

MINUTES of a meeting of the **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - PLACES** held at County Hall, Matlock on 22 January 2014.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs K D Lauro (in the Chair)

Councillors Mrs E Atkins, Mrs Janet A Hill, Mrs C A Hart, R L Hosker, T Southerd and S A Spencer.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor D Williams.

In attendance – Councillor D Collins.

01/14 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6 November 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

02/14 **FLOODING ISSUES** Mr S Mead, Economy, Transport and Environment Department, gave a presentation on flooding occurrences during the recent inclement weather and progress on the preparation of the Flood Risk management strategy.

Recent flooding in Derbyshire had not been as severe as in other places in the country and the majority of incidents were related to flooded road. The cost to the Council to date had been approximately £30,000. Members were reminded that any local flooding incidents that they became aware of should be notified to the relevant officers in the Economy, transport and Environment Department.

03/14 **PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE**

Mr D Gibbs, Health and Communities Department, outlined the options proposed for achieving cost reductions from the Mobile Library Service. Four options for achieving cost reductions had been approved by Cabinet:

Option 1: Withdraw all 10 mobile library vehicles and cease to provide a mobile service

Option 2: Withdraw 8 standard mobile library vehicles, and maintain 2 MCVs (Maximum Capacity Vehicles) to provide a limited mobile service.

Option 3: Withdraw 8 mobile library vehicles, maintaining one MCV and one standard mobile library. The MCV would be used to serve larger communities whilst the standard vehicle would be used to deliver to housebound clients and to maintain the service to as many schools as possible.

There were a number of permutations between options 2 and 3 which would be explored through initial engagement and consultation with the public.

Option 4: In areas of Derbyshire changes to the mobile library service would mean that many individual stops would no longer be provided. However, should a community group or organisation wish to provide a more local service, e.g. in smaller rural villages, then the County Council may be able to offer appropriate support. An example of such provision might be working with communities to develop a network of drop-off points in accessible premises and other locations e.g. Children's Centres.

The financial implications of the various options were reported. Consultation was on-going and a final decision would be taken by Cabinet in September 2014.

Members made a number of comments on the proposals that Mr Gibbs would feed-in to the consultation.

RESOLVED that the proposals and the consultation be noted.

04/14 PART-NIGHT LIGHTING Mr P Booth, Economy, Transport and Environment Department, made a presentation on the progress on the part-night lighting scheme. The presentation referred to the on-going challenges for street lighting such as the required budget cuts, energy cost rises, managing the asset risk and contributing to the carbon reduction targets. The background to the part-night lighting scheme was outlined and experience in 120 parishes since its July 2012 introduction was reported. Monitoring of the impact of schemes continued and would inform future decisions.

Comment was made about the means of consulting on proposed schemes and the Cabinet member would be reviewing the arrangements that were in place. The scheme had been a success to date and consideration would be given to extending and this Committee would be consulted on proposals for the future.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

05/14 WORK PROGRAMME **RESOLVED** to note progress on the Committee's work programme.