

Time commenced - 6.30 pm
Time Finished – 8:30 pm

MINORITY COMMUNITIES DIVERSITY FORUM 16 NOVEMBER 2006

Present: **Representing Derby City Council**
Councillor Roberts – In the Chair
Councillors R Khan, Richards and Webb

Representing Communities

Ferid Kevric – Bosnian Community
Lloyd Newby – Caribbean Community
Nasreen Iqbal – Pakistani Community
Shokat Lal – Pakistani Community
Mohammed Sharief – Pakistani Community
Kamal Amier – Somalian Community

Community Advisors

Shirley Howard-Johnson – Caribbean Community
Jangir Khan – Pakistani Community
Zbigniew Wojcik MBE – Derby Racial Equality Council – REC

Council Officers

Rod Wood – Assistant Director – Human Resources
Pam Thompson - Consultation Support Officer
Rajesh Lall – Education Officer
Katy Wing – Voluntary and Community Partnerships Manager
Stephanie Hernandez – Cultural Diversity Arts Officer
Leigh-Anne Hilton – Housing Strategy Development Officer
David Romaine – Scrutiny and Complaints Manager
Karen Squires – Senior Constitutional Services Officer
Carol Mee – Press and Public Relations Officer

31/06 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Higginbottom Mr Sharma and Mr Manku.

32/06 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

In accordance with Section 100(B)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to admit the following item on the grounds that it could not wait until the next meeting.

- report on Scrutiny Management Commission – Review of Electoral Registration

33/06 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Richards declared a personal interest in minute number 38/06 as he was a Derby Millennium Network Board Member.

Jangir Khan declared a personal interest in minute number 38/06 as he was a Derby Millennium Network Board Member.

Councillor Webb declared a personal interest in minute number 41/06 as he was a council appointed Board Member of Derby Homes.

34/06 Minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the meetings held on 7 September 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

35/06 Updates on Minutes of Previous Meeting

An update report had been circulated on matters from the previous meeting.

Resolved to note the report

36/06 New and Emerging Communities Special Meeting Update

The Forum received a report from Rod Wood, Assistant Director Human Resources which asked that the Communities came together as a separate group which could feed into the Minority Communities Diversity Forum. It was also reported that the crux of the problem for new and emerging communities was the language barrier.

Resolved to note the report.

37/06 Cultural Diversity

The Forum received an oral presentation from Stephanie Hernandez, Cultural Diversity Arts Officer detailing her role and the work she had done so far and planned to do for her remaining time in post.

A representative commented that the work done by Stephanie was pleasing and asked whether there was any consideration for extending the post. Stephanie replied that she had not heard anything on that.

Resolved to note the report

38/06 New Forum: Working Arrangements

The Forum considered a report on the draft working arrangements for the Minority Communities Diversity Forum which would come into effect in February 2007.

Resolved:

- 1. to keep Councillor Roberts as Chair of the Minority Communities Diversity Forum with the Champion being a different Member of the Forum who would chair sub committees of the group when necessary.**
- 2. to change the organisation membership of the Forum to only include one representative from each of the Derby Racial Equality Council and the Black Police Association.**

39/06 Scrutiny Management Commission – Review of Electoral Registration

The Forum considered a report on the Scrutiny Management Commission's review of electoral registration. The forum were advised that any members who wished to attend the evidence gathering meeting to give their thoughts needed to inform David Romaine, Scrutiny and Complaints Manager

Resolved to note the report and members who wish to take part in the Scrutiny Management Commission's review should contact the Co-ordination Officer.

40/06 Forward Plan

Resolved to notify Pam Thompson of any items from the Forward Plan that Committee Members would like to see on a future work programme.

41/06 Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Strategy

The Forum received a presentation and report from Leigh-Anne Hilton, Housing Strategy Development Manager on the Black and Minority Housing Strategy. The presentation detailed that a new Action Plan had been developed with a range of actions to tackle problems frequently being faced by local communities.

Resolved to note the report and receive the Action Plan before the next meeting

42/06 Independent Members for School Admissions and Exclusion Appeals

The Forum received a report regarding the difficulties Derby City Council were having in appointing independent members for school admissions and exclusion appeals and asked the community groups to encourage possible members to put themselves forward.

Resolved to note the report

43/06 MECAC Newsletter

The Committee was asked to consider items for inclusion in the next MECAC newsletter.

44/06 MECAC Work Programme

The Committee considered MECAC's latest work programme.

Resolved to receive the budget presentation at a special meeting on 23 January 2007.

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