

**Minutes: of the meeting of the Surrey County Council Local Committee in Epsom and Ewell held at 19.00 on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2003 at Ebbisham Centre, Epsom.**

**Members Present – Surrey County Council**

Mr Chris Frost (Epsom and Ewell South East) (Chairman)	Jean Smith (Epsom and Ewell North)
Mrs Jan Mason (Epsom and Ewell West) (Vice Chairman)	Colin Taylor (Epsom and Ewell West)
NRM Petrie Esq. MBE (Epsom and Ewell North East)	

**Members Present – Epsom and Ewell Borough Council**

Cllr Sheila Carlson (Court)	Cllr Michael Arthur (Ewell)
Cllr Graham Dudley (Cuddington)	Cllr David Wood (Nonsuch)
Cllr Paul Green (Stamford)	

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**PART ONE**

**IN PUBLIC**

[All references to items refer to the agenda for the meeting]

- 80/03 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]**  
Cllr Michael Arthur substituted for Cllr Michael Richardson. Cllr Graham Dudley substituted for Cllr Simona Hartley. Cllr Sheila Carlson substituted for Cllr Alan Carlson.
- 81/03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 2]**  
No declarations of interest.
- 82/03 **PETITIONS [Item 3]**  
No petitions were received.
- 83/03 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS TIME [Item 4]**  
No public questions were received.
- 84/03 **MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME [Item 5]**  
Questions were received from Cllr Paul Green, Cllr Michael Arthur and Mr Nigel Petrie under Standing Order 45. Copies of the questions and replies were circulated at the meeting and will be interleaved with the agenda.

Mr Nigel Petrie asked a supplementary question:

“What arrangements can this Committee make to help enforce section 224 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 to remove illegal fly posting?”

He was informed that Epsom & Ewell Local Transport Service are in the process of recruiting an Officer to deal specifically with the issue of fly posting.

**85/03 ANNUAL REPORT ON LIBRARY SERVICE [Item 6]**

The Officer introduced the report.

Members suggested that the mobile library could make additional stops at Nonsuch, Clarendon Park, Watersedge and supermarket car parks.

The Officer responded that routes for the mobile library service will be looked at again next year and Members will be consulted.

Members inquired if it would be possible to have signs to indicate where the mobile library stops. The Officer responded that she would investigate this and inform the Committee.

Members asked about the issue of library opening hours. The Officer responded that a survey into opening hours would be carried out. Carrying out a survey raises the public's expectations that opening hours will change. The Officer explained that private funding might have to be explored if opening hours are to be extended, because no further funding will be available from the County centrally.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

- i) that the range of service developments in Epsom & Ewell be noted;
- ii) that stops at Nonsuch, Clarendon Park, Watersedge and supermarket car parks be considered for the mobile library service.

**86/03 BOROUGH PROFILE [Item 7]**

The Officer introduced the report.

Members congratulated Officers on an excellent report and asked that it be shared with Borough Officers. Members stated that the census was very useful as it provided evidence of need. It highlighted that certain wards such as Court, Ruxley and Town rated more highly in the deprivation indicators and wanted to know what was the County planning to do to address this?

The Officer responded that the profile had been given to Borough Officers. The Officer stated that the self-reliance programme will help to address issues in Court and Ruxley.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

That the report be noted and commended to Borough Council Officers.

**87/03 WASTE SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT [Item 8]**

The Officer introduced the report.

A Borough Councillor stated that the Borough had introduced new waste vehicles and recycling boxes. The introduction of these will increase the amount of recycling in the Borough.

Members are unhappy with the design of the Blenheim Road Civic Amenity Site. The poor design prevents people from using it.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

- i) the local committee support the County Council's use of financial incentives to encourage Epsom & Ewell Borough Council to introduce and promote waste minimisation initiatives in the area;
- ii) the local committee support County Council's aim of negotiating with SITA the continuation of the unique and successful landfill tax credits/ SITA Surrey Partnership scheme.
- iii) The Mailing Preference Service be supported within Epsom & Ewell.

