

Minutes

Community Services Scrutiny Panel

Town Hall, Tuesday 11th April 2006 at 5.30pm

Present: Councillors Howarth (in the Chair), Griffin, Hepplewhite, Kinghorn, Moderate, Norman, Robinson, Taylor, Walton, Wolstenholme and Young

Also Present: Councillors Colledge, Cowper, Kellett, Marsden, Smith, Stoddart and Woods

Mr G Scott - Policy & Regeneration Manager

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Hopgood.

Note: *Councillor Griffin entered the Meeting at 5.33pm*

Note: *Councillor Moderate entered the Meeting at 5.35pm*

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th March 2006, were confirmed as a correct record.

The Minutes of the Site Visits held on 27th March 2006 were confirmed as a correct record, subject to the undermentioned amendment:-

2. Comments on Site Visits

(g) Quarrington Hill Football Pitch – No Changing facilities available.

3. Consideration of Draft Report on Review of Council House Repairs

After due consideration, the Panel approved the report, subject to the recommendation relating to the Computer Management System being re-worded as follows:-

1. The Panel notes the urgent need to replace the Northgate System, and strongly recommends its replacement with the most advantageous, fit for purpose management system be progressed as soon as possible.
2. That the result of the consultation scheduled for April 2006 be reported to the Community Services Scrutiny Panel as soon as possible.

The report would be forwarded to Members by post, and considered by the Scrutiny Committee at its Meeting on 18th April 2006.

4. Consideration of Draft Report on Review of Decent Homes Standard

Following discussions, it was agreed that this report and its appendix were to be forwarded to Members by post, for consideration at the Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on 18th April 2006.

No amendments were made.

5. Consideration of Draft Report on Playing Pitch Strategy

After consideration by the Panel, the undermentioned amendments were to be made to the report. This amended report would be posted to Members for Thursday 13th April 2006, and considered by the Scrutiny Committee at its Meeting on 18th April.

Outcomes

- Addition of '*horse trespass*' to bullet point no. 4.
- Insertion of an additional bullet point to read:-
'On the visits to pavilions, it was noted that better facilities prompted better use'.

Recommendations

- That no. 7 be revised to read:-
'That particular attention be given to increasing availability and improving facilities for female players'.
- That no. 8 be prefixed with:-
'It was noted that better facilities prompted better use and it was therefore recommended...'
- That after recommendation no. 10, the following additional recommendation be inserted, and all subsequent recommendations be renumbered accordingly:-
'That facilities be regularly inspected and appropriately maintained'.
- That no. 15(16) be amended to read:-
'That pitches and surrounding open spaces be inspected and current signage be reviewed, to see if improvement can be made and a more consistent approach taken to deterring the use of foul language, and preventing trespass with the issuing of warnings against infringements such as dog fouling, vehicle encroachment, riding of horses and golf practice'.
- That no. 16 (17) be amended to read:-
'That Council Staff, and Members, be encouraged to monitor play areas and pitches to discourage dog fouling and damage'.
- That the following additional recommendation be added after the final recommendation:-
'That the Community Services Scrutiny Panel reviews progress towards improvements to pitches and facilities, including a site inspection by Members, in March 2007'.

6. Discussion on Planning of Next Scrutiny – Gypsy/Traveller Sites

A draft planning sheet for the next Scrutiny had been circulated. The Chair asked Panel Members to look at the document, and advise Democratic Services of any other suggestions they might have, prior to the next Panel Meeting.

Members requested that a representative from the Education Department at the County Council also be added to the witness list.

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The Meeting terminated at 6.35 pm