

MEETING	SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
DATE	27 MARCH 2006
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS KIRK (Chair), BLANCHARD BRADLEY, CUTHBERTSON and FRASER
IN ATTENDANCE	COUNCILLORS SCOTT AND HYMAN
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLOR HILL

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## **PART A – MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

### **88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they had in the business on the agenda. No declarations were received.

### **89. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2006 be approved and signed as a correct record subject to the amendment of Minute 87 (Constitutional Review Consultation) as follows

- i) The deletion of bullet point 8 in the preamble and its replacement with
  - Support for a Health Scrutiny Committee
  - Support for the setting up of Joint Committees
- ii) In the additional points listed in the table against 'Membership of Scrutiny Bodies' the addition of a note that Cllr Fraser did not support this point.
- iii) In resolution i) The comments to SMC being considered as individuals comments rather than SMC's formal response to the Constitutional Review.

### **90. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Councils Public Participation Scheme.

## **91. TANG HALL AREA ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN - UPDATE**

Members considered a report, which advised them of the progress being made to produce the pilot Area Asset Management Plan for Tang Hall and set out proposals for the next steps including the involvement of ward and other members.

Officers updated that progress had not been as quick as had been hoped but there had been a lack of resources in the department. It was reported that there was now sufficient information available for the arrangement of a meeting of the Corporate Asset Management Group at the end of May.

Officers also circulated comments received by email from Cllrs Kind and Potter in which they expressed their extreme disappointment at the lack of progress in relation to this work. They also referred to the need for the Children's Centre at Tang Hall School to be included in the proposals. Councillor Blanchard, as one of the Ward Members, also confirmed that he was unhappy with the lack of progress with this Plan.

Members commented that one of the purposes of the proposed meeting in May was to consider who else should be involved in the consultation but that this had been agreed at a previous meeting of the Committee. They also commented that there appeared to be no details regarding the project management or timescales for the Plan. There was also a need to adopt best practice models for the Area Management Plan.

Members felt that the Tang Hall Asset Management Plan should be considered as a topic for progression, in the new municipal year, by an Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel to look at the approach, timetable and resources available for the Plan.

RESOLVED: i) That the contents of the report be noted.

ii) That the Executive Member Resources and the Assistant Director (Head of Property Services) be invited to attend the next meeting of the Committee to discuss the next steps and timetable for the Tang Hall Asset Management Plan.

## **92. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY BOARD FINAL REPORT ON 'DRUG AND ALCOHOL-RELATED ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR'**

Members considered the final report of the Economic Development and Community Safety Scrutiny Board on 'Drug and Alcohol related Anti Social Behaviour'.

Councillor Hyman presented the final report and he thanked the Scrutiny Team for their assistance with work on the topic. He

commented that the Board had all had preconceptions regarding the areas covered but that they now had the relevant facts from the various bodies and there appeared to be more far reaching problems. He confirmed that some retailers were now looking at contributing towards York's CCTV system and linking up with the Council to provide individual cameras. He pointed out that unfortunately there were some areas that were outside the Boards scope e.g. Domestic Violence, effects that drugs can have on individuals and communities and that they could form areas for further investigation.

At this point Councillor Blanchard left the meeting.

Members commented as follows

- When scoping future reports, consideration should be given to time limiting them to 3-6months as 18 months is too long for consideration of a topic.
- Questioned the phrase monitoring city radio links in the report.
- Questioned the recommendation relating to the use of breathalyser machines on licensed premises and as to whether they would have the same calibration as those used by traffic police.
- Questioned how co-optees were chosen and reference to the male dominated board.

**RESOLVED:** That the Economic Development and Community Safety Scrutiny Board final report on 'Drug and Alcohol-related Anti-Social behaviour' be accepted subject to the following

- Inclusion of an explanation of the city radio link system.
- The need to include a summary at the end of each recommendation showing who would be responsible for the action.
- Preparation of Annex B to include financial and legal obligations together with details of the implications of the recommendations.

### **93. PROGRESS REPORT FROM RESOURCES SCRUTINY BOARD**

Members considered a report, which updated Members on the recent work of the Resources Scrutiny Board.

Councillor Scott, Chair of Resources Scrutiny Board was in attendance. He indicated that the Board had approved its final report on Sustainability and Social Responsibility in Procurement for inclusion in the corporate procurement strategy and that this was now awaiting the outcome of the resources restructure of the Chief Executives Department. The Board had also received a report, which gave an

update on the recommendations of the scrutiny report on Property Management. He confirmed that, as the Board had had no formal topic, they had concentrated on the budget process and local government finance.

Members queried and commented as follows

- That although breaches and waivers were now to be considered by the Governance Committee there was a need for continuity with Members.
- That Members should continue to register any topics that they wished to be scrutinised.

**RESOLVED:** i) That the progress report from the Chair of the Resources Scrutiny Board on their recent work be noted.

ii) That Members thanks be conveyed to the Resources Scrutiny Board for all their work.

#### **94. SCRUTINY BUDGET 2005/06 – OUTTURN REPORT**

Members received an update report on outturn expenditure of £4,518 on the scrutiny budget for 2005/06 .

Details were also given of the approved budget for 2006/07 of £6,000.

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee note the outturn expenditure on the scrutiny budget for 2005/06 as set out on the expenditure sheet at Annex 1 of the report.

#### **95. SMC FORWARD PLAN 2006/07**

Members considered the Scrutiny Management Committee Forward Plan for 2006/07.

Officers updated that the final report of the Inclusive Decision Making Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel should be added to the Plan for the May meeting.

The Chair referred to previous discussions regarding the possible inclusion of the Tang Hall Area Management Plan as a scrutiny topic. Local Members were asked to complete a registration form for the inclusion of the Area Management Plan as a topic for consideration by a future Ad Hoc Panel. Officers agreed to email a copy of the registration form to the Local Members concerned.

**RESOLVED:** That, subject to the inclusion of the final report of the Inclusive Decision Making Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel to the Plan for the May meeting, the Forward Plan for 2006/07 be noted.

*The meeting was now inquorate and therefore Members made the following recommendation but did not make any decision on the urgent item of business.*

**96. URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair reported that this was to be the last meeting of the Committee attended by Rachel Rushforth, Scrutiny Manager before she left the authority to pursue other interests.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Committee's thanks be conveyed to Rachel for all her help and support with the Scrutiny Management Committee and to wish her well with her new endeavours.

COUNCILLOR KIRK  
CHAIR

The meeting began at 5.00 pm and ended at 6.25pm.