88/03 **STRUCTURE PLAN [Item 9]**

The Officer introduced the report.

Members were concerned that new targets for the number of houses to be built were continually being set and it was never reported if the targets had been met. Members wanted to know if it would be possible to measure if the Borough was meeting its housing targets?

The Officer responded that some form of measuring would be possible as a baseline from which to calculate progress now exists.

Members inquired whether the aim of 40% affordable housing was achievable, as the planning requirement did not apply to small sites and developers were developing in a piecemeal fashion.

The Officer responded that the 40% requirement could be extended to smaller sites through the Public Service Agreement.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

- i) that the changes made to the Deposit Draft of the Structure Plan be noted in advance of the examination in Public and the impact of the re-allocation of the housing target;
- ii) that County Officers be urged to work closely with their Borough and District colleagues to put in place robust policies to ensure that the impact of the development of small town sites on infrastructure needs be recognised and dealt with through planning gain mechanisms;
- iii) that Officers be requested to investigate all planning applications for residential development to ensure that they will not present problems with water supply or local drainage;
- iv) that a further report be received when Officers have completed their consideration of options to change affordable housing policies and targets.

89/03 **CCTV [Item 10]**

The Officer introduced the report.

Members were concerned about how effective CCTV was in the long term. Members also enquired if the Borough Councillors have been consulted.

The Officer responded that Borough Councillors had not been consulted, but Borough Officers had been. The Officer stated that he hoped to have one monitoring station per police division.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

- i) that the Local Director continues discussions with Epsom & Ewell Borough Council, other Borough and Districts and Surrey Police seeking to the formation of a two or more Borough monitoring station of sufficient size to justify a permanent police presence;
- ii) the Executive be requested to support investigating the development of a two or more Borough monitoring station and provide technical and professional support as required; and
- iii) the Committee receive further reports as appropriate.

**90/03 LOCAL PRIORITIES (Item 11)**

The Officer introduced the report.

Members asked if a more concise list could be produced and would like the priorities to be more strategic.

The Officer responded that he would produce a thematic list of local priorities which could be put forward for inclusion in Making Surrey A Better Place.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

That the Local Director create a thematic list of issues to be agreed by Members as the Local Committee's submission to Making Surrey A Better Place for 2004/05.

**91/03 REVIEW OF LOCAL COMMITTEES (Item 12)**

It was then

**RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

**92/03 BREAKING THE CYCLE (Item 13)**

The Officer introduced the report.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

**93/03 LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK (Item 14)**

The Officers introduced the report.

Members were in favour of the events planned by the Youth Service in partnership with YELL for Local Democracy week. Members also agreed to ask YELL to attend the Local Committee's meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

- i) that the report be noted;
- ii) that the Committee invite YELL to attend the Committee's meeting in December.

94/03 **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES (Item 15)**

The Officers introduced the report.

Members deferred making a decision on purchasing 2 vehicle activated signs and contributing towards funding Police Community Support Officers until more research had been carried out.

It was then

**RESOLVED**

The Committee agreed to fund:

- i) £400 for rehearsal space for the Peoples Theatre Company at the Edge youth centre (Jean Smith);
- ii) £3,812 to support a drop in social club run by the charity "Re-think" (Colin Taylor)
- iii) £1,000 towards creating a nature study at Auriol School (Jean Smith);
- iv) £3,000 to support Friends Care (Chris Frost (£1,000), Colin Taylor (£1,000), Jan Mason (£500), Nigel Petrie (£500);
- v) £2,395 for an interactive whiteboard for Danetree School (Jan Mason);

The Committee deferred consideration of

- i) the purchase of 2 vehicle activated signs be deferred;
- ii) supporting Police Community Support Officers be deferred.

95/03 **FLEXIBLE FORWARD PLAN & ROLLING LIST OF OUTSTANDING DECISIONS (Item 16)**

It was

**RESOLVED**

That the report was noted.

**[Meeting ended 22:05]**

**CHAIRMAN**