

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVENTRY

31st October, 2006

PRESENT

Lord Mayor (Councillor Ahmed)

Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Batten)

Councillor Adalat	Councillor Lee
Councillor Arrowsmith	Councillor Mrs. Lucas
Councillor Asif	Councillor Ms. McKay
Councillor Bains	Councillor Maton
Councillor Benefield	Councillor McNicholas
Councillor Mrs. Bigham	Councillor Matchet
Councillor Blundell	Councillor Mulhall
Councillor Charley	Councillor Mutton
Councillor Chater	Councillor Nellist
Councillor Cliffe	Councillor H. Noonan
Councillor Clifford	Councillor M. Noonan
Councillor Crookes	Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Mrs. Dixon	Councillor Ms. Reece
Councillor Duggins	Councillor Ridge
Councillor Foster	Councillor Ridley
Councillor Gazey	Councillor Mrs. Rutter
Councillor Mrs. Griffin	Councillor Sawdon
Councillor Mrs. Harper	Councillor Skinner
Councillor Harrison	Councillor Skipper
Councillor Harvard	Councillor Taylor
Councillor Ms. Hunter	Councillor Townshend
Councillor Mrs. Johnson	Councillor Mrs. Waters
Councillor Kelly	Councillor Williams
Councillor Kelsey	Councillor Windsor
Councillor Lakha	
Councillor Mrs. Lancaster	

Apologies: Councillor Field

40. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th September, 2006, were signed as a true record, subject to the amendment of Minute 34 to indicate that a written report was not required in respect of question 2.

41. **Illuminated Address**

The Lord mayor presented Councillor Lakha, Lord Mayor for 2005/2006 with his illuminated address.

42. **Petitions**

RESOLVED that the following petitions be referred to the appropriate City Council body or external organisation:-

- (a) **Request for Security Camera to Cover the Section of Foleshill Road Between New Inn Bridge and the Ribbon Island** – 19 Signatures presented by Councillor Mrs. Bigham.
- (b) **Request for Pedestrian Crossing Across Mercer Avenue Close to its Junction with North Street** – 112 Signatures presented by Councillor Bains.
- (c) **Request for the Removal of Rubbish from the Rear and Front of the Premises at 103 St. James Lane** – 20 signatures presented by Councillor Lakha.
- (d) **Refuge Crossing on Aldermans Green Road** – 34 signatures presented by Councillor Mrs. Bigham.
- (e) **Parking Problems in Woodway Lane** – 55 signatures presented by Councillor Kelly on behalf of Councillor Maton.
- (f) **Request for the provision of Recycling Facilities for Plastics** – 703 signatures presented by Councillor Nellist.
- (g) **Request for Closure of (Black Path) Entry to Deanston Croft** – 15 signatures presented by Councillor Kelly.
- (h) **Request for the Removal of Double Yellow Lines in Hillmorton Road** – 17 signatures presented by Councillor Kelly.

43. **Declarations of Interest**

The following members declared interests in the matters referred to in the minutes indicated. The relevant minutes recording the decisions also record where appropriate, the actions that Members decided to take at the meeting indicated, having regard to the National Code of Government Conduct and the City Council's Constitution:-

Interests in Recommendations for the City Council

Personal

Member	Minute No.
Councillor Maton	52

Prejudicial

Member	Minute No.
Councillor Chater*	45
Councillor Sawdon*	45
Councillor Townshend*	45
Councillor Harvard*	52
Councillor H. Noonan*	53

* The Members indicated left the meeting during consideration of these items.

44. Question Time

The appropriate members answered all the questions set out in the questions booklet, together with supplementary questions put to them at the meeting with the exception of question 5 which had been withdrawn. In respect of questions 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8 a copy of the text of the answer would be circulated to all members. With respect to question 9 it was noted that a written response had already been circulated to all members.

