
Minutes

11 December 2003 5.30 pm
Alamein Suite,
City Hall
Salisbury

**These minutes should be kept for use by District Councillors
at the next Council meeting**

Present

Chairman: Councillor S J Howarth

Vice Chairman: Councillor K A Cardy

Councillors: Mrs P Brown, Mrs E A Chettleburgh, J M Collier, D A Culver, S R Fear, D J McCarthy, Ms S C Mallory, M J Osment, P V H Paisey, P W L Sample, I R Tomes, Miss M A Tomlinson, J M Walsh and Mrs S A Warrander

Apologies: P M Clegg, B E Dalton and J R L Nettle

County Councillor: C R Vincent

MINUTES NOT REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL

38. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

39. PUBLIC STATEMENT/QUESTION TIME

There were no statements by or questions from members of the public.

40. COUNCILLOR STATEMENT/QUESTION TIME

There were no statements by or questions from Councillors.

41. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

42. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2003 (previously circulated) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

43. COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP:

The Committee considered the report (previously circulated) of, and a presentation by, the Partnership Team Manager.

During the discussion that followed the following points were made, as follows :-

- the key to successful community planning is to foster 'can do' initiatives/actions from the bottom up (ie from communities themselves). To attempt to 'impose' solutions, albeit solutions identified through 'prioritising exercises' carried out across the six community planning areas, would be unlikely to result in the outcomes desired – sustainable, community lead and run solutions to community-identified issues.
- lessons from the original community planning process had been learned and progress in achieving the 'priorities' identified in 1999 was being evaluated. The current strategy was to work with ward-specific groups in the City Area (as opposed to parish-based groups in the three rural areas) to develop local-level schemes that also met the 'higher level' aims of the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance.
- care needs to be taken to 'guard against' the, perhaps unrepresentative, if vociferous, impact of minority groups on community plans/the community planning process.

RESOLVED – that

- (1) Community Planning feature as an agenda item at Area Committee meetings at twice a year (and more frequently if appropriate);
- (2) Community Planners be invited to Area Committee meetings when appropriate;
- (3) All City Area Committee Councillors should consider themselves as being 'Community Planning Champions' for their respective wards and for the City Area as a whole; and
- (4) Community Champions meet with the interested local people to develop initiatives in the area supported by the relevant Community Planner

Councillors Mrs Chettleburgh and Sample requested that their dissent to the above resolution be recorded. The reason for Councillor Mrs Chettleburgh's was owing to the fact that she considered Community Planning to be a valuable tool for communities and a high priority for the Council/councillors and she had concerns that the resolution, as worded, could have the effect of appearing to diminish the importance the Committee, in debating the matter, had placed on the need to pursue an effective Community Planning strategy.

(The meeting closed at 1825hrs)