

Time commenced - 6.00 pm
Time finished - 8.15 pm

**CULTURE AND PROSPERITY COMMISSION
18 JANUARY 2005**

Present: Councillor Repton (in the Chair)
Councillors Gupta, Jackson, Latham, Marshall, Smalley,
Tittley and Travis

46/04 Apologies for Absence

There were no Apologies for Absence.

47/04 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

48/04 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

49/04 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2004 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Items for Discussion

**50/04 Derwent Valley Mills Economic Development
Master Plan**

Isla Macneal, World Heritage Site Co-ordinator, gave an outline of the Derwent Valley Mills Economic Development Master Plan. It was noted that the ten year plan would essentially cover the economic viability of the site. The Plan would be commissioned by Consultants at a cost of £50,000.

The Commission queried the level of engagement with the private sector and whether the plan would ensure that the partners of the site would work together.

Isla Macneal, added that the plan would identify priorities, key projects and economic opportunities.

Resolved to note the outline.

51/04 Draft Revenue Budget 2005/06 to 2007/08

The Commission considered a report from the Director of Corporate Services. The Council's draft Revenue Budget was issued to Overview and Scrutiny Commission members at a briefing on 11 January 2005. All the Commissions were given an opportunity for detailed consideration of the draft revenue budget at their business meetings, during January 2005. The Commissions had been told that decisions had not yet been taken about the ways in which a sum, totalling £700,000, would be allocated for spending on public priorities. It was suggested that where appropriate, that each of the Commissions made recommendations on proposals contained in the draft budget which fell within the remit of the Commission. Commissions were also asked to make recommendations on what they considered to be the best ways of using the unallocated public priority spending.

The Performance Eye performance monitoring facility gives the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions the means of monitoring the effects and outcomes of the funding for Council services, agreed through the budget process. It was suggested that each Commission could identify particular service areas within its remit and could, at subsequent meetings, use Performance Eye to track progress and to examine the effects on performance of the budget allocation within those areas. A summary of the information from the draft Revenue Budget, which related to the Culture and Prosperity Commission was set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

The Commission received budget presentations from the Director of Development and Cultural Services, Director of Commercial Services and the Assistant Director, Lifelong Learning and Community.

Discussion took place on the proposals to reduce the number of playgrounds and to close Chaddesden Park paddling pool, although it was noted that these proposals were not included in the budget or recommended or approved by Cabinet. The Commission requested that the names of sites under threat, together with the usage and costs of such facilities be referred to the Commission before any decision to close was taken.

Concern was expressed about the proposals to stop the funding for the Normanton Park sports zone officer. It was suggested that matter be referred to the Social Care and Health Commission to investigate any potential health impacts on the local community of cutting the post. If that Commission then recommends that the post continue to be funded then this Commission felt this should be supported in the budget.

Resolved to:

- 1. Recommend to Council Cabinet that no sports facilities, playgrounds or any other recreational areas in the City be closed until the Commission has had the details of the usage, location and associated costs and the opportunity to comment.**

2. **Recommend to Council Cabinet that it considers funding the following out of the £700,000 unallocated public priority spending:**
- **Facilities for Street Sports, such as hockey and skating in the City**
 - **£20,000 grant fund for organisations that benefit all sections of the Community by promoting Arts and Cultural activities across the City.**
 - **£5,000 to counteract the inflationary effects on the book fund for which no provision has been made.**

52/04 Presentation on Arts and Health

Alison Foote, Arts Officer, Development and Cultural Services, gave a presentation on Arts and Health in Derby. Promotional material for events in Derby from January – March 2005 were distributed. It was suggested that details of these events be posted on the Council's web-site to increase publicity.

Resolved to note the presentation.

53/04 Performance Eye

Resolved to monitor usage and associated costs of playgrounds via Performance Eye.

54/04 Call-in

There were no call-ins.

55/04 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

It was agreed to identify items on the Council Cabinet Forward Plan for consideration at the next meeting.

56/04 Response of the Council Cabinet to any reports of the Commission

There were no items.

57/04 Matters referred to the Commission by the Council Cabinet

There were no items.

Work Plan

58/04 Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site

Katherine Taylor, Assistant Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordination Officer, gave an update on the above topic review. It was noted that Roy Hartle had been asked to approach Darley Abbey Groups to arrange a date for a meeting between the Commission and representatives of Darley Abbey residents .

Resolved to note the update.

MINUTES END