

Time commenced - 6.00 pm
Time finished - 7.08 pm

**CULTURE AND PROSPERITY COMMISSION
23 JUNE 2003**

Present: Councillor Repton (in the Chair)
Councillors Bolton, J Hickson, A Hussain, Jackson, Latham, Travis and
Troup

01/03 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

02/03 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

03/03 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Travis declared a personal interest in matters relating to the Playhouse, the Assembly Rooms and the Guildhall, by virtue of her working as a volunteer steward at the venues. See also Minute 07/03.

04/03 Minutes

The minutes of the Lifelong Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Commissions held on 7 and 16 April 2003 respectively, and of the Planning and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Commission held on 24 April 2003 were noted. There was one correction to each set of the Lifelong Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Commission minutes – in each case the minutes should show that Councillor Latham's interest arose by virtue of her husband's status as an East Midlands Committee member of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Items for Discussion

05/03 New Portfolios for Scrutiny Commission

The Commission considered the portfolios for scrutiny commissions for 2003/04.

Resolved to note the new Commission portfolios.

06/03 Forward Plan

The Commission agreed not to seek pre-decision scrutiny of any items in the Forward Plan at this time.

07/03 Responses of the Council Cabinet to any Reports of the Commission

Councillor Travis raised the issue of the Visual Arts and Media Centre, which had been the subject of a Call-In, the results of which had been duly reported back to Cabinet. At this point, Councillor Latham declared a personal and prejudicial interest by virtue of her husband's membership of the East Midlands Committee of the Heritage Lottery Fund, and withdrew from the meeting for the discussion of the issue.

The discussion concluded with the Commission taking the view that the matter as it currently stood had been subject to extensive scrutiny at the call-in and that there was no requirement for further scrutiny pending the project being moved forward by the Council Cabinet.

Matters referred to the Commission by Council Cabinet

There were no items.

Work Plan

08/03 Discussion of Possible Work Plan Topics

The Commission considered some ideas for possible topic reviews for 2003/04, the majority of the debate being on the proposal to scrutinise 'Culture in Derby'. The proposal was discussed in some detail with reference to;

- Definitions of culture
- Council-resourced cultural services and those delivered by other sectors
- Usage of and satisfaction levels with Council-resourced cultural services
- Barriers to accessing cultural services
- Balancing 'high' culture and popular culture
- Ways of improving service provision

The Commission acknowledged the potential breadth of such a review and the need to establish clear parameters.

Resolved to recommend that Scrutiny Management Commission ratify the selection of 'Culture in Derby' as the Commission's primary topic review for 2003/04.

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