

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE – 5 JUNE 2001**

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Minutes of the meeting of **Environmental Health Sub-Committee** held on **5 June 2001** when there were present:

Cllr A Hosking (Chairman)  
Cllr V H Leach

Cllr C C Langlands  
Cllr R E Vingoe

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J E Grey, Mrs S J Lemon, R A Pearson and Mrs M J Webster

### **SUBSTITUTES**

Cllr P F A Webster

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

R Crofts – Corporate Director (Finance & External Services)  
G Woolhouse – Head of Housing, Health & Community Care  
J Bourne - Leisure & Contracts Manager  
Ms S Worthington – Committee Administrator  
A Wyatt – Committee Administrator

### **106 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2001 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **Matters Arising – Minute 104 – Recommendations from the Stambridge Sewage Treatment Works Working Group**

A Member advised the Sub-Committee that the N-Viro plant was unlikely to be dismantled by September. A final meeting of the Stambridge Sewage Treatment Workings Working Group should accordingly take place after the last meeting of the Stambridge Sewage Treatment Works Liaison Committee. In light of the delay in decommissioning the N-Viro plant, the Sub-Committee requested that a report be prepared by officers offering update information, to a future meeting of either Transportation & Environmental Services or Planning Services Committee, whichever is the most appropriate.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

That a report on the status of the Stambridge Sewage treatment works be prepared for a future meeting of Transportation & Environmental Services or

Planning Services Committee (HHHCC).

## **107 FUTURE WASTE STRATEGY**

The Sub-Committee considered the report of Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) advising as to how the new contract is anticipated to work and seeking a view in principle as to how the Council wishes to be involved in the project.

An officer workshop was held in late February where the whole issue of the way forward in respect of the disposal of waste was considered. The report emanating from this workshop has been presented to a meeting of the Waste Management Advisory Board of the Consortium of Essex Waste Collection Authorities on 19 March 2001. The way forward set out in this report has been endorsed by the Board.

The County Council is anxious to have a new contract in place by early 2003 in order to be fully operational by 2007. The County Council will be exploring the various options available in order to attract the capital investment required.

During Member debate, the following comments were noted:

Model 5 was favoured, as it was the best means of the Council maintaining most control. It is based on the Hampshire system, which works well.

If County Council took over recycling, Council would have to make payments for the service. Council would, in addition, have responsibility for ensuring that statutory recycling targets were met.

Model 2 would potentially make the Council liable for all costs.

Members expressed the following concerns:

- that there were funding implications for meeting statutory recycling targets beyond 2004.
- who would decide funding/cost apportionment in relation to the scope and nature of future contracts?
- would district councils be consulted on organisational arrangements related to future provision of waste disposal, civic amenity sites and recycling services?
- the project plan for 2003 onwards was not specific about facilities.

In response to Member interest in recycling targets, it was agreed that Members should be provided with details of nationwide Government recycling targets for 2003/4 and with 2005/6 Government recycling targets for household and municipal waste for Rochford.

**RECOMMENDED**

- (1) That the Essex County Council be advised that this Council would wish to participate in the new Waste Management Contract in accordance with the development of option 5 in order to continue our current method of operation.
- (2) Progress updates to be included in *Rochford District Matters*.
- (3) Address issue of sources of funding for recycling targets beyond 2004 through the Local Government Association.

The meeting opened at 7.30 pm and closed at 8.10 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....