

Minutes of a Meeting of the Economy Overview Committee
held at Knowle, Sidmouth on Wednesday, 17th September 2003

Present:

Councillors:

B C J Hughes (Chairman)	R Mudge
B O Ingham (Vice-Chairman)	J B Nicholson
Mrs M Boote	A S Pascoe
D G Button	T G Reeves
P W Burrows	A J Toye
B H Clark	B J Toye
D R A Key	P C Townsend
Ms S M Merritt	Dr H W Waterworth

Also Present:

Councillor:

P A Diviani

Apologies:

Councillors:

K W George
Mrs A E Liverton
G K Liverton

The meeting commenced at 6.35pm and terminated at 8.15pm

*7 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Economy Overview Committee held on 18th June 2003, were confirmed and signed as a true record.

8 Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Forum

The Committee considered the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Forum held on 21st July 2003, which proposed revised Overview and Scrutiny arrangements for the Council. The Forum recommended that an additional Overview Committee be established to cover the Resource and Communications Portfolio Holders and strategic issues not covered by the other Overview Committees. Discussion took place on the chairmanship of all the Overview Committees. An amendment to recommendation two was proposed to allow at least one Overview Committee to be chaired by a representative of a minority party. The amendment was lost.

RECOMMENDED that the recommendations contained in the report be endorsed.

(The following Councillors asked for their vote against the resolution to be recorded: D G Button, P W Burrows, Ms S M Merritt, R Mudge, T G Reeves, A J Toye and B J Toye)

9 Strategy to Integrate Sustainable Development Aims into Council Policy and Practice

Consideration was given to the joint report of the Sustainable Development Officer and the Corporate Director - Environment on a strategy to integrate Sustainable Development aims into Council policy and practice. Members recognised the importance of the Council setting a good example and promoting its practices to encourage individuals and other organisations across the District to adopt similar policies. It was noted that, although the establishment of a Climate Change/Carbon Reduction Plan was not proposed to take place until 2004/05, work resulting in carbon reduction would continue to be carried out before then.

RESOLVED that the Sustainable Development Officer present a report to the next meeting of Economy Overview Committee outlining what a Carbon Reduction Plan / Climate Change Strategy would consist of.

RECOMMENDED that the strategy to integrate Sustainable Development aims into Council policy and practice be adopted.

*10 Programme for Future Meetings

Consideration was given to the report of the Economic Development Manager with regard to a proposed programme of topics to consider at future meetings and working with partners and other stakeholders to produce an Economic Development Strategy. It was suggested that the Committee consider the report of the Corporate Director – Environment on the regeneration of Exmouth which he had presented to the Exmouth Joint Forum.

- RESOLVED**
1. that the Council's partners and other stake holders be invited to work with the Economy Overview Committee in preparing an Economic Development Strategy;
 2. that consideration be given to the following list of prioritised topics at the next three meetings of the Committee:
 - a) Investment in communications infrastructure
 - b) Land and Buildings for employment
 - c) The Health of the Rural Economy;
 3. that the report of the Corporate Director – Environment on the regeneration of Exmouth be considered at a future meeting of the Committee.

Chairman Date.....