

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

TUESDAY, 4TH JANUARY 2011 AT 6.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors S. R. Colella (Chairman), D. L. Pardoe (Vice-Chairman), A. N. Blagg, Mrs. M. Bunker, R. J. Deeming, Mrs. R. L. Dent, C. R. Scurrall, Mrs. C. J. Spencer, C. B. Taylor, C. J. Tidmarsh and L. J. Turner

Observers: Councillor M. J. A. Webb

Officers: Ms. J. Pickering and Ms. A. Scarce

38/10 **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths.

39/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS**

No declarations of interest were received.

40/10 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 23rd November 2010 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

41/10 **CABINET RESPONSE TO THE INQUIRY INTO THE ALVECHURCH MULTI-USE GAMES AREA**

The Chairman reminded Members that this item had been deferred from the previous meeting as the Portfolio Holder for Community Services had been unable to attend that meeting.

The Portfolio Holder for Community Services thanked Members for the opportunity to present the Cabinet Response to the Alvechurch Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) Inquiry and confirmed that subject to the amendment of the wording on some of the recommendations, Cabinet had agreed them and had been pleased with the in depth report that the Board had produced. The Portfolio Holder confirmed that several residents, who did not necessarily agree with the outcome of the investigation, had complimented the Council on how the investigation had been conducted. Officers confirmed that a copy of both the final report and Cabinet Response had been sent to each of the petitioners.

Members asked that the recommendations be monitored and that a progress report be brought to the Board on a regular basis. Officers confirmed that the recommendations would now be added to the Board's Quarterly Recommendation Tracker and a full review of the implementation of the recommendations would be carried out in November 2011.

42/10 **QUESTIONS TO WITNESSES 1ST FEBRUARY 2011**

The Chairman reminded Members that the meeting on 1st February 2011 would be to formally receive details of the Council's Annual Budget in order for the Board's comments to be fed through to the Cabinet. Members agreed that the main questions would be the impact of the Comprehensive Spending Review on the budget, the effect of this on service delivery, the proposals in place, together with the risks and impact on the community and their perception of how it would affect them.

Members also asked for an update on the current position in respect of the Railway Station and what funding, if any, would be available for the project.

Officers also advised Members that, in respect of the Planning item, an informal Local Development Framework (LDF) Working Party had been arranged for 13th January 2011 at 6.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, to which all Members had been invited. If Members of the Board had further questions which they would like to put to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, or if they were unable to attend the LDF Working Party meeting, she would then be invited to a future Board meeting.

The meeting closed at 6.48 p.m.

Chairman