

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY
COMMITTEE HELD ON**

19 March 2009

7.30pm – 7.45pm

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Eddie Johnson (Chair)

Joel Charles (Vice Chair)

Sarah Jane Dangerfield

Tony Hall

Maggie Hulcoop

Sue Livings

Eleanor Macy

Lorna Spenceley

ALSO PRESENT

Linda Pailing
(arrived at 7.42pm)

87. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

88. **NON-CONTENTIOUS**

RESOLVED that the following items would be taken as non-contentious:

- Committee Forward Work Plan.
- Policy for Keeping Hens, Rabbits and Bees on Allotments.
- Chairs Report for 2009/2010.
- Review of Committee Decisions 2008/09.
- References from Other Committees – Licensing Committee.
- Grants Panel Minutes.

89. **COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PLAN**

RESOLVED to note the Committee Forward Work Plan.

90. **IDENTIFICATION OF PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES**

The Committee received a report on the implementation of the Committee's decision in February 2008 to improve the identification of private hire vehicles.

RESOLVED to approve the proposals, as set out in paragraph 13 of the report.

91. **KIER HARLOW PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT – ARRANGEMENTS & STANDARDS**

The Committee received a report detailing the arrangements, standards and processes in place to manage the performance of Kier Harlow Ltd, the Council's joint venture company partner.

RESOLVED

- (A) to approve the major and minor performance indicators and targets, as set out in Appendix 1;
- (B) that the Council's street cleaning standards be amended as set out in paragraph 18 of the report.

92. **POLICY FOR KEEPING HENS, RABBITS & BEES ON ALLOTMENTS**

The Committee received a report seeking to amend the current allotment tenancy conditions to permit the keeping of hens (not cockerels), rabbits and bees on allotments.

RESOLVED that

- (A) the tenancy conditions on the keeping of animals and birds on any Allotment Garden be amended to permit the keeping of hens (not Cockerels) and/or rabbits in compliance with the Allotments Act 1950;
- (B) no other livestock, animals or birds be permitted to be kept on allotments;
- (C) the guidelines for keeping hens on allotments, as set out in Appendix 2, be approved;
- (D) the guidelines for keeping rabbits on allotments, as set out in Appendix 3, be approved;

- (E) the guidelines for keeping bees on allotments, as set out in Appendix 4, be approved.

93. **CHAIR'S REPORT ON POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR 2009/2010**

RESOLVED to note the report.

94. **REVIEW OF COMMITTEE DECISIONS 2008/2009**

RESOLVED to note the review of decisions for 2008/2009.

95. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

- (A) Licensing Committee
19 January 2009

- (i) Regulation of Motor Salvage Operators

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Safety and Licensing Department be responsible for the registration of motor salvage operators and the maintenance of the public register;
- (b) the Safety and Licensing Manager be given delegated authority to make initial decisions in respect of refusal of an application to register, refusal to renew a registration and cancellation of an existing registration.

- (ii) Scrap Metal Dealers

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Safety & Licensing Department be responsible for the registration of scrap metal dealers and the maintenance of a public register.

- (iii) Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Vehicle Licence Conditions – Signage

RESOLVED that

- (a) “and only covers a maximum of two thirds of the rear windscreen area.” be deleted from the proposed additions in paragraph 7 of the report;

- (b) paragraph 9 be deleted;
 - (c) the modification to the vehicle conditions, as outlined in paragraphs 7 to 8 of the original report and as amended above, be agreed;
- (B) Scrutiny Committee
10 February 2009
- (i) Community Engagement

RESOLVED to note the reference from the Scrutiny Committee and refer it to the Policy and Resources Committee as the subject is more appropriately dealt with under paragraph 5 of its terms of reference.

96. **GRANTS PANEL MINUTES**

RESOLVED to note the minutes of the Grants Panel meetings held on 13 January 2009 and 29 January 2009.

97. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE