

## **Review Committee – 5 April 2011**

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Minutes of the meeting of the **Review Committee** held on **5 April 2011** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr Mrs J R Lumley  
Vice-Chairman: Cllr M Maddocks

Cllr K A Gibbs  
Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn

Cllr P F A Webster

### **VISITING MEMBER**

Cllr M J Steptoe

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs P Aves, T Livings and Mrs G A Lucas-Gill.

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

R Evans	-	Head of Environmental Services
P Gowers	-	Overview and Scrutiny Officer
M Power	-	Committee Administrator

## **96 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2011 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **97 THE FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee heard from the Portfolio Holder for the Environment and the Head of Environmental Services on the review of the capital scheme for Cherry Orchard Country Park.

During discussion, the following was noted:-

- A Portfolio Holder Advisory Group of Members had reviewed some of the medium/long-term objectives contained in the Cherry Orchard Country Park Management Plan with the Portfolio Holder and Head of Environmental Services.
- A plan indicating one Member's suggestion for potential sites to place wooden benches in the Park had been forwarded to the Head of Environmental Services. An article would be placed in Rochford District Matters inviting corporate and private sponsorship of benches in the Park to encourage a balanced approach to sponsorship of the facilities. All

benches would be constructed using wood sourced from Hockley Woods.

- The new car park and children's play area was officially opened on 16 March. The new entrance to the Park would be operational from 18 April and this would be publicised in the local press. If the Joint Area Action Plan is approved, the construction of the roundabout on the east side of Cherry Orchard Way would provide permanent access to the Country Park.
- Works on the additional car park in Grove Woods should commence shortly, subject to planning consent, which would provide easy access for residents of Rayleigh.
- Regarding signposting the various access points to the Country Park, it was confirmed that there are currently no directional signs in Rayleigh to the Park. Discussions would be taking place with Essex County Council with regard to the 'white on brown' direction signs that indicate public access points. It was requested that a warning sign advising that the Park be exited to the left for safety reasons be erected at the exit point from the Park in Cherry Orchard Way.

On another matter, the Portfolio Holder for the Environment referred to the Committee's recommendation at its meeting on 11 January (Minute 3/11), which followed a call-in of an aspect of an Executive Decision, that the established open natural play area in Grove Woods remain unfenced, as originally built. Having taken into consideration the Committee's recommendation, nevertheless it was felt that fencing of the play area would be appropriate and that works should proceed. The fencing would be of a metal construction and it was confirmed that there would be sufficient entrances in to and out of the play area. It was believed that fencing would not inhibit the way children use the area. It was proposed to accept a tender for the works of £8364, which was the lowest of the three quotes received.

## 98 ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered the annual report on its workings, which would be submitted to Full Council.

It was requested that the wording in paragraph 11.1 be amended to read, 'In September 2010 the Committee received a presentation from the Chief Officer of The Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Service (RRAVS)'.

Publicity around the saving of approximately £15,000 as a result of replacing the Area Committees with Community Forums will be undertaken concurrently with publicity for the Community Forums closer to when they are to take place.

In response to a Member request, the wording relating to emerging structures around health and well being under the 'Topics for future work programme'

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would be amended to incorporate 'plain English'. It was envisaged that the Committee would request a visit from an Essex County Council representative to provide an update on the situation around health and wellbeing in the County and the role of the District Council in this respect.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....

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