The following Members answered oral questions put to them by other Members as set out below, together with supplementary questions on the same matters:-

Question Asked By	Question Put To	Subject Matter
1. Councillor McNicholas	Councillor Cliffe	Security of Section 106 monies to support public transport initiatives for the new Walsgrave Hospital
2. Councillor Adalat	Councillor O'Neill	Congratulations to the Revenue and Benefits Team on achieving a National Award for Social Inclusion
3. Councillor Chater	Councillor Foster	Request the Cabinet Member consider the provision of a safe pedestrian crossing at Millennium Place/Hale Street/Pool Meadow junction
4. Councillor Clifford	Councillor H. Noonan	Consequences of the decision to end the

		disregard payment to people with Learning Disabilities
5. Councillor Townshend	Councillor O'Neill	Single Status – equal pay claims, Counsel's opinion and potential financial exposure
6. Councillor Batten	Councillor Taylor	City growth
7. Councillor Harrison	Councillor Mrs. Johnson	When process of writing to write to registered postal voters to obtain sample signatures and date of birth will commence
8. Councillor Mrs. Lucas	Councillor Foster	Decision to reimburse 50% of the costs of repairs to burial memorials that failed stability tests
9. Councillor Chater	Councillor Foster	Condition of Dunsmore Avenue, Willenhall
10. Councillor Skipper	Councillor Ridley	Decision to obtain Licences to cover parks and open spaces in Coventry and the impact of this on the powers of the Police
11. Councillor O'Neill	Councillor Ridley	Success of the Coventry Half Marathon
12. Councillor Kelly	Councillor Foster	Overgrown trees and bushes on the site of Frank Whittle School that were obscuring street lighting
13. Councillor Skinner	Councillor Arrowsmith	Steps being taken to improve access for disabled people to Council buildings
14. Councillor Chater	Councillor Taylor	Request the assistance of all Elected Members in rebuilding a wall at the Coventry Peace House
15. Councillor Ms. Hunter	Councillor Taylor	Request for an update on recent achievements and awards of the City Council
16. Councillor Skipper	Councillor Ridley	Closure of Holbrook Library, impact on service standards, proposed use of the savings and the consultation process.

RESOLVED that in relation to questions 1, 3, 4 and 10 above, a written response be submitted to all members of the Council in accordance with paragraph 4.1.24 of the City Council's Constitution.

45. Acute Services Review

Further to Minute 19/06 of Scrutiny Board (4) (Community Services and Housing, Neighbourhoods, Equalities and Health), the City Council considered a response of Scrutiny Board (4) to the Coventry and Warwickshire Acute Services Review. The review had been commissioned by the West Midlands South Strategic Health Authority and had been carried out jointly by Coventry Teaching Primary Care Trust, North Warwickshire Primary Care Trust, Rugby Primary Care Trust and South Warwickshire Primary Care Trust.

The consultation related to the National Health Service in Coventry and Warwickshire and outlined recommendations as to how some health services could be provided in the future. It contained plans which built on some of the existing developments in the health economy, and proposals which were new ideas that were designed to compliment the plans and changes that were already taking place. Scrutiny Board (4) had been satisfied that the Coventry and Warwickshire Acute Services Review consultation was adequate and had concluded that the proposals arising from the review would be, if implemented, in the interests of health services in the Coventry City Council area.

(NOTE: In respect of the above, a recorded vote was required in accordance with paragraph 4.1.71 of the City Council's Constitution. The Councillors voting for and against the recommendations were as follows:-

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Councillor Ahmed	Councillor Ms. McKay	Councillor Benefield
Councillor Adalat	Councillor Nellist	
Councillor Arrowsmith	Councillor Windsor	
Councillor Asif		
Councillor Bains		
Councillor Batten		
Councillor Mrs. Bigham		
Councillor Blundell		
Councillor Charley		
Councillor Cliffe		
Councillor Clifford		
Councillor Crookes		
Councillor Mrs. Dixon		
Councillor Duggins		
Councillor Foster		
Councillor Gazey		
Councillor Mrs. Griffin		
Councillor Mrs. Harper		
Councillor Harrison		
Councillor Harvard		

Councillor Mrs. Johnson
Councillor Kelly
Councillor Kelsey
Councillor Lakha
Councillor Mrs. Lancaster
Councillor Lee
Councillor Mrs. Lucas
Councillor Maton
Councillor McNicholas
Councillor Matchet
Councillor Mulhall
Councillor Mutton
Councillor H. Noonan
Councillor M. Noonan
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Miss Reece
Councillor Ridge
Councillor Ridley
Councillor Mrs. Rutter
Councillor Skinner
Councillor Skipper
Councillor Taylor
Councillor Mrs. Waters

Result: 43 for
3 against
1 abstention)

RESOLVED that the response of Scrutiny Board (4) (Community Services and Housing, Neighbourhoods, Equalities and Health) to the Coventry and Warwickshire Acute Services Review consultation be noted.

