

**At a meeting of the ENVIRONMENT AND ATTRACTIVE CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on THURSDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2009 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Miller in the Chair

Councillors Ball, E. Gibson, Howe, Stephenson, Vardy, Whalen and Wood.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Tye and Kelly.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Environmental and Planning Review Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2009**

- (i) With reference to page 2 and Mr. Garner's response to Councillor Wood. Councillor Wood requested that the fourth bullet point be amended to read "Restoration of the Metro beyond South Hylton was being looked at".
- (ii) With reference to page 4, paragraph 3 of the minutes, Councillor Wakefield requested that the emphasis of the first paragraph be changed to read "Councillor Wakefield expressed concerns that after the installation of the first phase when near to completion, there were apparent instances where corners appeared to have been cut".
- (iii) Councillor Scaplehorn had asked for figures relating to the satisfaction levels for recycling services. Peter High, Head of Environmental Services agreed to speak to Mike Lowe to provide this information.
- (iv) Page 9, Planning Obligation, Councillor Tye had requested that a workshop be held to allow full discussion of the issue. Mr. Lowes advised that Cathy Mordecai, Members Training and Development Consultant was pulling together a list of Members' priority training topics and the workshop would be based on the options. The training would be co-ordinated with Community and Cultural Services.
- (v) Councillor E. Gibson advised that in the second paragraph on page 8, "Doxford Park" should be replaced by "Moorside".

(vi) Mr. Lowes confirmed that the summary of developments where Section 106 Agreements had been signed, as requested by Councillor I. Cuthbert would be ready for the annual report in July and an extract would be brought to the Committee.

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the inclusion of the above amendments.

### **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **Response from Cabinet 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2009 – Policy Review – Traffic Issues**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide feedback from the Cabinet meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009, which considered the Environmental and Planning Review Committee's policy report into traffic issues in the City.

Mr. Jim Diamond, Review Co-ordinator (Scrutiny) presented the report. He advised that the Cabinet had accepted the findings and recommendations, save where there were any recommendations which had financial implications. The Committee would receive regular progress reports.

Councillor Wakefield stated that it was important to get an accurate quote on the financial implications for the recommendations at Doxford International Business Park and the Royal Hospital. Mr. Burney Johnson, Head of Transport and Engineering agreed to take the issue forward.

Accordingly it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the response of the Cabinet on the policy review into traffic issues in the City be noted.

### **Annual Work Programme and Policy Review 2009-2010**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) requesting Members to determine the Annual Work Programme for the Scrutiny Committee during 2009-10, including the main theme for a detailed policy review.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Jim Diamond, Review Co-ordinator (Scrutiny), briefed Members on the report. The Chairman referred the Committee to the addendum to the report, which had been circulated following the Scrutiny Conference on 11<sup>th</sup> June. This provided details of the topics highlighted from the breakout sessions as potential issues for the Committee to consider. He invited Members to consider the topics suggested.

Members of the Committee proceeded to give consideration to the policy review and single item proposals detailed on the addendum and it was, following discussion:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) Traffic Issues in the City be selected as the Scrutiny Committee's topic for in-depth policy review for 2009-10,
- (ii) Parking Issues Task and Finish Group be re-established comprising of Councillor E. Gibson (Chair) and Councillors Kelly and Wood, and
- (iii) Allotments issues be examined by a Task and Finish Group comprising Councillor Wakefield (Chair) and Councillors Howe and J. Stephenson.

The Chairman proposed that future meetings of the Committee commence at 6.00 p.m. to allow those Councillors that work to attend on time.

4. RESOLVED that future meetings of the Committee commence at 6.00 p.m.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) G. MILLER,  
Chairman.