

# ITEM 4

Time commenced - 6.30 pm  
Time Finished – 7:55 pm

## MINORITY COMMUNITIES DIVERSITY FORUM 11 JANUARY 2007

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

### **Representing Communities**

Ferid Kevric – Bosnian Community  
Lloyd Newby – Caribbean Community  
Mohan S Manku – Indian Community

### **Community Advisors**

Theresa Peltier – Black Police Association  
Jarnail S Birring – Indian Community

### **Council and Other Officers**

Rod Wood – Assistant Director – Human Resources  
Pam Thompson - Consultation Support Officer  
Rajesh Lall – Education Officer  
John Brown – Head of Sport and Leisure  
Kully Raju – Transport Engineer (Policy)  
Alan Riggott – Derbyshire Mental Health Trust  
Margaret Blount – Derbyshire Sport

## 45/06 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dhamrait and Richards, Nasreen Iqbal, Balbir Sandu, Jules Bappa, Kelly Kiteng and Shirley Howard-Johnson.

## 46/06 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.

### **Permanent Exclusions from School**

Lloyd Newby raised concerns about the number of children permanently excluded from schools and the high proportion of these that were from a BME background. He felt the affect of a child being excluded from school also meant they were shunned by the community and had an adverse affect on the parents as well, he

wanted to know what could be done to sort the problem before permanent exclusion became an option.

Councillor R Khan raised concerns about admissions into schools being a problem particularly in the Normanton area.

**Agreed to ask the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People to attend the next meeting of MCDF.**

#### 47/06      Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 48/06      Minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the meetings held on 16 November 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### 49/06      Derby Joint Local Transport Plan – Specific Focus: Normanton

The Forum received a report from Kully Raju, Transportation Engineer on the Derby Joint Local Transport Plan, specifically focussing on priorities for Normanton. It was reported that consultation on the highways and transport work programme for 2007/08 had taken place through Area Panels, during November/December 2006. Transport priorities for the Normanton area were also included, namely, improvements to Grove Street car park and better enforcement of parking and waiting restrictions.

Kully asked that any further suggestions on priorities for the Normanton area could be submitted and would need to be received by 26 January 2007. The final highways and transport programme for 2007/08 would be approved by Council Cabinet on 20 February 2007.

**Resolved to note the report.**

#### 50/06      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.**

#### 51/06      Equality Standard – A Framework for Sport Consultation on the Equality Action Plan

The Forum considered a report and presentation on the Equality Standard – A Framework for Sport and consultation on the Equality Action Plan from Margaret Blount of Derbyshire Sport presented the action plan and detailed why it was required.

Members were advised to contact John Brown directly regarding any specific sports and clubs and John Brown agreed to liaise directly with the representatives who raised queries regarding weightlifting and hockey.

**Resolved to note the report.**

## 52/06 Foundation Trust Presentation

The Forum received a presentation from Alan Riggott of the Derbyshire Mental HealthTrust regarding the consultation on becoming a foundation trust.

A member commented that there did not seem to be any specific black and minority ethnic communities representatives asked for within the Governors and raised concerns that they might not be represented at all. They asked that this be considered before any final decision was taken.

**Resolved to note the report.**

## 53/06 Commission for Racial Equality: Call for Evidence

The Forum received a report regarding the Commission for Racial Equality's call for evidence from individuals, public sector organisations, private sector organisations and voluntary and community groups that had been affected by or worked on a regeneration project where race equality or race relations was an issue.

Lloyd Newby commented that he was not happy that the only way you could respond was via a website which meant that not everyone could give evidence.

**Resolved to note the report and for the Chair to contact the Commission for Racial Equality to raise the Forums concerns over access to this consultation**

## 54/06 MECAC Newsletter

The Forum received an oral report from Pam Thompson detailing the changes planned for the newsletter, changing it from the MECAC Newsletter to 'Diversity Matters' which would include all three forums.

**Resolved to note the report**

## 55/06 MCDF Work Programme

The Forum considered MCDF's latest work programme.

**Resolved to note the report.**

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