

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

held at the Council House, Nottingham,

on Monday 9 October 2006 at 2.00 pm

ATTENDANCES

✓ Councillor Wilson	Lord Mayor
✓ Councillor Akhtar	✓ Councillor G N Khan
✓ Councillor Aslam	Councillor Klein
Councillor Bloomfield	✓ Councillor Lee
✓ Councillor Bull	✓ Councillor Liversidge
✓ Councillor Campbell	✓ Councillor Long
✓ Councillor Chapman	✓ Councillor Malcolm
✓ Councillor Charlesworth	✓ Councillor Markin
✓ Councillor A Clark	✓ Councillor Marshall
Councillor C A Clarke	✓ Councillor Mathews
✓ Councillor B Clarke-Smith	Councillor Mir
✓ Councillor Cobb	✓ Councillor Morris
✓ Councillor Collins	✓ Councillor Munir
✓ Councillor Cowan	✓ Councillor Packer
✓ Councillor Cresswell	Councillor Palmer
✓ Councillor Culley	✓ Councillor Parbutt
✓ Councillor Dewinton	Councillor Price
✓ Councillor Edwards	Councillor Shaw
✓ Councillor Foster	✓ Councillor J W E Smith
✓ Councillor Gibson	✓ Councillor Spencer
✓ Councillor Griggs	✓ Councillor Stapleton
✓ Councillor Grocock	✓ Councillor Stephenson
✓ Councillor Hartshorne	✓ Councillor Sutton
✓ Councillor Haymes	✓ Councillor Taylor
✓ Councillor Heppell	✓ Councillor Trimble
✓ Councillor Ibrahim	✓ Councillor Unczur
✓ Councillor James	✓ Councillor Urquhart
✓ Councillor A Khan	✓ Councillor Wood

43 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

44 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2006 be confirmed and signed by the Lord Mayor.

45 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Acting Chief Executive reported with regret the recent death of former Nottinghamshire County Councillor Nellie Smedley.

Councillor Smedley had previously chaired the County Council and the Environment Scrutiny Select Committee and, more recently, served on the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority.

The Council stood in silence in tribute to her memory.

46 CLIMATE CHANGE

(a) Video Link to Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan and officers of the City of Gainesville, Florida

Councillors Dewinton, Griggs, Foster and Hartshorne facilitated a discussion to share best practice in dealing with climate change.

The main points of discussion included:-

- particular responses to climate change being developed by Gainesville included the use of solar energy thermal water heating, district water cooling, and passive solar design of buildings;
- 30% of Gainesville's waste stream was collected kerbside and recycled, a facility which had been available since the mid-1980s. Nottingham's recycling figure was currently 17%;
- Gainesville's residents had strongly rejected proposals for a waste energy plant in the 1980s and waste was therefore sent approximately 80 miles to a landfill site. However, more

sustainable waste energy schemes were currently being considered although, due to Gainesville's amount of waste, this would require importing waste from elsewhere. In comparison, Nottingham currently incinerated 60% of its waste, although the proposed further expansion of this facility had been subject to major public debate;

- the environmental effects of products and their packaging were not currently a major concern for the majority of the American public. There was not a strong sense of correlation between the country's recent natural disasters and climate change, although some limited research about this had been undertaken. Responses to climate change tended to range between denial, acceptance and the need to take action. This was now becoming a more significant political issue due to concerns about energy independence and increasing costs.

RESOLVED that the Council's thanks to the representatives of Gainesville for their valuable contribution to the debate be recorded.

(b) Report of Deputy Leader

The report of Councillor Edwards (as set out on page 162 of the agenda) was submitted and its recommendations were moved by Councillor Edwards and seconded by Councillor Wood.

MOVED by Councillor Foster by way of an amendment and seconded by Councillor Culley:-

Under Section 2 RECOMMENDATIONS :-

In (1) after "that this Council" delete all and insert "recognises the detrimental effects of avoidable carbon dioxide emissions and other greenhouse gases on the world's climate and commits itself to effective measures to reduce the causes of global warming both in its own activities and as a regulatory authority for the City of Nottingham in active consultation with residents, businesses, public and local authorities, and interested people and groups on effective means and targets for the reduction of carbon emissions and mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.";

