
REPORT OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE CHARTER SUB-COMMITTEE

ANIMAL WELFARE CHARTER REVIEW

- 1.1 This item of business was referred by the Animal Welfare Charter Sub-Committee on 9 February 2006 with recommendations relating to the review of the Council's Animal Welfare Charter. A copy of the Minutes of that meeting are appended at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 This item had first been reported to the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 17 January 2006, when Members had agreed that issues relating in particular to angling, guidance on the long-term tethering of horses and long-standing agreements to pets at the Crown Hill bungalows, should be thorough explored with recommendations being reported back to the next meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. A copy of the recommended amendments are appended as Appendix 2.
- 1.3 A copy of the Animal Welfare Charter incorporating the recommendations of the Animal Welfare Charter Sub-Committee is appended at Appendix 3.
- 1.4 Members of the Sub-Committee felt that:-
 - In the light of recent articles in the local press associated with the ill treatment of horses and chickens, the review of the Charter was very timely and should be widely publicised.
 - The Sub-Committee would need to meet again from time to time as matters arise, for example, to discuss issues around the Government's animal welfare bill, once it is published.
- 1.5 It is proposed that the Committee considers whether to **RESOLVE** to extend the remit of the Sub-Committee to allow it to meet again from time to time as matters arise.
- 1.6 It is further proposed that the Committee **RECOMMENDS:-**
 - (1) That the proposed amendments to the Animal Welfare Charter be agreed.
 - (2) That once revisions to the Charter have been agreed, a press release be issued advising that the Charter has been strengthened its Animal Welfare Charter. Particular reference should be made to the inclusion of issues such as animal hoarding and tethering of horses. Appropriate photographs could be added. Reference should also be made to the animal welfare section of the Council's web site.

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- (2) That the revised Charter be circulated as widely as possible, to include veterinary surgeries, libraries, parish councils, citizens' advice bureaux, the County Council's Cabinet Member for Localism and all Members of this Council.
 - (3) That a copy of the revised Charter be sent to other local authorities, commending it to them and inviting them to consider publishing their own. (HHHCC)

Sarah Fowler

Head of Administrative & Member Services

Background Papers:-

None

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