

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SOCIAL INCLUSION AND HOUSING SELECT COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 9 JANUARY 2006 AT 4.00 P.M.
CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Collis, C. (Chairman)
Hewitt, S.M. (Vice-Chairman)

Grice, Mrs. D. Morgan, C.W.J.
Hodges, E.J. Williams, A.

Also present: Chase Tenants' and Residents' Federation Representatives: -

Mr. L. Lloyd Mr. A. Derry
Mr. R. Wells Mrs. D. Whitehouse

Prior to commencement of the meeting the Chairman reported that apologies were submitted from both Christine Graham at Disability Services and Marek Frank from the Council.

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J. Toth, Mrs. H. Heath and Mrs. A. Ames representing Chase Tenants' and Residents' Federation and Dr. J. Bond, Head of Policy and Performance).

13. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
Hodges, E.J.	Member of Norton Canes Parish Council	Personal
Morgan, C.W.J.	Council Tenant	Personal

14. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2005 were approved as a correct record.

The Performance Review Manager explained that as part of the current review being undertaken by the Committee, Members and those representatives of the Chase Tenants' and Residents' Federation should consider any further issues for discussion. Recommendations would then be agreed at the meeting in March.

A number of items were raised for consideration as part of the current review, which included the following: -

- At the last meeting of the Committee an item was raised with regard to access issues at polling stations within the District for people with disabilities. Members of the Committee then discussed the issue. The Chairman then explained that he had requested officers to take into account all polling stations including temporary stations within the District when assessing accessibility and suitability.
- It was reported that members of the public appeared to be unaware of the benefits they were entitled to from the Council. Discussion took place regarding how the Council made people aware of this, what they were entitled to and if people don't know, how could they benefit.
- Equipment removed and discarded from void properties. Members discussed the possibility of retaining equipment from void properties, and in particular ramps used at the front of properties. Members requested a report setting out costs of retaining/replacing equipment.
- Access and security issues for disabled persons at the back of properties.
- Tenant representatives raised an issue regarding the assessment of properties for disabled equipment. It was reported that residents were not usually asked what equipment they felt was necessary for their home. Therefore, on occasions the property results in having the wrong equipment.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That a meeting of the Social Inclusion and Housing Select Committee be arranged for 6 February 2006 at 4.00 p.m. to receive information from Christine Graham of Disability Services and Marek Frank from the Council regarding access issues.
- (B) That information be obtained for the next Social Inclusion and Housing Select Committee on 6 February 2006 detailing the responsibilities of both the Council and Social Services for equipment adaptations for people with disabilities.
- (C) That an officer from the Housing department be invited to attend the Social Inclusion and Housing Select Committee on 6 March 2006 to provide information on the policy on the retention of adaptations.

CHAIRMAN