

**Minutes
Environment Scrutiny Panel**

**18 April 2007
5.30 p.m.
Abbey Leisure Centre, Pity Me**

Present: Councillors Wolstenhome (in the Chair), Graham, Kinghorn, Leake, Marsden, Pitts and Turnbull

Also in Attendance: Councillor Hepplewhite

Apologies

There were apologies for absence received from Councillors Colledge, Simpson and Walton.

Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 March 2007

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as a correct record.

Draft Report – Riverbanks

Members considered the draft report and the following amendments were made.

- Under point 3.4.3, paragraph 2 the final sentence to now read:

“In reality this forms a much longer-term aspiration and would only be achievable through lengthy negotiations with landowners and the public.”

- That recommendation 1 be amended to:

“The Panel greatly welcomes the excellent progress being made by the Riverbanks Management Group and feels that it is essential that the City of Durham maintains strong representation on this group.”

- That an additional recommendation, 5, be added:

“That the City of Durham continues to consult with the relevant stakeholders and partners as regards works and activities on the riverbanks and works together with these groups to promote activities through the appropriate channels.”

Subject to the above amendments, the report was approved by the Panel and should be sent to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee accordingly.

Members noted that it may be advantageous for City of Durham staff that are actively patrolling and working on the riverbanks to be able to issue fixed penalty notices as a punishment and deterrent to those who litter.

Draft Report – Temporary Road Closures

Members considered the draft report and the report was approved by the Panel and should be sent to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee accordingly.

Note: *Councillors Graham and Kinghorn left the meeting at 6.10 p.m.*

Some Members noted that a difficulty that can be faced by events organiser can be finding suitable liability insurance, and Members wondered whether the Council could have a list of suitable Insurers which could be given to organisers.

Any Other Business

The Chairman extended his thanks to Members for their attendance at Panel meetings over the last year. Also those Councillors who were not standing at the upcoming elections were thanked for their contributions during their time with the City of Durham.

The Meeting terminated at 6.11 p.m.