

Time commenced – 6.00pm
Time finished – 7.30pm

EDUCATION COMMISSION 24 MAY 2004

Present: Councillor Wynn (in the Chair)
Councillors J Hickson, Latham, MacDonald
Winter

Co-opted Members: Mr Ian Samways
Mr John Honey (Roman Catholic Diocese)
Mr Tom Johnston
Mr Balwant Bubber (Derby Racial Equality
Council)

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ahern, Chera and Hird and Mr David Edwards (Church of England Diocese).

Late Items Introduced by the Chair

The Chair agreed to admit an update on Silverhill Primary School, as a late item on the grounds that the Commission needed to be made aware of the progress before the next scheduled meeting of the Commission.

Declarations of Interest

Name	Type of interest	Reason
Councillor Ahern	Personal	Governor – Becket School Member of the AEU
Councillor Chera	Personal Personal Personal	Governor – Sinfin Secondary Community School Member of UNISON Member of the Sikh temple
Councillor J Hickson	Personal	Governor – Etwall Primary School
Councillor MacDonald	Personal Personal	Governor – Lees Brook Community Sports College Member of National Union of Teachers

Councillor Wynn	Personal	<p>Chair Governor – Beckett School</p> <p>Chair Governor – Bemrose School</p> <p>Wife a teacher employed by the LEA</p> <p>Governor – Nightingale Junior School</p> <p>Son employed by Woodlands School.</p>
Mr BR Bubber	Personal	<p>Governor – Peartree Infant School</p> <p>Trustee at the Hindu temple</p> <p>Chair of the Rose Hill SureStart.</p>
Mr D Edwards	Personal	<p>Chair Governor – St James Infants and Vice Chair Governor - St James Junior Schools</p>
Mr J Honey	Personal	<p>Head teacher and Governor St Georges Catholic Primary School</p>
Mr T Johnston	Personal	<p>Vice Chair Governor – Murray Park School</p> <p>Chair Governor – St. Clare's School</p>
Councillor Winter	Personal	<p>Governor – Mickleover Primary School</p>

75/03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Education Commission held on 5 April 2004 were accepted as a true record.

76/03 Minutes of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Commission

The minutes of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Commission held on 2 March 2004 were received.

Items for Discussion

77/03 Update on Silverhill Primary School

The Commission considered an oral report from the Director of Education, which gave an update on the latest position in respect of Silverhill Primary School. Council Cabinet had agreed that delegation to the Governors, of the school budget could be withdrawn if necessary. Children had returned to the School on 10 May 2004, with the year 6 pupils returning on 17 May, having taken their SATs at Murray Park School, during week commencing 10 May. The report of the Health and Safety Executive and an internal audit would be produced in due course. It was anticipated that the cost of works at Silverhill Primary School would be between £560,000 and £750,000.

Resolved to note the report.

78/03 School Place Planning in Derby - Secondary Sector Issues

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services, which set out the draft report for submission to Council Cabinet on the Commission's Topic Review of School Place Planning in the Secondary Sector.

Resolved

- 1 To defer the report to allow further comments to be made before submission to Council Cabinet. Comments to be submitted to Kate Owen – Democratic Services Manager.**
- 2. To thank David Waxman for his work in preparing the report.**

79/03 Inspection of the Adult Learning Service

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Education, which set out a report considered by Council Cabinet at its meeting on 18 May 2004, on the Adult Learning Services Post Inspection Action Plan. It was noted that the Learning and Skills Council had commented on a draft action plan. There were guidelines from the Learning and Skills Council on the implementation of a Literacy and Numeracy Strategy. Targets in the Action Plan were scheduled for completion in Spring 2005, when there would be a re-inspection. It was noted that this was the first time that Adult Learning had been inspected. The outcomes of the inspection had been disappointing, and this was having an effect on staff morale. There were positive comments about the direction of the service's developments, however. It was also noted that there was on-going accommodation uncertainty, but it was expected that this would be resolved for the start of the academic year in September.

Resolved to note the Adult Learning Service's Post Inspection Action Plan.

80/03 SureStart Early Years Development and Childcare Strategic Development Plan - 2004/2006

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Education, which set out a report considered by Council Cabinet at its meeting on 18 May 2004, relating to SureStart Early Years Development and Childcare Strategic Development Plan. It was noted that the Children's Centre agenda needed to be sustainable and that funding was available until March 2006. No date had been set for this project becoming main-stream funded.

Resolved to note the SureStart Early Years Development and Childcare Strategic Development Plan.

81/03 Parent Governor Representation on Education Commission

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services, which updated the Commission on the election of two new parent governors to be co-opted members of the Commission. Nominations had been sought for the vacancies, but no nominations were forthcoming. The Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001 required that where a vacancy remained unfilled, because no or not enough candidates sought election, the Local Education Authority would re-run the election within one year of the original vacancy having arisen and at six monthly intervals thereafter, calculated from the first anniversary of the original vacancy having arisen, until the vacancy was filled. It was proposed that elections be re-run in September, when the schools return after the summer break.

Consideration was given to promoting the role in a more appealing way to try and attract representatives. Suggestions put forward included, inviting all potential parent governors to a reception, where they could talk to the retiring parent governors about the role and commitment involved. Posters could be put up in schools, and the Governor Liaison Group could be approached.

Consideration was also given to co-opting Tom Johnston on to the Education Commission as an individual.

Resolved

- 1 To note that no nomination forms were received for the election of two new parent governors to be co-opted members of the Commission.**
- 2 To approve the re-running of the election in September 2004 and at six monthly intervals thereafter until the vacancies are filled.**
- 3 To explore promoting the vacancies in more appealing ways.**
- 4 To recommend Council to co-opt Tom Johnston on to the Education Commission for the next municipal year.**

Matters Referred to the Commission by the Council Cabinet

82/03 Youth Service Plan 2004 - 2005

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Education, which set out the Youth Service Plan for 2004/05, which was considered by Council Cabinet on 18 May 2004 and had been referred to this Commission for comment, prior to its submission to full Council. Councillor Latham was concerned about the provision for young people in the Oakwood ward. One of the main difficulties with the Oakwood ward was the lack of facilities to house youth provision in that area. There were detached resources in the area, but there were still established patterns of disruptive behaviour. It was noted that there was no capital funding available to provide facilities in the area. It was suggested that a mobile facility similar to the mobile bus in Chellaston may help alleviate problems in the area. The subject could form a possible future topic review for the Commission. Support for the valuable work of the Youth Service was also noted.

Resolved

- 1 To note the report**
- 2 To recommend the next Education Commission to consider Youth Service provision, particularly in the Oakwood area as a possible topic review for the future.**

83/03 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

The Commission considered the Council Cabinet forward plan for June 2004, but did not request any items for consideration by the Commission.

Chair of the next ensuing meeting
at which these minutes were signed