

Minutes of Health & Housing Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 27 May 2010 starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor S Hirst (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Brunskill	M Robinson
R Hargreaves	C Ross
B Hilton	G Scott
K Hind	J S Sutcliffe
J Holgate	D Taylor
E M H Ranson	J Waddington

In attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Development Services, Environmental Health Manager and Financial Services Manager.

Also in attendance: Councillor L Rimmer.

65 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence from the meeting.

66 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

67 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

68 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

69 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no references from Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

70 PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY FEES

The Director of Development Services submitted a report asking Committee to consider and approve the recommended scale of charges in relation to the Private Water Supplies (England) Regulations 2009. He reported that following the detailed report to this Committee in November 2008, the regulations had been delayed in their implementation and significantly amended, finally coming into effect on 1 January 2010. Within the Ribble Valley, there are some 296 private water supplies serving approximately 600 premises, the majority of which are domestic properties. This number has steadily increased over the past few

years mainly due to the large number of barns that have been converted into residential accommodation in remote locations not supplies by mains water. The regulations classify private supplies into three categories dependent on the number and type of premises served. The report that was presented to Committee in November 2008 referred to the scale of charges contained within the draft regulations. These had been significantly increased and as such it was considered essential for this matter to be returned to Committee for reconsideration and approval. The Environmental Health Manager reported that the risk assessments monitoring implementation and record keeping involved with the introduction of these regulations could be done within existing staff levels at this time.

RESOLVED: That Committee agree to adopt the recommended scale of administration fees and charges as set out in the report.

71 AFFORDABLE HOUSING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REVIEW

The Director of Development Services submitted a report informing Committee of suggested revisions to the Affordable Housing Memorandum of Understanding following a review. He made particular reference to the suggested amendments in the acknowledgement that this may all change again following the national change in government control and their proposals.

It was felt that for the time being, these amendments should go ahead even though the position may well change in due course.

RESOLVED: That Committee agree to publish the amendments for a period of six weeks for consultation, also refer the amendments to the Council's Planning and Development Committee for comments subject to there being no issues of significance as determined by the Strategic Housing Working Group raised by the consultation that the proposed amendments be incorporated into the Memorandum and that it be adopted.

72 REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE 2009/10

The Director of Development Services submitted a report looking at the key local performance indicators within the Environmental Health Plan for 2009/10. He highlighted key issues with regard to food hygiene, health and safety, air pollution, pest control and dog warden service and general complaints, and reported that an ongoing high performance had been achieved throughout the past 12 months in most areas and especially in relation to response times to service requests.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

73 NOTES OF MEETING HELD BETWEEN RVBC AND CRIME REDUCTION INITIATIVES

The notes of a meeting held between the Ribble Valley Borough Council and Crime Reduction Initiatives to discuss outreach facilities for substance abuse in Clitheroe were circulated for Committee's information.

Councillors that had attended this meeting had believed that there would be a residents meeting/open day prior to the next meeting in six months time. The Chief Executive said that he would investigate this matter.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

74 HEALTH PROMOTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES

Councillor Bridget Hilton gave a verbal update on the current state of the PCT in that there seemed to be a move to separate commissioner and providers with option papers being considered. She reported that the Director of Central Lancashire was currently covering all of East Lancashire.

There had been no decision made with regard to the Clitheroe Hospital, the Clitheroe GPs were currently struggling with treatment room service as there had been a recruitment freeze because of budget cuts/savings. She also reported that the SMYLES project was being revamped.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

75 GENERAL REPORT – DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The Director of Development Services submitted a report for Committee's information which included an update on the Environment Agency Liaison meeting, food safety, Clitheroe market, small particulates air quality monitoring survey, the Environmental Health newsletter, flood protection property grants, dog waste bins, Slaidburn public water supply and United Utilities water undertaking – Dilworth, Dunsop and Tosside.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

76 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports on representatives on outside bodies.

77 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the fact that the following items of business be an Exempt Information Under Categories 1 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

78

GENERAL REPORT – GRANTS

The Chief Executive submitted details of four disabled facilities grants and one landlord tenant grant which had been approved.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.33pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).