

JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on Monday 19th March 2007 at the Town Hall, St Annes.

PRESENT:

From Wyre:

Members: Councillor Russell Forsyth (Leader) and Councillor Peter Pimbley.

Officers: Mr Jim Corry (Managing Director), Ms Jan Finch (Executive Director), Mr Barry Parsonage (Executive Director) and Mr Tom Pridmore (Head of Leisure, Cultural and Tourist Services).

From Fylde:

Members: Councillor John Coombes (Leader) and Councillor Paul Rigby (Finance and Efficiency Portfolio Holder).

Officers: Mr Philip Woodward (Chief Executive), Mr Dave Joy (Deputy Chief Executive), Mr Paul Norris (Executive Manager – Community & Cultural Services) and Mr Jamie Dixon (Snr. Operational Services Manager).

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Tim Ashton (Streetscene Portfolio Holder).

1. MINUTES.

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2006 were confirmed as a correct record.

2. WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE.

Mr Corry submitted a report on the performance of the Waste Management Service Contract. However, the number of missed bins and associated complaints had shown a marked increase during January 2007. Concerns were also expressed regarding the distribution of information literature, communication between the depots at Breck Road and Poulton Industrial Estate and the problem with green boxes being blown away in strong winds.

Mr Dixon explained that the depot fire on 14th January had stretched resources to the limit but that normal service had since been resumed and that improvements to the communication infrastructure had recently been completed.

There was concern expressed from both councils regarding a perceived decline in the street cleansing performance in certain locations; arterial roads were referred to specifically. Mr Dixon noted these concerns and explained that recently, in some locations, the normal street cleansing operations had been adversely affected by the unusually large quantities of windblown sand.

It was agreed that:

- (1) the report be noted and that the improved standards of performance be welcomed;
- (2) a joint Overview & Scrutiny review be carried out looking at the issue of missed bins and the provision of assisted collections.

3. PARTNERSHIP CONCORDAT.

Mr Woodward submitted a report on a draft Statement of Intent with regard to the development of arrangements for shared services between the two councils.

It was agreed that:

- (1) the concordat be reported to the next meetings of the respective councils for approval ;
- (2) appropriate publicity be arranged by the respective Chief Executives.

4. NWIN BIDS.

Mr Parsonage and Mr Joy reported on the latest situation with regards to accessing financial support from NWIN. Due to changing NWIN criteria, the original joint bid to support a roll-out of Systems Thinking had been withdrawn. However, a subsequent bid with Blackpool BC to fund a project manager for the Multi Area Agreement had been successful.

It was agreed that:

- (1) the report be noted.

5. LEISURE & THEATRES.

Mr Pridmore and Mr Norris reported on progress with developing joint working arrangements with regard to leisure and theatre management.

It was agreed that:

- (1) A scoping document and joint working template for all leisure and cultural services should be reported to the next joint committee meeting.

6. ASSET MANAGEMENT.

Ms Finch reported on progress with regard to joint working between Wyre, Fylde and Blackpool. All three councils were currently facing capacity issues in providing an asset management service.

It was agreed that:

- (1) The report be noted.

7. COASTAL DEFENCE FUNCTIONS.

Mr Corry introduced a report submitted by Rob Posner (Head of Engineering Services, Wyre BC) providing an update on progress relating to the shared service for coastal defence. Mr Corry said that arrangements were now in place for Wyre's Coastal and General Engineering Section to provide specified coastal defence, inspection and maintenance services to Fylde for a three year period from 1 January 2007.

it was agreed that:

- (1) the position as set out in the report be noted.
- (2) arrangements be made for members and officers of Fylde borough Council to visit the sea defences at Cleveleys.

8. STREETSCENE PROJECT BOARD.

Mr Parsonage gave a verbal report on the outcome of the last meeting of the Project Board which had taken place on 13th March 2007. It had been agreed that a project team be appointed to prepare the business case for a joint Streetscene service and that the project Board would now meet on a monthly basis to monitor the progress of the project team.

It was agreed that:

- (1) the actions proposed by the Streetscene Project Board be endorsed.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Joint Committee would take place in approximately three months time, at a date to be arranged by Wyre Borough Council and to be held at Wyre Borough Council.

The meeting started at 6.30 pm and finished at 7.45 pm.