

**SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE**

**3rd January, 2007**

Members Present:- Councillor Asif  
Councillor Bains  
Councillor Clifford (substitute for Councillor Duggins)  
Councillor Crookes (substitute for Councillor Williams)  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Mutton  
Councillor Ridge (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor Sawdon (Chair)

Other Scrutiny  
Members Present:- Councillor Mrs. Dixon  
Councillor Mrs. Lucas

Cabinet Member  
Present:- Councillor Ridley (Cabinet Member (Culture, Leisure and  
Libraries))

Employees Present:- J. Bolton (Director of Community Services)  
K. Rice (Legal and Democratic Services Directorate)  
C. Steele (Chief Executive's Directorate)  
A. Townsend (Legal and Democratic Services Directorate)  
R. Vaughan (Community Services Directorate)

Apologies:- Councillor Duggins  
Councillor Williams

**141. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Sawdon declared a personal interest in the matter the subject of Minute 149/06 below headed "Report Back on the Work of Outside Bodies – Coventry Airport Consultative Committee" as his property lay in the flight path of Coventry Airport.

**142. Call-Ins Stage 1**

The Head of Legal Services reported on the following call-in that had been received during the week commencing 18th December, 2006, when there had been no scheduled meeting of this committee:-

**Review of Library Buildings**

The report had been called-in by Councillors Clifford, Skipper and Mrs. Lucas.

The reason for the call-in was, "to understand the impact on young users now having a maximum period of 15 mins on the computers as opposed to the one hour they had at Holbrooks Library. Also, to understand what discussions (if any) took place with Childrens Services about the impact closing Holbrook Library would have on the children

who currently use the facility in terms of their educational opportunities. What was Childrens Services response?"

The Committee considered that the call-in in light of the approved criteria for determining whether call-ins were appropriate (Minute 1/02 refers). The Committee noted that the deadline for call-ins from Cabinet and Cabinet Member decisions made during the week commencing 18th December, 2006, was 9.00 a.m. on Friday, 5th January, 2007. Any call-ins received after this meeting and before that deadline would be considered for validity by the Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee in consultation with the Director of Legal and Democratic Services (4.5.25.4 of the City Council's Constitution refers).

**RESOLVED that the call-in outlined above be determined as not appropriate and that the three Members calling in the decision, be informed accordingly.**

(NOTES:

- (1) Councillor Mutton opposed the proposal to reject the call-in and requested that his opposition be noted, he also requested that it be noted that he intended to make a formal complaint to the Chief Executive as he believed that issues which had come to light after the meeting on 12th December, 2006, regarding the closure of Holbrooks Library could not now be addressed.
- (2) The Committee formally voted on a proposal to reject the call-in as invalid, the following votes were cast:-

<b><u>For</u></b>	<b><u>Against</u></b>	<b><u>Abstain</u></b>
4 votes	3 votes	0 votes)

143. **Understanding the Future: Priorities for England's Museums – Response to Consultation Document from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community Services that set out a proposed response to a consultation document issued by the department of Culture, Media and Sport that set out the department's priorities for England's museums over the next decade. The department was undertaking a three stage consultation process to arrive at a set of priorities for all museums in England and the public programmes that support them, this was the second part of the process and responses to this document would inform the third stage which would involve holding a series of five seminars on each of the chapters of the consultation document: learning; identity; collections; workforce; and structures. An action plan would then be prepared based on the response to the consultation document and the seminars which was intended to set out the first steps to deliver the priorities and timescales for developing "an ambitious, long term project". The report was scheduled to go to Cabinet and then to Council at their meeting on 23rd January, 2006; the appendix to the report set out the proposed response from the City Council.

The Committee questioned the Cabinet Member and officers on aspects of the report and museums in the city including the potential for the display of collections in

locations outside the museums, the long term sustainability of museums without entry fees and the timescale for response set by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

**RESOLVED that the Committee supported the draft response and requested that the final response should indicate to Government that more time should be allowed to respond to consultation documents in order to enable thorough consultation to take place, particularly in view of the need to ensure that Scrutiny Members are fully involved in the process.**

**144. Report Back on Conference – Partner City Market, 21st-24th July 2006, Dresden, Germany – Additional Information**

The Committee considered and noted a report of the Head of Corporate Policy on the above conference which had taken place in Dresden, Germany, between 21st and 24th July, 2006, and included some additional information as requested by this Committee at their meeting on 13th December, 2006, (Minute 137/06 refers).

**145. Report Back on the Work of Outside Bodies – Whitefriars Housing Group**

The Committee considered a report of Councillor Charley which detailed the work of the Whitefriars Housing Group over the previous 12 months and included attendance records for the City Council's representatives at meetings of the Board.

**RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend that the City Council continue to nominate to Whitefriars Housing Group.**

**146. Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) Sub-Group**

The Committee considered a report of the Leader of the Council that detailed the work of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) Sub-Group over the previous 12 months and included attendance records for the City Council's representatives at meetings of the Group.

**RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommends that the City Council continue to nominate to the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) Sub-Group.**

**147. Martha Flint and Emma Osmond Educational Foundation**

The Committee considered a report of Councillor Clifford that detailed the work of the Martha Flint and Emma Osmond Educational Foundation over the previous 12 months and included attendance records for the City Council's representative at meetings of the Foundation.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (1) That the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend that the City Council continue to nominate to the Martha Flint and Emma Osmond Educational Foundation.**
- (2) That officers be requested to clarify the requirements on the City Council regarding nominations to the Foundation.**

148. **Daimler Green Community Trust**

With reference to Minute 282/05, the Committee considered a report of Councillor Ms. Hunter which details the work of the Daimler Green Community Recreation Trust over the previous six months, this report was an interim report which had been requested by the Committee at their meeting on 19th April, 2006, given that the Trust had received some serious setbacks in their establishment.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (1) **The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend that the City Council continue to appoint to the Daimler Green Community Recreation Trust.**
- (2) **That the officers be requested to obtain attendance records for the City Council's representatives at meetings of the Trust over the previous six months.**

149. **Report Back on the Work of Outside Bodies – Coventry Airport Consultative Committee**

The Committee considered a report of Councillor Mrs. Dixon that detailed the work of the Coventry Airport Consultative Committee over the previous 12 months and included attendance records for the City Council's representatives at meetings of the Committee.

The Committee questioned Councillor Mrs. Dixon on aspects of the report, in particular the new aircraft being brought into use, chairmanship of the Committee and the makeup of the Committee. The Committee were concerned that previously two places had been allocated on the Coventry Airport Consultative Committee to City Council representatives, one of which was required to be a Binley and Willenhall Councillor, this representation had been reduced to one and there was no stipulation that it should be a Binley and Willenhall Councillor.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (1) **That the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee recommend that the City Council continue to nominate to the Coventry Airport Consultative Committee.**
- (2) **That officers be requested to write to the Chair of the Consultative Committee requesting they reconsider the number of places allocated to the City Council.**

150. **Outstanding Issues**

The Committee considered and noted a report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services which identified those issues on which further reports had been requested in order that Members could monitor progress.

151. **Work Programme 2006-2007**

The Committee considered and noted the Work Programme for the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee for the 2006-2007 Municipal year.

**RESOLVED that the quarterly progress reports from the Scrutiny Board Chairs be submitted to the meeting of this Committee on 31st January, 2007.**