46. Appointment of Co-opted Members to the Scrutiny Board

With reference to Minute 20/06 of Scrutiny Board (2) (Children, Learning and Young People), the City Council considered a report of the Head of Corporate Policy that set out the current position regarding the appointment of co-opted members to Scrutiny Board (2) (Children's Services).

Section 4.5.6 of the City Council's Constitution allowed for the appointment of a total of five co-optees to Scrutiny Board:-

"4.5.6 Education Representatives

4.5.6.1 The Scrutiny Board responsible for education matters will include the following:-

- One person nominated by the Church of England
- One person nominated by the Roman Catholic Church

- One parent governor elected by the parent governors in the city in respect of the primary phase of education
- One parent governor elected by the parent governors in the city in respect of the secondary phase of education
- One representative from other faith groups in the city.

4.5.6.2 Such appointees would, with the exception for the time being of the representative appointed under 4.5.6.1 above, may vote on education issues only, but may speak on other issues.

4.5.6.3 They will also be invited to attend the meetings of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and of other Scrutiny Boards if education matters are to be considered at those meetings."

Of the two parent governor representatives, one post was currently vacant (identified for a secondary parent governor) and one (primary parent governor) had been filled although the post holder had found it difficult to attend Scrutiny Board meetings. Several attempts had been made to fill the secondary vacancy and to encourage the primary school representative to attend meetings, it was believed that the timing of the Scrutiny Board meetings had been the main barrier to this co-optee attending.

Of the two current diocesan representatives, the Roman Catholic representative regularly attended the Board. Discussions were ongoing with the Church of England Diocesan Authorities to ascertain the best way forward in securing the attendance of a representative.

Advice had been sought from the DFES who had indicated that education co-optees should attend meetings regularly, and unless special circumstances existed, become disqualified if they fail to attend meetings for a period of six months.

The fifth education co-optee position (representative of non-Christian faiths) had never been filled since the creation of the scrutiny system, and the Council had been awaiting a nominee from the Standing Advisory on Religious Education (SACRE). Due to vacancies, this body was not currently representative of all the major faiths observed in the city, The Cabinet Member (Children, Learning and Young People) had recently agreed changes to the Constitution of SACRE which enabled a review of its membership to take place with a view to improving representation.

During the last municipal year, in response to issues concerning the appointment of co-opted members to various council bodies, the Council had agreed to establish an allowance for co-opted members of Council bodies. This was currently set at £438 and was intended to provide some remuneration for the amount of time a co-optee might be expected to devote to attending a body such as Scrutiny Board over a full civic year. Whilst recent attempts had been made to recruit to Scrutiny Board (2) vacancies there has been no reference to this £438 allowance. The Council had a statutory responsibility to appoint to four of the places for co-opted members and that

representatives had full voting rights in relation to matters concerning the education of children in Coventry. The fifth, non-Christian vacancy reflected a local decision to encourage a wide diversity of experience and knowledge in the scrutiny of education matters. It was also noted that there was the potential for the Board to appoint additional co-opted members, a practice which had been followed by many authorities, so ensuring that the Board continues to broaden its contact with schools and addresses more issues which were of importance to schools.

RESOLVED that the City Council notes the various actions outlined in Section 4.2 of the report submitted and endorses the disqualification of the current primary parent governor representative, who has not attended any meetings for in excess of six months.

47. Amendments to the Constitution

Further to Minute 8/06 of the Standards Committee, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services which proposed further changes to the City Council's Constitution that had arisen since the Standards Committee last considered amendments to the Constitution at their meeting on 29th March, 2006. The proposals were as follows:-

- In relation to this Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee, where there was no other business to be considered by that Committee, it was proposed that the appropriateness of call-ins be determined in accordance with the criteria previously agreed by the Chair or in his or her absence, his or her nominee in conjunction with the Director of Legal and Democratic Services.
- In relation to the Planning Committee, any requests to register to speak at that Committee be received by no later than midnight on the last day of the notification period.

RESOLVED that the City Council approves the following amendments to the City Council's Constitution:-

- (1) That where there is no other business to be considered by the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee, the appropriateness of call-ins be determined in accordance with the criteria by the Chair, or in his or her absence, his or her nominee in conjunction with the Director of Legal and Democratic Services.**
- (2) That any requests to register to speak at the Planning Committee be received by no later than midnight on the last day of the notification period.**

48. **Environmental Information Regulations 2004 Policy**

Further to Minute 92/06 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Finance and ICT that sought approval to the proposed Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) policy statement appended to the report submitted.

