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Minutes

Meeting of : Planning and Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny

Panel

Meeting held in : Committee Room 2, The Council House, Bourne Hill, Salisbury

Date : Monday 24 April 2006

Commencing at : 6.00 pm

Present:

District Councillors

Councillor P D Edge – Chairman

Councillor Mrs E A Chettleburgh – Vice-Chairman

Councillors A J A Brown-Hovelt, A G Peach, L Randall, J Rodell, I R Tomes and Mrs C A Spencer

Apologies: Cllr Mrs J A Green

Officers

David Neudegg (Policy Director), David Milton and Natasha Styles (Forward Planning), S Draper and L Mertens (Democratic Services)

Also Present: Councillors R Britton (Leader of the Council) and Mrs M M A Peach (Cabinet member for Planning & Economic Development)

173 Public Questions/Statement Time:

There were none.

174 Councillor Questions/Statement Time:

There were none.

175 Minutes:

Resolved – that the minutes of the last meeting held on 20 March 2006 (previously circulated) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

176 Declarations of Interest:

There were none









177 Chairman's Announcements:

There were none.

178 Update on Agreed Scrutiny Reviews for 2005/6:

Hotel Review – Cllr Peach informed the Panel that the Hotel Working Group had recently met to consider the final report, and planned to bring this report to the next Panel meeting in May.

Rural Sustainability Review – The Scrutiny Support Officer informed the Panel that the review was in the early stages of the final draft, and that the group had decided to undertake some further fact finding interviews before concluding the review. The officer informed the Panel that it was likely that the final draft of the review would be brought to the Panel in early to mid summer.

CCTV Review – As lead member of the review group, the Chairman informed the Panel that some meetings had been held to work through some detailed areas of the report, and that more meetings were planned. It was expected that the report would be ready for the Panel to reconsider as a final draft in early summer 2006.

179 Draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

The Panel considered the previously circulated report of the Planning Officer. A brief presentation was given by the Planning Officer, outlining the need for the Sustainability Appraisal and explaining the sustainability objectives as identified within the report, along with the associated consultation process.

Following this presentation, members of the Panel raised the following points:

- The report included a reference to the accessibility of buses, but it was important to make a clarification between public transport and affordable, accessible transport. More emphasis should be given to the latter in the report.
- It would be helpful if the report included reference to the new rules and regulations that had been introduced regarding public footpaths. The Planning Officers confirmed that they would address this in the report.
- The needs of young people were very important to the council and the Sustainability Appraisal should
 make more reference to this and possibly include this issue as one of the main sustainability objectives.
 The Planning Officers present agreed that this was an important point and would be worked into the
 report.
- Objective 14 referred to maintenance of the District's river water, but it would be helpful to have more emphasis placed on water catchment areas and abstraction of water from the district's rivers.
- There were many objectives outlined in the Sustainability Appraisal and close working with consultees
 would be necessary to ensure that they were met. The Planning Officers explained that considerable
 consultation was undertaken during the creation of the document, in order to ensure this.
- Objective 8 made reference to a 'fully inclusive environment' and members asked for clarification of this.
 The Planning Officers explained that this term was used to describe an environment which was accessible to all members of the community, by encouraging such things as DDA compliance and the provision of translation systems, in order to benefit those that may otherwise be disadvantaged.

Resolved -

- 1) That the content of the draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report be noted.
- 2) That the Officers be authorised to make amendments based on the comments above.
- 3) That Officers take an amended draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report to Cabinet for their acknowledgement.

180 Scrutiny Work Programme 2006- 2007

The Panel considered the "long-list" of potential items for the 2006/7 work programme (previously circulated). Members were asked to agree their work programme at the meeting for submission to the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.

The Chairman informed the Panel that although the Churchfields review was currently suspended, it may be useful if the Panel undertook some further work on this before the Salisbury Vision work (which was to include a review of Churchfields) went to Cabinet. The Chairman suggested that the Panel receive an update on this work from Officers, and Policy Director Dave Neudegg confirmed that Officers would bring information to the full Panel for their consideration, as appropriate. The Chairman also reminded Panel members that the Rural Sustainability review would need to be a 'carry over' review, and considered as one of the components of the new work programme.

The members then selected the following items from the long list as the Panel's work programme for 2006/7:

Major Developments in the District – To examine the implications of the major developments in the district such as the Salisbury Research Triangle. Members agreed that this would be a more in depth review.

City Centre Management - To examine the effectiveness of the City Centre Management partnership at promoting and preserving Salisbury's distinctive qualities. Members agreed that this review would be suited to a 'light touch' approach.

It was agreed that the main review of Major Developments in the District should begin upon the completion of the Rural Sustainability review.

Members also agreed that a review entitled "Economic Development Strategy – To review the current economic development strategy with a view to making any suggestions for improvements" would be placed on a reserve list for members to scrutinise if all the other reviews were completed earlier than expected.

Resolved – that the officer develop the scoping papers for the above reviews with the lead members of the review groups for submission to the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.

181 Cabinet work Programme

The Panel noted the Cabinet work-programme items relating to the Planning and Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

The Panel requested to consider the following items in advance of their submission to Cabinet:

- Update on Salisbury Vision Including Churchfields Industrial Estate
- Local Development Scheme and the Tourist Information Centre Policy (members expressed interest in these items and it was agreed that Officers would bring some background information to the Panel, to allow for a more informed decision).

Members agreed that it would be useful if the following items were made available as part of the "Major Developments in the District " review, as set out above: Porton Down Masterplan, Durrington Development Brief and Tisbury Development Brief.

Members also felt that it would be beneficial to take the Rural Communities review to the Area Committees ahead of Cabinet, as part of a consultation process.

Resolved – that the work programme be noted and the items listed above be brought to the Panel for consideration ahead of Cabinet.

182 Date of Next Meeting

Agreed – that the next meeting of the Panel be held on Tuesday 30th May. (Please note that it was subsequently agreed that the date of the next meeting be brought forward to Tuesday 23rd May).

The meeting closed at 7.00 pm Public in attendance - nil