

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee

held on Tuesday, 21st December, 2010 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor G M Walton (Chairman)
Councillor A Martin (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors W S Davies, H Davenport, R Fletcher, L Gilbert, M Hollins,
M Parsons, M J Simon and C G Thorley

In attendance:

Councillor L Smetham

Officers:

P Cunio and S Penny

Apologies

Councillors M J Weatherill

53 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

None

54 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/ OPEN SESSION

None

55 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record and signed by
the Chairman

56 CHESHIRE EAST LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2009/10

Consideration was given to a report and presentation on the Cheshire East Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report for 2009/10. The presentation detailed:

- An overview of the Annual Monitoring Report
- Why the authority monitors

- What the authority monitors
- The format of the Annual Monitoring Report
- The Local Development Scheme
- The key themes – communities, economy, town centres, tourism and culture, minerals and waste, environment and climate change.

The following comments were made:

- With regard to the economy, it was agreed that the unemployment figures should be broken down into wards.
- With regard to waste, it was agreed that the possibility of providing compost bins for a small charge should be investigated.
- Members raised questions relating to the target for waste reduction and whether or not it had been achieved, it was agreed that they would be investigated and reported back to the Committee.
- With regard to town centres, it was agreed that business rates had previously been too high and questioned whether or not these had been reduced.
- It was noted that business rates may be handed back to the authority, and that if this was the case, they should be given careful consideration by Members.
- With regard to the environment, it was agreed that the Green Gap Policy should be highlighted within the Annual Monitoring Report and this was an important issue for the Crewe and Nantwich area.
- It was agreed that those Members wishing to receive a hard copy of the Annual Monitoring report would receive one in due course.

RESOLVED

1. That the report be noted
2. That the comments highlighted above be submitted to the Strategic Planning Board for consideration.

57 WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to the work programme. It was highlighted that a report on several highways policies would be considered at the meeting scheduled to be held on 8 February 2011.

A request had been received from the Corporate Scrutiny Committee for a Member to sit on its Task and Finish Group review of Business Generation Centres, which would be completed by 31 March 2011. It was agreed that Councillor H Davenport would sit on this Group.

RESOLVED

1. That the work programme be approved.
2. That highways policies be added to the work programme for the meeting scheduled to be held on 8 February 2011
3. That Councillor H Davenport sit on the Business Generation Centre Task and Finish Group.

58 FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to the extracts of the forward plan which fell within the remit of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That the extracts be noted

The meeting commenced at 10.30 am and concluded at 11.25 am

Councillor G M Walton (Chairman)