The policy statement would apply to all City Council employees and Councillors (and organisations or individuals who hold environmental information on behalf of the Council), who receive and respond to requests for environmental information as defined in the EIR and was intended to ensure that all requests for information received by the Council were progressed in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, which had been introduced on 1st January, 2005.

All public authorities, that were subject to the Freedom of Information (FOI) act 2000 were also subject to EIR, however EIR also applied to a wider range of organisations, including any body or person who has responsibility for the environment. Examples of environmental records were land use, waste, energy, contamination of the food chain, pest control, pollution, refuse, waste management and dog patrol.

The report summarised the Council's EIR framework, how EIR combined with other information access legislation, rights of access, charges, exemptions to disclosure, complaints and appeals, dissemination of environmental information, and the involvement of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. With regard to the Council's EIR framework, the report also detailed the current situation, dealing with verbal and written requests for information, roles and responsibilities, overview of EIR requests received in 2005, purpose of requests in 2005, types of information requested, outcomes of requests and training and awareness.

RESOLVED that the City Council approve the Environmental Information Regulations policy statement as appended to the report submitted.

49. **Reuse of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005 – Policy**

Further to Minute 93/06 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a joint report which sought approval to the proposed Reuse of Public Sector Information (RPSI) 2005 policy statement that was appended to the report submitted. The statement would apply to all City Council staff, particularly employees and Councillors who receive and respond to requests for information, organisations or individuals engaged in or about to engage in business dealings with the Council (such as external agencies, contractors and sub-contractors and members of the public).

The policy outlined the requirements for the Council to provide or permit reuse of information held (in any particular media format), and to ensure that all requests for information received by the Council were processed in accordance with the provisions of the RPSI Regulations 2005. The RPSI Regulations, which applied to all public authorities, built upon the Freedom of Information Act to implement a European Directive on the RPSI that became European law at the end of 2003. The Regulations recognised public sector information as a valuable information source, and aimed to remove current barriers to the reuse of such information to bring about economic and

employment benefits and improve the flow of information from the public sector to the citizen.

Reuse of information occurred when the information had been requested under, for example, the Freedom of Information Act, for a purpose other than that for which it was originally produced. Use of information for private study or non-commercial research was not considered to be reuse.

The report summarised the scope of the Regulations, relevant definitions and implications for the Council (including copyright, licence and charges, the publication scheme, exclusive arrangements, and complaints and appeals processes). The report also detailed roles and responsibilities, business development opportunities for the City Council and recommendations for the way forward following input from the West Midlands Information Governance Forum.

RESOLVED that the City Council:-

- (1) Approve the RPSI policy statement.**
- (2) Agree to review the RPSI policy (including reviewing charging and licence mechanisms) after 12 months.**

50. Children and Young People Commissioning Board

Further to Minute 101/06 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a joint report of the Chief Executives of the Council and the Primary Care Trust (PCT) which sought approval to the constitution of the Children and Young People's Commissioning Board as appended to the report submitted. This report had previously been considered by the PCT at a meeting held on 10th October, 2006 which had approved the recommendations.

In June 2003 Coventry established the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership as a strategic forum to deliver more integrated strategic planning, commissioning and service delivery between key stakeholders. The success of this partnership had been demonstrated by the Joint Area Review of Children Services

Section 10 of the Children's Act 2004 placed a duty on all relevant parties, including the City Council and the PCT, to co-operate to ensure improved outcomes for children and young people. The legislation was designed to move local areas from a voluntary partnership to a more formal and accountable arrangement. Although Section 10 did not specify what co-operation arrangements should be put in place, the Government had long expected local areas to establish Children's Trusts as the formal expression of these co-operation arrangements and for these to be in place by April 2008.

Children's Trusts were originally conceived in 2002/03 as separate organisations bringing together health and local authority functions. Since then thinking had moved on and the Government was now talking about Children's Trust arrangements being formalised partnership arrangements, focusing particularly on the joint commissioning of services. Section 10 also gave all relevant partners the power to

pool budgets and resources. These formal Section 10 arrangements were seen as a means to shared and effective accountability within an agreed framework and were the Government's measure as to how far services had become integrated.

