

Democratic Services
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Minutes

Meeting of : Planning and Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Meeting held in : Meeting Room, City Hall, Salisbury

Date : Wednesday 19 March 2008

Commencing at : 6.00 pm

Present

District Councillors:

C Spencer – Chairman

L Randall – Vice Chairman

R Beattie, R Britton, C Hill (substituting for G Wright), J Holt (part only), J King, J Launchbury, D Luther (substituting for J Noeken), J Spencer and J Walsh (part only).

Councillor F Westmoreland was also present to address the panel regarding the item set out under minute 48 (Scrutiny Request – Retail in Amesbury).

Apologies: Councillor G Jeans

Officers:

E Teagle (Head of Forward Planning & Transportation), S Hughes (Senior Planning Officer) and P Trenell (Democratic Services Officer).

43. Public Questions/Statement Time:

There were none.

44. Councillor Questions/Statement Time:

There were none.

45. Minutes:

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2007 (previously circulated) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

46. Declarations of Interest:

There were none.

47. Chairman's Announcements:

There were none.



Awarded in:
Housing Services
Waste and Recycling Services



48. Scrutiny Request – Retail in Amesbury:

The panel considered the previously circulated report of the Democratic Services Officer. Councillor Westmoreland addressed the panel in his role as a member of the Northern Area Committee.

Resolved: That the Planning and Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Panel do not conduct a scrutiny review of the GVA Grimley Retail and Leisure Needs Study.

49. Consultation on the Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy Preferred Options:

The panel received a verbal presentation from the Senior Planning Officer and considered the previously circulated report of the Planning Officer. During the discussion the following issues were raised:

- Commendation for the scope of the document and recognition of its importance;
- A belief that it will be very difficult to find space for an extra 7,500 houses within the city limits;
- A desire for earlier consultation with both District Councillors and Parish Councils. Specific reference was made to the lack of consultation on the Topic Papers which inform the Core Strategy;
- Concern that Salisbury district appears to be getting a disproportionately high share of the houses to be built in the South West region;
- A desire for the findings of Sustainable Rural Communities review to be considered by the Forward Planning & Transportation Unit as part of the LDF consultation process;
- A feeling that the document was not easily accessible for either councillors or members of the public due to the frequent use of obscure or technical terms;
- Concern that place names are used frequently in the document without clear definition of the geographic area to which the names refer;
- Dissatisfaction with the amount of promotion and notice given for the public consultation meeting in Downton;
- The need for a clear overview of the forward planning process to be available for district councillors, Parish Councils and members of the public demonstrating how the various reports and consultation processes interrelate.

50. Performance Management Report:

The panel considered data on the Council's performance against national and local performance indicators within the Planning and Economic Development Portfolio. The indicators discussed had been selected for consideration by the Chairman of the panel in conjunction with Councillor King. Members commended the high level of detail in the commentary accompanying the indicators and requested that the level of detail be sustained.

51. Scrutiny Update:

The panel received a verbal update on ongoing scrutiny reviews from the Scrutiny Support Officer. Since the panel's previous meeting the CCTV Scrutiny Review and Action Plan had been adopted by Cabinet. The Sustainable Rural Communities Review was in its final stages and was to be brought before the panel for approval and comment in April. A 'Voice & Choice' survey had been circulated as part of the City Centre Management review and over 1,000 responses had been received. The Scrutiny Support Officer was in the process of analysing the survey results and a meeting of the Scrutiny Review Group was to be scheduled before the next meeting of the panel in April.

52. Cabinet Forward Plan:

The panel considered the previously circulated Cabinet Forward Plan for December 2007 to March 2008 with a view to bringing relevant items to future meetings of the Planning and Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Panel. It was agreed that the consultation results on the Local Validation Check List and the Salisbury Vision would be considered by the panel in April.

*The meeting closed at 19:51 pm
Public in attendance – 1*