

## **RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET**

### **ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC REGENERATION POLICY AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

**11TH JANUARY 2006**

#### **STOURPORT FORWARD**

Stourport Forward is a Company Limited by Guarantee, formed in accordance with Government guidelines, to oversee the delivery of £500,000 "Market Towns Initiative" (MTI) funding distributed by Advantage West Midlands (AWM).

Its vision is to encourage the active participation of all residents, businesses and organisations in regenerating Stourport-on-Severn and the surrounding area and to seek partnerships with statutory agencies and other organisations in order to support and realise their objectives on behalf of the community.

Its aims and objectives include making the town more accessible, safer and attractive and promoting the town for business and tourism development.

Cllr J Shaw is the District Council's elected representative on the Stourport Forward Board.

#### **Recommended to the Cabinet:**

- (a) Relevant Council officers, including the Economic Regeneration Officer, Principal Forward Planning Officer, Tourism Officer, and the Environmental/Parks Manager, continue to support and promote the implementation of "Stourport Pride" project;**
- (b) Relevant Council officers, including the Economic Regeneration Officer continue to support and promote the implementation of the revitalisation of the Sandy Lane Industrial Estate project, the Stourport Canal Basin project and the Farmers Market;**
- (c) Relevant Council officers continue to support and monitor progress all other projects as required and relevant;**
- (d) The Council continues to fund Stourport Forward's Programme Manager through its contribution towards Stourport Town Centre Forum for 2006/07.**
- (e) The Environment and Economic Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Panel receive regular progress reports on the project from the Programme Manager and the appointed Council representative; and**

## **THE LIST OF BUILDINGS OF LOCAL ARCHITECTURAL AND/OR HISTORIC INTEREST (THE LOCAL LIST) - STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN**

The Panel considered a briefing paper from the Conservation Officer detailing the proposed List of Buildings of Local Interest (the Local List) for Stourport-on-Severn And proposed arrangements for public consultation. The following points were noted during the discussion.

- The Planning and the Historic Environment states that there are many buildings that are valued for their contribution to the local scene, or for local historical associations, which are not protected through Statutory Listing. It advises that it is open for planning authorities to draw up lists of such locally important buildings, and to formulate local plan policies for their protection.
- The Adopted District Local Plan makes reference to the District Council's intention to compile a Local List of Buildings and Structures.
- One of the Council's corporate plan objectives is to preserve the local heritage of those buildings which enhance the District.
- A set of criteria was adopted by the Council in October 2004 which included a point that whilst a property does not need to meet all of the criteria it should meet at least one, and needs to be of a definite quality and character.
- Members queried why the Civic Centre building had not been included on the list. The Conservation Officer advised that the building was not considered to have architectural merit, except perhaps for the Council Chamber. Its inclusion would have to be based on at least one of the criteria, and the building would need to be of a definite quality and character.
- Members were advised that that applications to consider the addition of further properties to the list, such as the Civic Centre, could be made during the consultation period.

### **AGREED:**

#### **Recommended to the Cabinet:**

**Officers To undertake a public consultation to gauge the opinion of all affected persons, with a report back to Members of the Environment and Economic Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Panel at the end of the consultation period, to indicate the level of public support for the List, and its contents to enable Members to make recommendations regarding the adoption of the list.**

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS PLANNING (CONTROL) BILL**

At its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2006 the Panel considered a letter from the Campaign for Planning Sanity regarding the Telecommunication (Planning Control) Bill

### **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:**

- 1. The Cabinet be urged to support David Curry's Telecommunications (Planning Control) Bill and call for telecommunication masts to be the subject of full planning controls with permitted development rights removed.**
- 2. A copy of the letter from the Campaign for Planning Sanity dated 7<sup>th</sup> January 2006, together with the Cabinet's response be forwarded to Dr Richard Taylor, MP, (the President of the Liberal Democrats) and all Worcestershire MPs for their consideration with a request to support the Cabinet in its response to the Bill.**