After “(2) that this Council...” delete all and insert:-

- “(i) notes the work already done as set out in Appendices A to D;
- (ii) further resolves:-
 - (a) to work with business to boost their competitive advantage through environmental initiatives; and to support the work of Science City in developing enviro-technologies for future jobs, products and services;
 - (b) to launch, jointly with all political groups, a pledge campaign within six months;
 - (c) to set more demanding planning targets in the local development framework within a year, joining over a hundred local authorities who have committed to insist on a percentage of renewable energy in all new building over a certain size (Merton Rule);
 - (d) to highlight the public health issue of heatwave;
 - (e) to adopt the Eco-Management Audit Scheme as its environmental audit system;
 - (f) to establish a programme of retrofitting sustainable technologies to Council buildings financed by prudential borrowing;
 - (g) to promote sustainability issues more effectively, including via the website and Council publications and by requiring a “Sustainability Issues” heading in every Council report;
- (3) that this Council welcomes the resolution of the British Government to:-
 - (i) reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60% by 2050;
 - (ii) make sure every new home is at least 40% more energy efficient;
 - (iii) create at least 100,000 new jobs for British people from

energy saving, innovation and green technologies.

(4) that this Council is concerned that:-

- (i) Carbon Dioxide emissions nationally have risen since 1997 and are still rising;
- (ii) the Department of Trade and Industry believes it is unlikely that Britain will reach the Government's target of 20% reduction from 1990 levels of Carbon Dioxide by 2010

and notes, by contrast, Scotland is likely to meet its commitment of 18% of energy from renewables three years ahead of the target 2010;

(5) that this Council therefore further calls on Government to:-

- (i) increase green taxes as a proportion of national taxation;
- (ii) raise Vehicle Excise Duty on the more polluting cars whilst providing help where cars are essential;
- (iii) keep fuel duty at least in line with inflation;

(6) that the following additional published documents be noted:-

- speech to Scottish Liberal Democrats conference by Nichol Stephen MSP
<http://www.scotlibdems.org.uk/news/0609181.shtml>
- "Carbon Emission Targets delayed by Government row",
Guardian 31/1/2006;
- "UK Carbon Emission rise again", BBC News Online 30/3/2006
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4861800.stm>
- Peter Ainsworth's climate speech to Conservative Party conference
http://www.conservatives.com/tile.do?def=news.story.page&obj_id=132555&speeches=1

After discussion the amendment was put to the vote and was not carried.

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Wood:-

(1) that this Council welcomes the renewed focus on climate change seen in recent months and agrees to renew its commitment to mitigating, and adapting to, climate change;

(2) that this Council:-

(i) notes, and is proud of, its role in developing environmental policies such as the adoption of the Green Charter in 1990 and most significantly, its initiative in launching British Local Government's commitment on climate change, the "Nottingham Declaration";

(ii) agrees the Climate Protection Strategy for Nottingham 2006, as detailed at Appendix A to the report, as a basis for both renewed action and for further public consultation to reach a revised agreement on how to achieve specific targets for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions in the City with representatives of business, public agencies and voluntary groups in 2007;

(iii) believes most progress would be made by placing new proposals within the Council's policy framework, and notes the presentation of:-

- the recommendations drawn out from the Climate Protection Strategy for Nottingham 2006; and**
- the "dramatic actions" agreed by the Deputy Leader in the response to the Regeneration, Infrastructure and Sustainability Standing Panel;**

against the 5 Corporate Plan themes, as detailed in Appendix B to the report, and further resolves:-

(a) to work with businesses to boost their competitive advantage through environmental initiatives; and to support the work of Science City in developing enviro-

**technologies for future jobs, products and services
(Choose Nottingham);**

**(b) to launch an expanded pledge campaign later this year
(Respect for Nottingham);**

**(c) to set more demanding planning targets in the next
local development framework (Transforming
Nottingham Neighbourhoods);**

**(d) to highlight the public health issue of heatwave
(Supporting Nottingham People);**

**(e) to adopt the Eco-Management Audit Scheme as its
environmental audit system (Serving Nottingham
Better);**

**(iv) welcomes the scrutiny of climate change by the
Regeneration, Infrastructure and Sustainability Standing
Panel and endorses the Deputy Leader's response to the
recommendations, as detailed in Appendix C to the report;**

**(v) notes the findings from recent events, as detailed in
Appendix D to the report;**

**(vi) welcomes the input to this meeting by expert speakers,
local groups and individuals on the issue of climate
change and notes the views, as detailed in Appendix E to
the report;**

**(vii) notes that the Regeneration, Infrastructure and
Sustainability Standing Panel would be undertaking a
further review of all the ideas from the various events as
part of their review of progress.**

**(3) that this Council welcomes the resolution of the British
Government to:-**

(i) reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60% by 2050;

- (ii) make sure every new home is at least 40% more energy efficient;**
- (iii) create at least 100,000 new jobs for British people from energy saving, innovation and green technologies;**
- (iv) call on the World Bank and international governments to create, for alternative energy for poorer countries, a \$20 billion global fund.**

The meeting closed at 5.21 pm