

Time commenced - 6.30 pm
Time Finished – 7:41 pm

MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 23 JANUARY 2006

Present: **Representing Derby City Council**
Councillor Roberts – In the Chair
Councillor Burgess, Rehman and Richards

Representing Communities
Ferid Kevric – Bosnian Community
George Mighty – Caribbean Community
Lloyd Newby – Caribbean Community
Nezrine Hudsini – Caribbean Community
Angella Mighty – Caribbean Community
Jules Bappa – Derby African Association

Council Officers
Ray Cowlshaw – Chief Executive
Pam Thompson – Consultation Support Officer
Phillip Walker – Assistant Director (Corporate Finance)

72/05 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Willitts, Fares Abdullah and Tony Walsh.

73/05 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

74/05 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

75/05 Council Budget 2006/07 to 2008/09

Councillor Roberts gave a presentation on the Consultation on Revenue Budget for 2006/07 to 2008/09.

George Mighty asked for the amount Minority Groups received to be included in the budget paper.

Councillor Roberts responded that the papers didn't give such a breakdown but this may be possible in the future and to note that the Minority Groups do receive an amount of expenditure within normal circumstances.

George Mighty asked how much the Council Tax was going to increase.

Councillor Roberts responded that it was likely to be a 2.5% increase but this might go down.

Councillor Burgess asked if there had been any improvement in £750,000 that needs to be found for the Supporting People's Programme, and which areas are going to be cut.

Ray Cowlshaw responded that this amount would need to be found when the review takes place but it has been a problem for some time and be reported to Council Cabinet in due course.

Councillor Burgess asked why there was a reduction of £20k for Community Grants.

Councillor Roberts said that there was no reduction but that the amount hadn't been increased in line with inflation. This was to ensure that the citizens of Derby received what they have asked for.

George Mighty asked why there was reduction in the External Funding Units money, as they struggled to manage on what they had already.

Ray Cowlshaw responded that it was only a reduction in the Council's contribution.

Councillor Burgess asked why there was a reduction in the services that Social Services were providing.

Ray Cowlshaw responded that the Social Services Department had been under funded by the Government.

Councillor Burgess stated that he understood home care charges would no longer be charged for and so free to consumers.

Councillor Roberts explained that this was a consultative process and views were being collected from users, all options haven't been considered.

Ferid Kevric commented that budget document was very complicated and he felt that as a group it benefited them very little.

It was agreed to note the content of the presentation.

MINUTES END