye indicators relevant to this Commission. It was noted that indicator BV170c – number of pupils visiting museums and galleries in organised school groups was the Commission's only red indicator.

Resolved:

- 1. to invite the relevant officer to provide an explanation of the status of indicator BV170c at a future meeting of the Commission**
- 2. to nominate Councillor Troup as the Performance Eye Champion.**

21/05 Retrospective Scrutiny

The Commission considered whether there were any topics that could be considered for retrospective scrutiny.

No items were identified.

22/05 Member Training

The Commission noted that all Members of Overview and Scrutiny Commissions could attend the Overview and Scrutiny Training, as set out in the Report of the Director of Corporate Services.

Resolved to note the report.

23/05 Call-in

There were no call ins.

24/05 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

The Commission considered the Council Cabinet Forward Plan and agreed to consider the following items at the most appropriate time.

Ref 149/04 – Heritage Lottery Projects.

Ref 29/05 – East Midlands Museum Hub Business Plan

Responses of the Council Cabinet to any reports of the Commission

25/05 Review of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site

The Commission considered a minute extract from Council Cabinet on 12 July 2005 on the Culture and Prosperity Commission Review of Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site – Response. Council Cabinet congratulated the Commission on an outstandingly thorough and helpful piece of work and approved the range of initiatives outlined in the report which were designed to better exploit our World Heritage status in months and years to come.

Resolved to note the report.

25/05 Matters Referred to the Commission by the Council Cabinet

There were no items.

MINUTES END