

PROGRESS ON DECISIONS

Item	Progress
From Policy and Finance Committee	
<p>Hockley Community Centre (Minute 330/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That there should be an evening Member meeting with Hockley Parish Council, comprising 3 Members from Hockley Parish Council and the following 3 Members of this Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr K H Hudson • Cllr Mrs L Hungate • Cllr P F A Webster (CD(F&ES)) 	<p>Meeting likely to be held during February.</p>
<p>Housing Benefit Performance Standards (Minute 332/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That consideration of the new assessment be deferred until October 2003 to allow Officers time to carry out the necessary work. (HRHM)</p>	<p>Some strategic weaknesses addressed before CPA BFI inspection on 13 January 2004. Inspection completed and awaiting inspectors written report.</p>

Item	Progress
<p>Electronic Communication Links (Minute 434/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the upgrading of the Council's electronic communication links, as set out in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.8 of the report, be approved.</p> <p>(2) That the upgrading of the link to the internet, as set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report, be approved.</p> <p>(3) That the upgrading of the Council's website, as set out in paragraphs 4.10 and 4.11 of the report, be approved. (HAMS)</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>Software purchased and training provided for staff. New web pages now being developed.</p>
<p>Police Community Support Officers (Minute 435/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the taking of any decision on providing funding support for this initiative be deferred pending:-</p> <p>(1) A decision from the Rochford Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership as to whether it would be prepared to provide matched funding for the years 2004/05 and 2005/06 and at what level.</p> <p>(2) Feedback from discussions with the Parishes and the Town Council around the budget process and an indication from them as to whether they, individually or collectively, would be prepared to support financially such an initiative. (CE)</p>	<p>The Rochford Crime and Disorder Partnership would support in principle the funding of three additional PCSO's. However, it has said it would be unable to contribute financially from the Home Office funding streams it accesses.</p> <p>Details of the scheme were sent to the Parish and Town Councils giving additional information in relation to the deployment of the PCSO's. Although Parishes wanted additional Police in their areas, there was no support for a scheme that could not guarantee these additional resources staying in the area.</p>

Item	Progress
<p>Land at Bradley Way, Rochford (Minute 438/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That authority be delegated to the Corporate Director (Law, Planning & Administration), in consultation with the Committee Chairman, to accept the highest offer available for sale of the site freehold, subject to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The receipt of acceptable references/detail pertaining to the purchaser. (2) The retention of appropriate terminology associated with property use and provision for car parking as outlined in the report (CD(L,P&A)) 	<p>Delay due to protracted correspondence with proposed purchasers' solicitors pending exchange of contracts.</p>
<p>Budget Strategy (Minute 553/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That a letter be sent to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on the terms set out by the Head of Financial Services. Copies of the letter to be sent to the Local Government Association and the two local Members of Parliament. An associated press release to be produced. (HFS) 	<p>Implemented</p>

Item	Progress
<p>Proposal To Make Changes To The Method Of The Annual Canvass Of Electors (Minute 554/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That, subject to the retention of provision for residents to return forms by post if they wish, the system of a automated telephone registration be introduced as part of the canvass conducted from September to December 2004. (HAMS) 	<p>Arrangements being put in place for introduction in autumn 2004</p>
<p>Housing Resource Issues (Minute 555/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That a Housing Manager be appointed on a three year fixed term contract at grade PO 18 – 21. The position to be advertised immediately.</p> <p>(2) That the existing post, as described in the exempt report, be made permanent on grade PO6 – 9 with effect from 1 April 2004.</p> <p>(3) That a bid be made for resources in the budget strategy in order to employ a Housing Services Development Officer at grade PO6 – 9 with a view to recruiting in the financial year. (CD(F&ES))</p>	<p>Post advertised</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>To be considered by Council on 27 January</p>

Item	Progress
<p>Staffing Upgrade – Internal Audit (Minute 556/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the post identified in the exempt report be re-titled as suggested and regraded SO1 –SO2 commencing 1 January 2004. (CE)</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>From Full Council</p>	
<p>Estimate for new Footpath and Land Drainage – Sweyne Park (Min 376/02)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That additional interest tables and additional wild flower planting should take place around the area with improved signage being provided at footpath explaining the reasons why the area was not regularly mown. (CD(F&ES))</p>	<p>Paths, drainage and seeding completed. New vandal resistant signage received, awaiting contractor installation as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Committee Minutes and Reports (Minute 364/03)</p> <p>Disposal of Old Ship Lane Public Convenience and Car Park - Further Issues (Minute 355)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the Old Ship Lane public convenience be demolished and redeveloped for car parking purposes to provide a total of approximately 10 spaces to the rear of the Old Ship public house.</p> <p>(2) That the car park be brought within the Council's Car Parking Order and that the spaces be designated as paying spaces, with a maximum permitted stay of 2 hours.</p>	<p>Application for planning permission to allow development of the site and conservation area (approval to demolish site) – Submitted December 2003.</p>

