

Monday 11 April 2011
at 6.00pm



Scrutiny Committee

MEMBERSHIP:-

Councillor MARSDEN (Chairman) Councillors SZANTO (Deputy Chairman) BELSEY, Mrs POOLEY, Mrs SALSBURY, THOMPSON and Miss WOODALL.

25 Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2011 were submitted and approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a correct record.

26 Declarations of Interest.

None were received.

27 Devolved Budgets Year End 2010/2011.

The committee received a copy of the year end figures for the Devolved Budget Ward Scheme for 2010/2011. Members noted that there had been a total of 57 Schemes across Eastbourne this year with 98.8% of the total budget being spent.

NOTED.

28 Devolved Budgets and Neighbourhood Panels.

Members considered reports from St Anthonys, Sovereign and Upperton regarding the Devolved Budgets and Schemes for each ward. Details can be found at <http://www.eastbourne.gov.uk/council/ward-budgets/completed-projects/>

NOTED.

29 Neighbourhood Panels.

St Anthonys Ward – Councillor Harris agreed to provide a written response to the Committee following the meeting.

Sovereign – Councillor Salsbury update members on the progress of the Neighbourhood panels in Sovereign namely; Sovereign, Langney Point and Kingsmere/Kings Park. There had recently been a high profile campaign to deal with dog littering which had improved the cleanliness of parks and pathways in and around schools; speeding cars had also been an issue. Councillor Salsbury agreed that there was a good working relationship with the residents and the Police at each of the three Neighbourhood Panels.

Upperton – Councillor Marsden updated the committee as follows;

Issues included:

- Speeding traffic in a wide number of roads including: St. Annes Road, The Goffs, Carew Road
- Dog fouling: Gildredge Park, Watts Lane, Upperton/Hartfield Gardens
- Sporadic anti-social behaviour
- Parking Issues

Actions taken to counteract:

- Speed checks had been carried out
- Dog Warden had carried out checks but had limited availability
- Police and community enforcement officers were carrying out regular patrols for parking issues.

Successes within the Neighbourhood Panels:

- There had been a reduction of congestion outside Thomas a Beckett School
- Meeting had been held with controller of parking enforcement company to clarify role of wardens and their duties. Members raised some concerns about discrepancies with parking in certain loading bays 'after hours'.

Feedback from Community:

- Residents welcomed opportunities to report issues and noted the improvements in their areas.

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the importance of using the templates provided for both Devolved Budget and Neighbourhood Panel reports as it would aid the committee in comparing the Council's performance in future years. Templates were available from the Scrutiny Co-ordinator and were circulated to ward members a month prior to the committee meeting they were scheduled to report to.

NOTED.

30 Vote of Thanks.

The Committee expressed their thanks to the Chair and Deputy Chair for their dedication to improving the Scrutiny process and wished them well in their retirement from the Council following the forthcoming elections.

The Chair and Deputy Chair also expressed their thanks to Katie Armstrong, Scrutiny Co-ordinator for supporting them in their respective roles and facilitating the development of the Scrutiny process, and looked forward to following Scrutiny's progress in future years.

The meeting closed at 6.45 p.m.

Councillor Marsden
Chairman