

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Panel - Places
Held on Wednesday, 23rd July, 2008 at Municipal Buildings, Crewe

PRESENT

Councillors D Bebbington, D Brickhill, H Davenport, Mrs E Gilliland, D Hough, J Macrae, A Martin, A Moran, D Neilson, R Parker, B Silvester, C Thorley and J Walton

In attendance: Councillor D Brown
Councillor L Smetham
Councillor R Westwood

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs J Weatherill

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

Councillor George Walton be appointed as Chairman for the ensuing year

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

Councillor Liz Gilliland be appointed as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A number of Councillors who were existing County Councillors, Borough Councillors and Town and Parish Councillors, declared a personal interest in the business of the meeting en bloc.

4 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no questions from members of the public.

5 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members were invited to consider the following terms of reference proposed for the Panel and note the guidance provided on the organisation and running of Panel Meetings –

“To make recommendations for the development of policies and strategies for services within the remit of the Advisory Panel and any related issues and contribute to the development of the Corporate Plan insofar as the services within the Advisory Panel’s remit are concerned.”

Although not stipulated in the terms of reference, it was confirmed that recommendations emanating from the Panel would be submitted to the Cheshire East Cabinet. Members sought assurances, which were provided, that the involvement of Cabinet members during its deliberations would not result in any conflict of interest.

RESOLVED

That the Terms of Reference and Guidance Note be noted.

6 PANEL WORK PROGRAMME

A list of topics falling under the remit of the Places Advisory Panel had been included on the agenda and the Panel was invited to establish a number of Task Groups to consider each subject.

To assist the work of the Groups it was suggested that the Panel might find it beneficial to undertake a tour of east Cheshire to address any knowledge gap and to allow Councillors to gain a better understanding of the area; a proposal which was supported by the Members.

In considering its Work Programme, Members of the Panel raised the following issues:

Meetings of the three Advisory Panels (People, Places and Performance and Capacity) had been scheduled for July, with each Panel being invited to conduct its work by means of the appointment of Task Groups. Given the cross-cutting nature of the topics under review by the Panels. Councillor Brown requested that a composite schedule of Task Group appointments be created and circulated to all three Panels; setting out the remit of each Task Group, its membership and the officer appointed as its lead.

As the list of topics highlighted on the agenda was not comprehensive, the Panel was invited to nominate additional areas for inclusion into the work programme.

The additional topics put forward by the Panel were –

Subject	Matters for Consideration
Tatton Park	Cost and resource issues Management of facility
Minerals and Waste Planning Policy	Disaggregation
Development Management	Harmonisation of the Development Control Service across Cheshire East

Town Centres Redevelopment	Developments proposed for Crewe and Macclesfield
Crewe Gateway and Crewe Railway Station	Development of area Possible relocation of the station

The structure of the Task Groups was briefly debated. Councillor Gilliland stated that, to ensure the optimum use of the Panel's time, appropriate subjects could be brought together under a general heading with a minimum of four individuals appointed to each Group.

Of the topics proposed, the Panel concluded that climate change was an issue which should be ingrained within the culture of the authority from its inception and therefore did not require consideration by a Task Group. The assimilation of climate change objectives into the ethos of the Council could be demonstrated by Cheshire East becoming a signatory to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change and by the achievement of relevant environmental standards.

Having identified the subjects for review, Members deliberated on the way forward with regards to amalgamating the topics into a manageable work programme.

RESOLVED

That the following Task Groups be formed, with the following remit and membership and the Chairman attend those Task Group meetings where he is not a member wherever possible:

Task Group	Matters for Consideration	Membership
Car Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Parking Area Status • Harmonisation of existing arrangements across Cheshire East • Operational responsibilities: 'in house' or external 	Cllr David Brickhill Cllr David Brown Cllr Derek Hough Cllr Arthur Moran Cllr Barry Moran
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of police and crime reduction partners into single CDRP • Arrangements below Cheshire East level • CCTV/licensing/education/PCSO's • Operation of services pan Cheshire 	Cllr Liz Gilliland Cllr Andrew Martin Cllr David Neilson Cllr Brian Silvester

Local Development Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Development Scheme • Core Strategy • Minerals and Waste • Affordable Housing within the context of LDF 	Cllr Derek Bebbington Cllr David Brown Cllr Harold Davenport Cllr Derek Hough Cllr Jamie Macrae Cllr Robert Parker Cllr Chris Thorley Cllr Jacquie Weatherill
Strategic Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre Developments • Crewe Gateway • Sub-Regional Economic Development • Manchester Airport • Housing Strategy 	Cllr Derek Bebbington Cllr Harold Davenport Cllr Jamie Macrae Cllr David Neilson Cllr Robert Parker Cllr George Walton Cllr Jacquie Weatherill
Tatton Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost and resource issues • Future structure of Tatton Park Management • Consideration of Options report 	Cllr Derek Bebbington Cllr Harold Davenport Cllr Liz Gilliland Cllr Jamie Macrae Cllr David Neilson Cllr George Walton
Waste Collection/ Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonisation of existing arrangements across Cheshire East • Specification for the service • Cost and health and safety issues 	Cllr Derek Bebbington Cllr David Brickhill Cllr Liz Gilliland Cllr Arthur Moran Cllr David Neilson Cllr George Walton

To complete the process, the Block Lead for Places undertook to identify a lead officer for each of the Task Groups. Those present noted that meetings of the Groups would be informal and held in private. This would enable Members to discuss issues freely without the need to exclude press and public as and when confidential issues were being considered. Meetings of the Advisory Panel, to which the Task Groups would report would however, be held in public.

7 FUTURE MEETING DATES

The Panel was invited to agree a schedule of meetings, which it was suggested, should be based on a six weekly cycle commencing from September 2008.

RESOLVED

That the next meeting of the Advisory Panel - Places be arranged for Monday 22 September 2008, commencing at 2pm (venue to be confirmed) and that the dates for future meetings be circulated as soon as possible, following agreement with the Chairman.

The meeting commenced at 4.00 pm and concluded at 6.20 pm

Councillor George Walton
CHAIRMAN