Item	Progress
(3) That the above be financed from within the existing Capital programme. (CD(F&ES))	
Finance Best Value Review (Minute 357/03) Resolved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the Head of Financial Services be instructed to report in December with proposals for improvements to the payroll and personnel services. (CD(F&ES)) 	The report being prepared for submission to Committee in mid-2004.
Rayleigh Market Review (Minute 361/03) Resolved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the licence be renewed for a period of 7 years within a relevant area which allows for the retention of car parking throughout the week on the western part of the site and subject to a workable scheme being agreed which addresses the pedestrian and health and safety issues. (HLS) 	Workable scheme difficult to achieve without compromising public safety, report on outcome of consultations to next meeting of F&P Overview & Scrutiny.
Accommodation Review (Minute 600(6)/03) Resolved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the action plan, as outlined in the exempt report, be agreed. (CE) 	Now being actioned.
Holocaust Memorial Sub-Committee (Minute 600(10)/03) Resolved That a permanent memorial to the victims of persecution be commissioned along the lines set out in the report. (CE)	Now being actioned.

Item	Progress
<p>Housing Revenue Account – Business Plan and Capital Programme 2004/05 (Minute 600(12)/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That consultation with tenants and residents in Ormond Avenue be commenced at an early stage to gauge support for the suggestion that additional car parking should be provided in Ormond Avenue, Rochford. (HRHM) 	<p>Consultation completed – no real support to progress this issue (See Members' Bulletin)</p>
<p>Development of Council Owned Land (Minute 600(17)/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That, subject to additional provisos emanating from public consultation, development now proceed on the proposed housing schemes at Hambro Close, Rayleigh; Warwick Drive, Rochford; Tylney Avenue, Rochford and Hardwick House (and adjacent land), Rayleigh.</p> <p>(2) That the land designated in respect of the four sites in (1) above be transferred to the Swan Housing Group at nil cost, subject to planning permission and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the Hardwick House scheme – supporting people revenue funding. For the Tylney Avenue scheme – conclusion of the investigation into a possible covenant and any necessary statutory notice provisions relating to the former playspace. <p>on such terms and conditions as the Head of Legal Services considers appropriate in accordance with the general consent and to secure the provision of the approved housing scheme.</p>	<p>proceeding</p> <p>Awaiting determination of planning applications</p>

Item	Progress
<p>(3) That the possibility of achieving three-year funding from Essex County Council to achieve a scheme at Bardfield Way, Rayleigh be pursued, subject to there being a full public consultation meeting in advance of the finalisation of proposals.</p> <p>(4) That a press release be issued on 19 December setting out the Council's final decisions. (HHHCC/HLS)</p>	<p>The Housing Best Value Sub-Committee is considering a report on this item on 3 February.</p> <p>Implemented</p>
<p>Decriminalised Parking Enforcement – Progress Report (Minute 600(18)/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That Committee Room 3 at the Civic Suite be converted into office accommodation for the Transportation Team. (HRHM)</p>	<p>Works started w/c 12 January 2004.</p>
<p>Motions on Notice (Minute 601(1)/03)</p> <p>Tenancy Deposit Scheme</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Rochford District Council offers written support to the Shelter Campaign. • That a letter of support be sent to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's Select Committee, who are backing the scheme's inclusion in the Housing Bill. • That letters are sent to our local MP's to encourage them to sign the Early Day Motion 843. (HHHCC) 	<p>Implemented.</p> <p>Implemented.</p> <p>Implemented.</p>

Item	Progress
<p>Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) – Self Assessment Report (Minute 602/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the revised Self Assessment and other documentation be approved for submission to the Audit Commission, subject to final editorial amendments and corrections being delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council. (CE)</p>	<p>Documentation now sent to Audit Commission.</p>
<p>Rochford Community Strategy Consultation (Minute 603/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the following priorities should be addressed through the Community Strategy: -.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more visible policing, both in rural areas and in towns • more activities to occupy young people • improved public transport and infrastructure, such as to schools and health facilities. (CE) 	<p>Community Strategy now being drafted for consideration by the Local Strategic Partnership in March.</p>
<p>Social Inclusion Policy (Minute 604/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Social Inclusion Policy be adopted. (CE)</p>	<p>Implemented</p>

Item	Progress
<p>Setting the Council Tax Base 2004/2005 (Minute 605/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That authority be delegated to the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) to set the council tax base for the year 2004/05.</p> <p>(2) That the existing rate of council tax be retained for second homes.</p> <p>(3) That the existing rate of council tax be retained for empty homes.</p> <p>(4) That the Finance & Procedures Overview & Scrutiny Committee consider the procedure for setting the council tax base for forthcoming years. (CD(F&ES))</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>To form part of review of Constitution</p>
<p>Members' Allowances (Minute 606/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That a carer's allowance be not introduced.</p> <p>(2) That mileage allowance for cars over 1000 cc be payable at a maximum of 40p per mile.</p> <p>(3) That, taking into account recommendations (1) and (2) above, the scheme of Members' allowances and travel and subsistence allowances, as detailed in the report, be implemented from 1 January 2004. (CD(F&ES))</p>	<p>}</p> <p>}</p> <p>}</p> <p>}</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>}</p> <p>}</p> <p>}</p>