

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 24 JUNE 2008 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Jones, R. (Chairman)
Jillings, J. (Vice-Chairman)

Bullock, L.W. Mawle, D. L.
Grocott, M. R. Todd, Mrs. D.M.

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K. L. Bennett and M. R. Green).

1. Minutes

AGREED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Safer & Stronger Communities Select Committee held on 31 March 2008 be received for information.

2. Presentation on the role and remit of the Safer & Stronger Communities Policy Development Committee

Mr. Philip Lloyd-Williams, the Director of Governance circulated a handout which gave a brief overview of the role and remit of the Scrutiny Committee and Policy Development Committees. He explained that the role of the Policy Development Committees would be to review current Council policies, consider future policy development and make proposals to Cabinet. They would not act as a Scrutiny function as this would be undertaken by the Scrutiny Committee and the Performance and Partnerships Scrutiny Sub Committee. The Policy Development Committees would also be able to engage with stakeholders and the community to encourage policy development.

Members were informed that the key issue for the Policy Development Committee would be to look towards the future and consider how to improve services, together with other partners, to make Cannock Chase a safer and stronger place.

Concern was raised with respect to the lack of Scrutiny Committee meetings in the last Municipal Year. The Committee were informed by the Scrutiny Committee Chairman, that meetings would be held every six weeks and a comprehensive Work Programme would be formulated.

3. **Development of a Work Programme for 2008/09**

The Committee were informed that Mr. S. Shilvock, Head of Environmental Health would, for the present, be the lead officer, for the Safer & Stronger Communities Policy Development Committee

A copy of a Draft Work Programme was circulated which listed the following topics as possible issues for consideration:-

- Domestic Violence
- District Alcohol Strategy
- Environmental enforcement activity
- Developing a strategy for addressing anti social behaviour
- Parenting Programmes – presentation from Staffordshire Youth Offending Service on countywide delivery of Parenting Programme
- Gating Orders – the use of gating orders in tackling fly tipping and anti social behaviour and the criteria and process for making an application
- Development of a Safer and Stronger Communities communications strategy
- Understanding our communities – working with the community and voluntary sector to engage with local communities
- CCTV – their role in Cannock Chase for reassuring the public and preventing/detering and enforcing against crime and disorder
- 2009/10 community safety priorities and refreshing the partnership plan
- To consider the cumulative effects of premises licences in certain areas to determine if a cumulative impact policy is required.

The Committee requested that the following issues should also be considered:-

- Neighbourhood Watch
- Recognition for companies who take action to keep their surrounding areas clear of litter etc.
- Respect agenda
- Fireworks and associated problems
- The increasing number of businesses being broken into and the work undertaken by Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)
- Feedback from Inspectors on Safer & Stronger Inspection recently carried out

The Committee were concerned that some of the issues they may consider could potentially overlap with the work of other Policy Development Committees.

In view of the large number of topics it was considered that they be prioritised with the items 'Feedback from the Inspectors on the Safer & Stronger Inspection' and 'Neighbourhood Watch' issues to be considered initially. It was requested that a copy of the Safer & Stronger Communities Inspection – Self Assessment for Cannock Chase District 2008 be forwarded to Members of the Committee.

AGREED:

- (A) That the Head of Environmental Health formulates a Work Programme for 2008/09 and that the items 'Feedback from the Inspectors on the Safer & Stronger Inspection' and 'Neighbourhood Watch' be considered initially.
- (B) That a copy of the Safer & Stronger Communities Inspection – Self Assessment for Cannock Chase District 2008 be forwarded to Members of the Committee.

CHAIRMAN