



Minutes of the Local Committee for Woking
General Agenda
Meeting held at 5.00 pm on 20 October 2005
at
the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Woking

Mrs Val Tinney – Chairman
Mrs Elizabeth Compton – Vice Chairman
Mr Andrew Crisp
Mr Geoff Marlow
Mrs Diana Smith
Mr Shamas Tabrez

Part One – In Public

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

35/05 Apologies for absence [Item 1]

Mr Doran gave his apologies for absence.

36/05 Minutes of last meeting held on 18 October 2005 [Item 2]

A correction was made to minute 30/05 where 'Local Transportation Director (LTD)' was replaced with 'Area Director (AD)'. The minutes were then agreed and signed.

37/05 Declarations of interests [Item 3]

In accordance with Standing Order 60, Mr Marlow declared three personal interests in relation to Item 8 on Allocating Local Committee Funding.

38/05 **Petitions** [Item 4]

There were no petitions received.

39/05 **Written Public Questions** [Item 5]

There were no public questions received.

40/05 **Written Member Questions** [Item 6]

A copy of the questions and answers can be found in annex 1.

Executive Functions

41/05 **Waste Local Plan** [Item 7]

David Lamb, Team Leader Minerals and Waste, gave a presentation on the Surrey Waste Plan which is out for consultation from 31 October to 12 December 2005. He outlined the consultation process and the contents of the plan. The Plan is an enabling plan which means that it provides a platform for others to put forward proposals.

In relation to Woking, Martyrs Lane Civic Amenity Site has been identified as needing improvements.

There are five industrial estates in Woking that have been identified as having potential for accommodating waste. These are Wintersells Industrial Estate, Byfleet, Byfleet Industrial Estate, Monument Bridge East Industrial Estate, Goldsworth Park Trading Estate and Sheerwater Industrial Estate.

The plan has identified nine Green Belt sites to be safeguarded for facilities for recycling, storage, transfer and processing including Heather Farm and Martyrs Lane in Woking. With regard to thermal treatment Martyrs Lane has been identified as a safeguarded site but is not the preferred site.

Following the consultation it is envisaged that the revised plan will be submitted to Government in June 2006. This will be followed by an examination in public in February 2007. The plan will be scheduled for adoption in September 2007.

In response to a question from Mrs Smith it was noted that Heather Farm is not currently included as a safeguarded site for thermal treatment as the visual impact statement has not been received. Once this has been received it may be considered as a potential site.

Potential new sites put forward would be considered if they are available and pass an initial assessment from transport development control.

In response to a further question on the proximity principle it was noted that the term has now been dropped and a new statement adopted - 'to enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations'. The major drawback for the Capel site is its distance from the rest of Surrey. It was noted that new technologies do not necessarily mean smaller plants and that there are very few examples of commercially operated sites to go on.

The Chairman thanked Mr Lamb for his presentation.

42/05 Allocating Local Committee Funding: Members' Allocations
[Item 8]

In accordance with Standing Order 60, Mr Marlow declared a personal interest in relation to this item.

Members noted that three organisations had applied for funding previously and that the Members' Allocation fund was supposed to be used as a one off funding source.

As the Friends of West Byfleet Library had received funding before for different items it was agreed to fund only two of the chairs requested. The other two would be considered at the end of the financial year if there was any allocation left.

Due to the small amount of capital remaining it was suggested that the remaining £520.50 should be allocated to Woking Hospice.

Regarding the Community Sports Coach for Woking, it was noted that this money was a one off.

It was noted that the application for the Garden Project for £5,000 was withdrawn as they had received lottery funding.

Mrs Smith commented that some areas of the borough get more allocated funds than others. Mr Crisp noted that it had been agreed previously to review the pooling of the allocations next year. It was suggested that the process could be looked at during the Local Committee awayday in November.

It was confirmed that WAVS were aware of the Members' Allocation Fund and the process for applying.

RESOLVED

Members agreed the following allocations:

Byfleet Boat Club – Storage Shed and Jetty	£3,800
Brightening children's area of library	£198
Coldharbour Lunch Club	£300
Two arm chairs for West Byfleet Library	£693.25
Trailer for Sea Cadets	£595
Air Conditioning for Woking Hospice	£2,020.50
Brookwood School Centenary	£3,800
Multi Sport – Community Sports Coach for Woking	£3,000
Eating Disorders Support Groups	£1,000
Byfleet Village Football Club	£2,000
Byfleet Remembrance Sunday Parade: To pay for music at the service on 13 November 2005.	£70

The Garden Project request for funding was withdrawn.

43/05 Exclusion of the Press and Public [Item 10]

There was no business that required the public to be excluded from the meeting under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

[The meeting ended at 5.45pm]

Chairman

Local Committee for Woking 20 October 2005

Annex 1

Member questions on general matters

The following questions were received from Cllr John Doran:

1. As the majority of residents are concentrating on Woking BC's plans for a waste treatment plant on the Heather Farm site, could officers please tell me how they will ensure adequate participation of residents in the consultation on the Waste Plan, in particular the inclusion of Martyr's Lane as a possible thermal treatment plant.
2. What are the new dates for the County Hall project? how can the council justify continuing with this expensive project in the light of the announcement of consultants being used to find more than £50 million pounds worth of savings in Council spending in 06/07.

