

ITEM 4

Time commenced 6.00 pm
Time finished 8.20 pm

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 11 JUNE 2007

Present: Councillor Dhindsa (in the Chair)
Councillors Berry, Care, Chera, Jennings, Lowe and Repton

01/07 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

02/07 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

03/07 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jennings declared a personal interest in minute number 08/07 as he was a market trader.

04/07 Minutes

The minutes of the former Environment Commission meeting held on 26 March 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

05/07 Call-In

The Commission considered a report which set out details of the procedure and associated protocol for call-in of a decision.

Resolved to note the report.

Items for Discussion

06/07 Performance Eye

The Commission considered information relating to a number of performance indicator that had been highlighted at the last meeting on the Environment Commission as needing attention.

BV215a – Average number of days taken to repair a street lighting fault
BV215b – Average time taken to repair a street lighting fault

It was noted that there was currently a significant difference between the time taking to complete the repairs and the target time set, however it was anticipated that once

the Street Lighting PFI scheme commenced delays in completing repairs would be reduced.

Councillor Berry asked if problems with cabling would be resolved under the PFI scheme? Councillor Care asked what proportion of problems were due to cable faults?

Jonathan Guest – Director of Regeneration and Community - agreed to investigate and report back to a future meeting of the Commission.

Resolved to note the report.

BV204 – Percentage of appeals allowed against the authority's decision to refuse planning

A significant percentage increase in the number of appeals against the authority's decision to refuse planning permission was noted. The Commission asked if the increase was something that all local authorities were experiencing or was it specific to Derby.

Councillor Care reported that there were often split decisions at Planning Control Committee. She also considered that the frequency of the meetings and the change in delegations may have had an effect.

Resolved to note the report.

07/07 Retrospective Scrutiny

No items were identified.

08/07 Planning and Transportation Issues in Derby

The Commission considered a verbal report from Jonathan Guest that provided a briefing on the planning and transportation issues faced by the Council.

Jonathan Guest reported that the service areas covered in Regeneration and Community that were covered by the Commission's portfolio were:

- Building and Development Control
- Environmental and Sustainability Unit
- City Development and Tourism Unit
- Highways and Transportation

It was reported that there were increasing issues with the quality of design for planning and city development and that there was a need to improve performance on corporate appraisals.

The Commission were advised that the Connecting Derby enquiry results would be available in October 2007.

Resolved to note the briefing.

09/07 Highways Maintenance Term Contract Renewal

The Commission received a verbal report from Christine Durrant – Assistant Director – Highways and Transport - on the renewal of the highways maintenance contract. It was reported that the current contract with Morrisons would be ending on 3 August 2007. It was noted that the process of procuring a new contract had begun in August 2006 and that it was currently at 'preferred bidder' stage.

The Commission were advised that the contract with the successful company needed to be signed in July 2007 and that consultation with Members was required before this date. Councillors Dhindsa, Berry and Care nominated themselves to be included in the discussion. Councillor Tittley, as chair of Audit and Accounts was also suggested.

It was noted that details of the new contract would be reported to Council Cabinet on 3 July 2007.

Resolved to note the report.

10/07 Cathedral Green and Derwent River Footbridge

The Commission received a verbal report from John Cadwaller of Derby Cityscape on Cathedral Green and the Derwent River Footbridge.

It was reported that there was a longstanding requirement for a footbridge and since the successful Growth Point bid by Derby, Nottingham and Leicester, £3.6 million had been approved for the development. The Commission were advised that the contract was to be awarded on 20 June 2007 and work on site would commence on 27 June 2007. It was noted that all works needed to be completed by 31 March 2008.

Resolved to note the update.

11/07 Revised Derby Cityscape Masterplan

The Commission received a report that detailed the revised Cityscape Masterplan. The report detailed a number of areas where changes had been made to the plan following consultation. These included North Riverside, Castleward, Roundhouse, Becketwell and Kings Street.

The Commission were advised that a report would be presented to Council Cabinet in July 2007.

Resolved to note the report and support the concepts and mix of uses suggested.

12/07 Commission Portfolio and Draft Work Programme

The Commission considered a report which encouraged Commissions to set their annual work programme based around items contained within their respective portfolios at the beginning of each municipal year.

Resolved

- **to note the report**
- **to focus on Funding for Highways Maintenance and Travel Planning as topic review areas**

13/07 Overview and Scrutiny Training

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director of Corporate and Adult Services detailing a modular training package that could be undertaken by individual members of the Commission.

Resolved to contact the Overview and Scrutiny Coordination Team to arrange delivery of any training that individuals wished to undertake.

14/07 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

The Commission identified the following item on the Forward Plan for consideration at a future meeting:

78/06 City Centre Eastern Fringes Area Action Plan.

15/07 Responses of the Council Cabinet/ Council Cabinet Members to any reports of the Commission

There were no items.

16/07 Matters referred to the Commission by Council Cabinet/Council Cabinet Members

There were no items.

MINUTES END