

Minutes

Meeting of: Planning and Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Meeting held in: Committee Room 1, The Council House, Bourne Hill, Salisbury.

Date: 1 June 2005

Commencing at: 6.00pm

Present:

District Councillors

Councillor P D Edge – Chairman
Councillor Mrs E A Chettleburgh – Vice-Chairman

Councillors F D Bissington (substituting for
Councillor Mrs C A Spencer), A J A Brown-Hovelt,
Mrs J A Green, L Randall and J Rodell

Apologies: Councillors A G Peach and I Tomes.

Officers

D Crook (Policy Director), E Teagle (Forward
Planning and Transportation), J Meeker (Forward
Planning and Transportation) and S Draper
(Democratic Services).

126. Public Questions/Statement Time:

There were none.

127. Councillor Questions/Statement Time:

There were none.

128. Minutes:

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held
on 30th March 2005 (previously circulated) be
approved as a correct record and signed by the
Chairman.

129. Declarations of Interest:

There were none

130. Chairman's Announcements:

There were none.

131. Corporate Plan

The Panel considered the previously circulated
draft Corporate Plan.

The Policy Director present advised members
that the Resources Overview and Scrutiny
Panel and the Environment and Transport
Overview and Scrutiny Panel had already
considered the document and had made some
suggestions. One of the key points was that the
document was overly lengthy and should be
made shorter, simpler and be written in plain
English.

Members made some comments in relation to
the area committees and would like to look at
ways to improve the operation of the area
committees. It was suggested that this could
either be undertaken by the area committees
themselves, through the existing area
committee chairman's forum or by a collective
review.

Resolved – That the Corporate Plan include
that members would like a review to improve
the workings of the area committees.

Resolved – That the comments of the
Resources and Environment and Transport
Overview and Scrutiny Panels in relation to the
style of the document be supported.

132. Local Development Framework

The Panel considered the report of the
Principal Planning Officer, Forward Planning
(previously circulated).

Members were concerned that the areas that
they had identified as being very important
such as the policy relating to sustainable

communities not be delayed by this new timetable. The Officer reassured members that those policies were still being given a high priority and the work on them would begin later this year. However, it was noted that it would still be several years before a policy was in place.

Members felt that local communities needed to be encouraged to become involved in this work at the earliest opportunity as many parishes had not realised the significance of the parish plans and therefore did not want to miss another opportunity to shape the future of their communities.

It was noted that the workshops held by Forward Planning during the creation of the Local Plan were very helpful to local communities and it was hoped that they would be repeated.

Resolved - That it be recommended to Cabinet that the revised Local Development Scheme be adopted.

133. Nomination of representative to the Audit Committee

Resolved – That the Chairman of the Planning and Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Panel, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, be the representative on the Audit Committee.

134. Cabinet Monitoring

The Panel considered the quarterly performance statistics previously circulated. It was noted that Development Control exceeded all of their performance targets and this had gained the Council a large amount of Planning Delivery Grant. However, Members found the format of the document difficult to use.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

135. Date of Future Meetings

Resolved – that the next meeting of the Panel be held on Monday 18th July in Committee Room 2 Bourne Hill at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 7.10 pm