

## **Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 28 January 2004**

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Minutes of the meeting of the **Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee** held on **28 January 2004** when there were present:

Cllr T Livings (Chairman)

Cllr C J Lumley  
Cllr D G Stansby  
Cllr Mrs M A Starke

Cllr Mrs M S Vince  
Cllr P F A Webster

### **VISITING MEMBER**

Cllr M G B Starke

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs T G Capon, T G Cutmore, P K Savill.

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

J Bourne	Leisure & Contracts Manager
M Martin	Committee Administrator

### **47 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2004 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **48 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr T Livings declared a personal interest by virtue of being the Council's representative for the Warehouse Centre, the Chairman of the Youth Strategy group - Rayleigh & Castle Point and a school governor.

Cllr C J Lumley declared a personal interest by virtue of being a school governor.

Cllr Mrs M S Vince declared a personal interest by virtue of being the Council's representative on the 57 South Street Management Committee, a member of the StAR Partnership and a school governor.

**49 REVIEW OF POLICIES AND SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITHIN  
THE DISTRICT**

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services), which introduced the review of policies and services for young people.

Members noted that the aim of the review would be to consider existing policies, services and facilities provided by a variety of groups, including the District and County Councils. This would necessitate agreeing a list of invitees. Members indicated that it would be preferable for these meetings to take place in the mornings, wherever possible.

During debate the following was noted:-

- funding opportunities from a variety of sources/organisations would need to be identified
- local groups should be encouraged to explore fund raising opportunities wherever possible, including parental contributions
- input from the young people themselves would be essential
- the need to continually promote those activities that the Council provides and also to gain information on how the Essex Youth Service promotes their activities.
- some funding for after school activities was available from the children's fund administered by the County Council
- a new arts development officer had been appointed, to be funded by Holmes Place, the Council's Leisure contractor
- activities provided by the Council's Leisure Section were monitored regularly and new ones added to provide as much variety as possible. In particular, the summer swimming scheme remained very popular and numbers in attendance continued to grow. Officers were congratulated on the imaginative selection provided
- the disability playscheme was fully funded externally
- in response to a request, a copy of the Leisure Section's newsletter would be provided to Members.

Members were pleased to note that the youth issues which had existed last Summer at Great Wakering Sports Centre had improved with the appointment of a new Manager, who had built up an affinity with the local young people, and the implementation of a programme of after school activities.

During debate Members agreed:-

- that it would be useful to consult with other local authorities in respect of their programmes of youth activities
- that the review should be completed by the end of July 2004
- some amendments to the wording of the terms of reference of the review.

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### Resolved

- (1) That the terms of reference for the review be amended as follows:
  - delete the word “disadvantaged” to read “... canvas the youngsters for their views”
  - add the words “including costs” to read “to put forward proposals including costs .....
- (2) That representatives from the following local groups be invited to attend a meeting of this Committee during the course of the review:-
  - Essex County Youth Service,
  - Essex Connexions
  - Holmes Place
  - the Warehouse Centre
  - local Scout and Guide groups
  - Parish/Town Councils
  - Young Essex Assembly
  - Rayleigh Police
  - StAR Partnership
  - The Chambers of Trade
- (3) That officers write to the four secondary schools inviting them to provide written responses in respect of the types of activities they currently provide and their views on how this Council might be able to support them.
- (4) That other local authorities be consulted with regard to their provision for young people. (CD(F&ES))

The meeting commenced at 10 am and closed at 11.40 am.

Chairman .....

Date .....