

TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

DECISIONS made by the Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment, Councillor M Lock, on 7 November 2005 at County Hall, Lewes.

Councillor Tunwell spoke on items 4, 5, 6 and 7 (see minutes 37, 38, 39 and 40 below)
Councillor Scott spoke on item 4 (see minute 37 below)

35. MINUTES

35.1 Councillor Lock approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2005.

36. REPORTS

36.1 Copies of the reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

37. PETITION REQUESTING AN EXTENSION TO THE OFF-PEAK AND WEEKEND BUS SERVICES 2 AND 8 IN THE HOLLINGTON AREA OF HASTINGS

37.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment. Mrs Shine addressed the Lead Member on behalf of the petitioners.

DECISIONS

37.2 To (1) advise the petitioners that their request has been considered and the extension of off-peak and weekend services subsidised by County Council funding cannot be justified as the level of use is unlikely to meet the criteria for implementation set out in the draft guidance on the provision of bus services; and

(2) contact Stagecoach and ask for their consideration on re-routing the 2 & 8 bus services.

Reasons

37.3 The introduction of evening and Sunday services and low floor buses to Routes 2 and 8 can only be achieved with County Council funding as Stagecoach are unwilling to operate these on a commercial basis. The levels of use of services provided previously was such that the criteria for providing such support was not achieved and there have been no changes to circumstances that would justify the requested change.

37.4 Bus services operate on the main routes in Hollington on Sundays and evenings and these are accessible to most of the population in this area.

38. ROADSIDE SPONSORSHIP POLICY REVIEW

38.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISIONS

38.2 To (1) agree the revised policy statement (PS8/7) on roadside sponsorship (Appendix A to the report); and

(2) agree that an external company be employed to market roadside sponsorship, their fees being met by a proportion of the sponsorship secured.

Reasons

38.3 There is scope to simplify the process for roadside sponsorship which would widen the appeal to prospective sponsors and potentially generate a net surplus income to the County Council, although the policy agreed by Cabinet in April 2005 does not provide for this.

38.4 The proposed approach would give the County Council greater control over the design, implementation and maintenance of highway planting schemes, and would have full responsibility for any public liability claims which might arise, absolving the sponsor of the need to take out this cover. The sponsor would finance the highway planting scheme for a period of up to five years.

39. DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

39.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISIONS

39.2 To (1) approve the draft Statement of Community Involvement for formal public consultation; and

(2) request the Scrutiny Committee for Transport and Environment to consider the statement and the outcome of the public consultation.

Reason

39.3 Public consultation on a draft SCI is a statutory part of the process of preparing an SCI. The eventual adoption of an SCI by the County Council will provide a clear and public statement of the ways in which the Council will involve the community in its planning responsibilities. It is proposed that a draft SCI is published for public comment.

40. MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME: PROPOSED REVISIONS

40.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISIONS

40.2 To (1) approve the Revisions of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme;

(2) authorise the Director of Transport and Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member, to finalise any drafting changes arising from the Government's consideration of the Revisions of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme and to resolve to bring the revised Scheme into effect; and

(3) request the Director of Transport and Environment to share the report with the Scrutiny Committee for Transport and Environment.

Reason

40.3 The County Council needs to keep its Minerals and Waste Development Scheme up to date. The County Council has had to alter the programme for three planning documents because of the need to divert resources to completing the Waste Local Plan,

and, because of staff shortages. The revised details should be submitted to Government and, with any necessary changes, be brought into effect.

41. PROPOSED CHANGES TO REGIONAL PLANNING GUIDANCE FOR SOUTH EAST (RPG9): WASTE AND MINERALS

41.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISION

41.2 To advise the Government Office for the South East (GOSE) that overall the County Council supports the proposed changes to RPG9 – Waste and Minerals but subject to the comments summarised in section 3 of the report.

Reason

41.3 Subject to the comments in section 3 of the report, the proposed changes are acceptable. The overall approach in waste policies will need to be rigorously considered as part of the preparation of the Waste Development Framework, which will ultimately replace the Waste Local Plan. The mineral policies will provide a guide for the current preparation of the Minerals Development Framework.

42. SOUTH DOWNS JOINT COMMITTEE: DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

42.1 Councillor Lock considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

DECISION

42.2 To authorise the delegation of functions, as set out in Appendix A of the report, to the South Downs Joint Committee.

Reason

42.3 Similar arrangements for the conduct of business of the South Downs Joint Committee need to be made to those which applied to its predecessor, the Sussex Downs Conservation Board.