1. David Lamb, Team Leader Minerals and Waste Policy and Plans, responded:

The County Council has an extensive consultation planned for the Waste Plan. There will be press releases and media bulletins issued, as well as statutory notices placed in newspapers across the county, plus publicity in County Council publications. Copies of all the documentation will be available for inspection in libraries and district council offices, as well as being on the County Council's and some district councils' websites.

There will be an awareness campaign aiming to target Surrey's 'Hard to Reach' groups such as commuters, teenagers, mothers, the elderly, with postcards being distributed at railway stations, supermarkets, schools and leisure centres.

All those who have already made representations in the earlier phases of consultation on the Waste Plan will be sent a leaflet, and there will be e-mail notification to a much wider database.

A key stakeholder workshop on the Waste Plan was held in Woking on 13 October. Hilary Herbert, Head of Minerals and Waste Planning, and David Munro, Executive Member for the Environment, are meeting on 19 October with Woking Action Group representatives and residents associations from Woodham, Horsell, Chobham, Byfleet, West Byfleet, Pyrford, Knaphill, Goldsworth Park, Hook Heath and the Hockering, with confirmation awaited from other groups. Officers are also giving presentations to local committees around the county.

Officers will be happy to respond to any consultation requests in respect of Martyrs Lane, as they will for any other site, subject to the availability of staff and resources. It would be inappropriate, and potentially challengeable, to undertake special consultation measures in respect of any particular site.

2. Mark Burgess, Project Manager- Office Project, responded:

It is intended that the revised Office Project business case go back to the Executive on the 6th December 2005. Subject to the Executive decision, the contract would be finalised early January 2006, with construction commencing soon thereafter for a 2 year construction period.

No final decision has been taken on the Office Project and the costs are still under review. The project must be financially viable for it to proceed.

The following questions were received from Cllr Diana Smith:

1. Youth Service:

- a) What is the current situation with regard to staffing and the provision of activities for young people at Lakers and at the Woking Youth Arts Centre?
- b) Is the attempt to recruit a full-time Neighbourhood Worker for West Woking currently continuing actively?

2. What progress is being made with leasing the ground floor of 4 Anchor Crescent, Knaphill, now that planning permission for change of use to the new library has been obtained?

1. David Waine, Area Youth Manager, responded:

1. a) Lakers Youth Centre: A new Youth Worker-in-Charge started last Wednesday. Similar to the Worker-in-Charge at WYAC, he has substantial experience of working with young people within the voluntary sector. His first priority is to recruit some additional part-time youth workers to support him.

In the meantime the Worker-in-Charge will be working with the Schools Youth Development Worker to make links with young people in local schools to Lakers, to identify their needs and consequently establish a youth programme we can clearly evidence. Once the additional staff are recruited I envisage Lakers building again to being open at least 4 evenings a week with study support sessions going on after school like many of our other facilities offer.

A case is at present being made at Director level in order to get authorisation to recruit the additional part time Staff. We are expecting a favourable response.

Woking Youth Arts Centre: We have appointed a Youth Worker-in-Charge who has considerable experience both in the arts and in working with young people within the voluntary sector. Additionally, 3 other part-time youth arts workers have been appointed and are currently going through induction and basic training.

At present WYAC is open for two evenings a week for the Live and Direct project which has 20+ young people - from a variety of Woking Schools - taking part on each night. Furthermore, the music studio and rehearsal room is well used with young people hiring the space - at a well subsidised rate - to practice and/or record demos with the assistance of our in-house engineer.

The intention is that the new team will devise around a dozen arts-based taster sessions which will start after Christmas, with the ones proving most popular being further developed into longer term projects. This will see the centre open regularly 4 nights a week, and weekends when appropriate.

The study support room will also be opening next month with young people being able to access it after school to undertake homework and use the Internet for research purposes. There will also be youth workers on hand to offer support where needed and sign young people up to any of the arts projects going on at the centre that they might be interested in.

b) Despite the appointment of a Leader in Charge at both Lakers Youth Centre and WYAC, we are still actively pursuing options that will enable us to fill this vacancy as soon as possible.

2. Rose Wilson, Area Manager Libraries North West Area, responded:

Following the success of the planning application on 12 October 2005, work is ongoing to achieve the new library.

On 13th October the contract for library interior design and refurbishment was awarded to the company JDS/Opening the book. These are leaders in library design and have successfully worked with many library authorities including Surrey to produce outstanding library designs. The current Ash and Horsley library interiors are examples of their work. Two planning meetings have already been held with them to date to progress the designs of the new library.

On the lease, all terms and conditions have been agreed, solicitors have been instructed and documentation is being processed. The project will be funded

by the sale of the old library site but arrangements are being made for the new library to progress without having to wait for this to happen.

Arrangements to carry out the building works are being set up. Taking into account the volume of work involved, tendering etc it is expected the new library will open in March but every effort will be made to bring the date as far forward as possible.