

MINUTES OF SPECIAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON

15 January 2008

6.30pm-8.29pm

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Joshua Jolles (Chair)

Nick Churchill

Patrick McClarnon

Linda Pailing

APOLOGIES

Rob Eschle

Sean Folan

Su Lawton

32. COUNCILLOR ROB ESCHLE

The Committee wished to pass on its good wishes to Councillor Rob Eschle, who was indisposed and unable to attend this meeting.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

34. SCRUTINY REVIEW – PARKING AND ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SCHOOL RUN: TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference for this review be noted.

35. SCRUTINY REVIEW – PARKING AND ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SCHOOL RUN - CONSULTATION MEETING

The Chair welcomed everyone to this meeting, which was a follow up to the initial consultative committee meeting on 15 November 2007 (Minute 28 refers).

He was pleased to note the attendance of Councillor Hume and representatives of the highways department of Essex County Council, who had unfortunately been unable to attend the previous meeting.

The Committee noted the comments of the representatives from various schools and bodies who shared a concern about this issue and who had devoted considerable time and energy into addressing the problems of road safety around schools.

Representations were heard from a number of headteachers and school governors, who were in attendance in response to the Committee's invitation.

The Committee recognised that whilst a strategic view to the issue was required, there would also need to be individual approaches to find solutions at specific schools. In future, it was hoped that a strategic overview would ensure that road safety problems would be avoided by careful planning, with relevant organisations working together.

The Chair thanked all the participants in the meeting for their valuable contributions, which had highlighted several areas to be explored in order to improve road safety and traffic congestion.

RECOMMENDED TO ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY

COMMITTEE that a Task Force be established (School Run Task Force), incorporating representatives from Essex County and Harlow District Councils, the Police, school governing bodies and other interested parties, to work constructively to produce solutions to school run and congestion problems.

36. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE