

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

THURSDAY, 22ND JULY 2010 AT 6.00 P.M.

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

Observers: Councillor Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths, Councillor R. Hollingworth, Councillor J. D. Luck, Councillor M. Webb.

Invitees: Marie Green - Assistant Director. Bromsgrove District Housing Trust, Mr A. Humphries - Chairman of PACT, Ms S. Morgan – Petition 1 Organiser, Mr A. Cooke – Petition 2 Organiser, Miss E. Wightman – Petitioner 3 Organiser, Ms K. Caves - Worcestershire County Council Youth Support, Chief Inspector A. Burnet - West Mercia Police, Inspector J. Smith - West Mercia Police, PC S. Baker – Crime Risk Manager West Mercia Police.

Officers: Ms. J. Pickering, Mrs. A. Heighway, Mr. C. Santoriello-Smith, Mr. M. Carr and Ms. A. Scarce.

10/10 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. M. Bunker and C. B. Taylor.

11/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS**

Councillor Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths declared a personal interest in the MUGA Inquiry and withdrew from the Board, but remained present as a witness.

Councillor Mrs. C. J. Spencer declared a personal interest as a member of the Bromsgrove District Housing Trust Board.

12/10 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 15th June 2010 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

13/10 **INQUIRY - THE ALVECHURCH MULTI-USAGE GAMES AREA (MUGA)**

The Chairman welcomed invited witnesses and the general public to the meeting and explained the purpose of the Inquiry and the purpose of the

meeting. The Inquiry had been established by the Board in response to 3 petitions that had been received from members of the public on the future of the MUGA facilities at Swans Length, Alvechurch. The purpose of the Inquiry was to investigate the reported crime and disorder issues and the future options for the Multi Use Games Area facility at Swans Length, Alvechurch.

The terms of reference for the MUGA Inquiry were:

Aim:

To investigate the crime and disorder issues highlighted by residents and to consider the future options for the Multi Use Games Area facility at Swans Length, Alvechurch.

Objectives:

- i. To investigate the reported crime and disorder issues around the MUGA
- ii. To consider the value of the MUGA to local residents
- iii. To identify the possible options and associated costs and benefits for the MUGA.

The Chairman directed interviews with key witnesses as outlined in the Schedule of Interviews with Witnesses circulated. A summary of the questions and answers for the interviews with key witnesses are attached at Appendix 1.

At the end of the interviews with key witnesses, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and invited anyone who wished to submit any further evidence to the Inquiry to write to the Scrutiny Officer at:

Michael Carr - Scrutiny Officer
Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Bromsgrove District Council
The Council House
Burcot Lane
Bromsgrove
Worcestershire
B60 1AA

E mail: m.carr@bromsgrove.gov.uk

The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.

Chairman