In January 2006 the City Council and the PCT Board agreed in principle to the establishment of Children's Trust arrangements, these were set out in the Children and Young Peoples Plan 2006/2010 which was approved by the City Council in April 2006 (Minute 140/05 refers). The term Children Trust was felt to be misleading and confusing and continued to be associated with a separate organisation with Governance arrangements divorced from the Council and PCT and so it was not proposed to use this term but to refer to Trust as a Commissioning Board. The draft constitution for the Children and Young Peoples Commissioning Board was appended to the report submitted, the overall purpose of the Board was to ensure that services were jointly commissioned to improve the outcome for children, young people and their families and their carers. An appendix to the report set out the governance structure and all decisions of the Board were ultimately accountable to the Cabinet and PCT Board. Powers would only be delegated to the Board through formal Section 10 arrangements which in turn would require prior approval from the Cabinet and PCT Board.

The establishment of the Children and Young People's Commissioning Board had created the opportunity to review the role and function of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership as a whole which would result in clearer terms of reference for both the existing joint management group, which was to be renamed Professional Advisory Group and the full partnership as well as a rationalisation of meetings. It was proposed to transfer the current full partnership meeting into a consultative forum with a broad stakeholder representation including the voice of children, young people and their families and carers. These changes would be implemented by 1st November, 2006.

Councillor Kelly moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Clifford and carried:-

"Amendment to Section 5 of Appendix A to the report submitted headed Membership, paragraph 5.5 add a further bullet point:

- the spokesperson on Children's and Young People from the largest opposition group."

RESOLVED that the City Council:-

- (1) Approve the Constitution of the Children and Young People's Commissioning Board.**
- (2) Appoint the Cabinet Member (Children, Learning and Young People's) to the Board.**
- (3) Give approval for the Board to become effective from 1st November, 2006.**

- (4) Agree that the spokesperson on Children's and Young People from the largest opposition group forms part of the group which attend the Board in an advisory capacity.**

51. Adoption of Coventry's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

Further to Minute 113/06 of the Cabinet the City Council considered a report of the Director of City Development which set out the outcome of the binding report by the Planning Inspectorate following the independent examination of the submission version of the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and sought Council's approval for the adoption of the revised Statement of Community Involvement.

Statements of Community Involvement were required by government as part of the new planning system introduced by the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, Coventry's SCI explained in clear terms how people and organisations could get involved in the preparation of planning policies and in specific proposals and planning applications. The Council was also obliged to adhere to the recommendations set out in the binding report, the submission draft of the SCI had been prepared against a broad backcloth of consultation activity which was set out in the report.

RESOLVED that the City Council adopt the final version of Coventry's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

52. The City of Coventry (Swanswell No. 1) (Compulsory Purchase Order 2005)

Further to Minute 114/06 of the Cabinet, and with reference to Minute 81/05 of the Full Council, the City Council considered a joint report which had also been considered by the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee at their meeting on 18th October, 2006, (their Minute 83/06 refers), together with a briefing note detailing the outcome of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee's discussions. The report set out the outcome of the Planning Inspector's report following the recent Public Local Inquiry into the City of Coventry (Swanswell No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order 2005 and provided an update on the relocation of the residents of Cygnet and Orwell Courts and how this related to the Council's Resolution of 1st November, 2005.

On 18th October, 2005, the Cabinet had approved the compulsory acquisition of property and interests to enable the delivery of the Swanswell Initiative Learning Quarter and referred the matter for consideration to Council on 1st November, 2005. At that meeting full Council agreed an amendment to the report giving a commitment that the Council would adequately re-house the disabled residents in properties within the area of a similar if not better specification than the ones provided at Cygnet and Orwell Courts, before the residents moved to vacate their existing properties. It was also agreed at Council that the Council's Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee would monitor this issue closely to ensure that it was carried out in line with the agreement, in this connection the Project Champion for Swanswell had met with the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee on a regular basis to fully appraise them of progress with the project with particular reference to the Council Resolution.

Councillor Nellist moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Windsor and lost:-

"Delete paragraph 2.6 and insert:-

"to confirm the all-party decision of November 1st, 2005, and to adjourn final consideration of this document until planning permission has been granted, and a firm timetable for build established, for the new homes for people with disabilities at Raglan Street/ Canterbury Street." "

RESOLVED that the City Council support and approve the residents' relocation package detailed in the report submitted.

53. Public Safety Zones at Coventry Airport

Further to Minute 116/06 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Director of City Development that set out proposals by the Department of Transport to establish Public Safety Zones at Coventry Airport, the report had also been considered by the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee at their meeting on 25th October, 2006 (their Minute 97/06 refers).

