

Environmental Services Committee – 5 May 2004

Minutes of the meeting of the **Environmental Services Committee** held on **5 May 2004** when there were present:-

Cllr J E Grey (Chairman)
Cllr R G S Choppen (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr Mrs T J Capon
Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn
Cllr Mrs S A Harper
Cllr Mrs L Hungate
Cllr A J Humphries

Cllr J M Pullen
Cllr C G Seagers
Cllr Mrs M S Vince
Cllr Mrs M J Webster

OFFICERS PRESENT

R Crofts - Corporate Director (Finance & External Services)
S Clarkson - Head of Revenue & Housing Management
S Worthington - Committee Administrator

220 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2004 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

221 MOBILE BREAST SCREENING UNIT IN MILL HALL CAR PARK

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Revenue & Housing Management on a request from the NHS Trust South Essex Breast Screening Service to site a mobile screening unit in the Mill Hall Car Park, Rayleigh for 10 months.

During debate, there was a general consensus of opinion that option 4.3 in the officer's report offered the most reasonable compromise in terms of mitigating the loss of 2 car parking spaces and a loss of revenue to the Council.

On a Motion moved by Cllr Mrs M J Webster and seconded by Cllr C G Seagers, it was:-

Resolved

That the mobile breast screening unit be allowed to locate at the rear of Mill Hall, that the NHS Trust be charged £1824 for loss of revenue and two season tickets and that the NHS Trust be charged for the cost of moving the lamp column. (HRHM)

222 HIGH HEDGES – CONSULTATION

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) seeking Members' views on the proposed response to the consultation.

During debate, Members broadly concurred with the officer comments contained in the report. However, concern was expressed that the officer comments for question 3 should be re-worded to indicate that Members strongly opposed the costs of the scheme being funded by means of the revenue support grant. In addition, the maximum fee per case should be increased from £320 to £450, with the proviso that this may well be insufficient, as the Council would want a reduced charge for residents in receipt of benefits or on low incomes. The additional comment should be made that the Council would, in the event of any appeals, want the costs of officer time on preparation for such appeals to be reimbursed. Finally, the comment should also be made that offenders should also be liable for costs.

Resolved

That the Council's response to the consultation be on the basis set out in the officers' report, subject to the following Member comments:-

- The costs of the scheme should not be funded by the revenue support grant.
- The maximum fee per case should be £450.
- Additional resources should be made available to enable the Council to charge reduced costs to those on low incomes.
- The costs to the Council associated with any appeals should be reimbursed centrally.
- Offenders should also be liable for costs. (CD(F&ES))

The meeting closed at 8.08 pm.

Chairman

Date