A Public Safety Zone was an area of land at the end of a runway within which development was restricted in order to control the number of people on the ground at risk of death or injury in the event of an aircraft accident on take off or landing, the risks were assessed using a computer model which took into account the number and types of aircraft predicted to be using the runway in 15 years time, the likely indication of any crash and the probable size of any crash site. A Public Safety Zone was now required at Coventry due to the level of traffic using the airport and was based on the airport operator's figure of 84,725 air transport movements per year by 2014 which reflected the current use of the interim passenger facility on the site with its throughput of up to 0.98 million passengers per annum and the current proposal for a permanent passenger terminal and its throughput of up to 2 million passengers per annum which was intended to be achieved by 2014.

RESOLVED that the City Council support the establishment of Public Safety Zones at Coventry Airport as indicated in the Department of Transport document.

54. Medium Term Financial Strategy 2006-2010

Further to Minute 117/06 of the Cabinet, the City Council considered a report of the Director of Finance and ICT which presented the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2006-2010 together with a briefing note which set out recommended amendments to the Strategy resulting from the meeting of Scrutiny Board (1) (Culture, Leisure and Libraries, Finance, Procurement and Value for Money, Human Resources, Corporate and Customer Services, Audit Issues) on 18th October, 2006 (their Minute 31/06 refers).

The City Council had operated medium term financial planning for many years and had formally approved the current medium term financial strategy in December

2005. The report recommended that the updated strategy, appended to the report submitted, be adopted to support the medium term policy and financial planning process that is at the heart of the setting of the revenue and capital budgets. The strategy had two main objectives:-

- To enable the financial plans to support the delivery of the objectives laid out in the Corporate Plan.
- To set a sound financial planning framework to underpin the effective financial management of the Council.

The revised version of the strategy was more concise than versions approved previously and excluded some of the more detailed technical aspects concentrating more on the strategic direction of the financial planning framework.

Scrutiny Board (1) had been broadly supportive of the medium term financial strategy, and had made comments reflecting a desire to see some marginal changes relating to the preciseness of the language, clarity of understanding and the level of detail provided. The Cabinet Member (Finance, Procurement and Value for Money) had regarded the comments as helpful in terms of the development of the strategy and approved a series of changes, set out in the associated briefing note circulated, to address the points raised by Scrutiny Board (1).

RESOLVED that the City Council approve the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy document as appended to the report submitted subject to the inclusion of those amendments requested by Scrutiny Board (1) at their meeting on 18th October, 2006, and as set out in the briefing note circulated.

55. Appointments to Outside Bodies – Destination Management Partnership

The City Council considered a report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services which sought approval to nominate an elected member to the Destination Management Partnership.

Discussions were underway with South Warwickshire Tourism, Warwickshire County Council and Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership regarding the formation of a joint tourism agency for Coventry and Warwickshire. A statement of intent had been signed by all parties involved and a shadow board was being established prior to the actual formation of the organisation. Two places on the board had been allocated to Coventry, one for a City Council nominee and the other for a CV One nominee.

RESOLVED that the City Council nominate the Cabinet Member (Urban Regeneration and Regional Planning) to take up the place allocated to the City Council on the Destination Management Partnership Shadow Board/Board.

56. Change to Membership of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

The City Council considered a proposal to replace Councillor Patton on the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee with Councillor Bains.

RESOLVED that the City Council approve the replacement of Councillor Patton with Councillor Bains on the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee.

57. Debate – Commercial Property Disposals

Councillor Batten moved the following motion, which was seconded by Councillor Mrs. Lucas:-

"This Council supports the identification strategy for poor performing, rack rented commercial property assets to be considered for disposal but requires:-

1. A public report as to the funding for the amount of external costs that will be incurred by the Council as a result of the actions arising out of the commercial property portfolio review.
2. Requires all commercial property disposals to be referred by public/private report for approval by the Cabinet Member (Urban Regeneration and Regional Planning) with no delegation permitted of the exercise of such powers, and for such powers to be exercised only after each and every disposal has been referred to the Ward Forum of the ward in which the disposal will occur so that the Ward Forum has the opportunity to make both oral and written representations to the Cabinet Member (Urban Regeneration and Regional Planning)."

RESOLVED that the notice of motion be not adopted.

(NOTE: The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.)