

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

REGENERATION & ENTERPRISE

THE EARL BALDWIN SUITE, DUKE HOUSE, CLENSMORE STREET,  
KIDDERMINSTER

25TH JUNE 2008 (6.00PM)

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**Present:**

Councillors: Mrs F M Oborski (Chairman), P Dyke (Vice-Chairman), M Ahmed, J Aston, Mrs J Greener, M A W Hazlewood, M B Kelly, D J Millis, K H Prosser and M J Shellie.

**Observers:**

Councillors: J-P Campion, S J M Clee, Mrs H E Dyke, M J Hart and M Price.

**RAE.1 Apologies for Absence:**

There were no apologies for absence.

**RAE.2 Appointment of Substitutes:**

No substitutes were appointed.

**RAE.3 Declarations of Interest:**

No declarations of interest were made.

**RAE.4 Minutes:**

**Agreed:**

**The minutes of the meeting of the Community & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**RAE.5 Regeneration, Economic Development and Tourism Activities - Update**

The Regeneration and Economic Prosperity Manager presented Members with a briefing paper (circulated with the agenda) which gave an overview of the ongoing work programme for regeneration, economic prosperity and tourism across the District.

Members then received a presentation from the Regeneration, Economic and Prosperity Manager detailing previous, ongoing and future regeneration and economic prosperity projects across the District. Particular attention was drawn to:

- Lichfield Basin
- Former Carpets of Worth Site

- Basins link to shops
- KTC.3
- British Sugar Site
- Horsefair
- Comberton Hill

The Regeneration & Economic Prosperity Manager clarified that the access from the train station to Kidderminster Town Centre was being reviewed. Members felt that, in order to increase community safety, surface level crossings would be preferable.

Members noted that the Kidderminster Regeneration prospectus would be presented to the Committee at its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008. Members considered this to be an appropriate time for the Committee to review employment prospects in the District.

It was also requested that the Town Centre Manager and the Economic Development & Tourism Manager attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008 meeting of the Committee to brief Members on the restructure of the Town Centre Partnership and Town Centre issues, including the Empty Shops Strategy.

**Agreed:**

- 1. A scoping paper be drafted for the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008 meeting of the Committee to set out the scope for a review on employment and economic prospects in the District.**
- 2. The Town Centre Manager and the Economic Development & Tourism Manager attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008 meeting of the Committee to brief Members on the restructure of the Town Centre Partnership and Town Centre issues, including the Empty Shops Strategy.**
- 3. The content of the briefing paper be noted.**

**RAE.6 The List of Buildings of Local Architectural and/or Historic Interest (The Local List) Bewdley Parish**

Members considered a briefing paper (circulated with the agenda) from the Conservation Officer on the results of consultation on the draft List of Buildings for Local Architectural and/or Historic Interest (The Local List) for the Parish of Bewdley.

It was noted that initial draft list proposals for Bewdley were considered by the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2007. Members recommended at this point that the Local List be subject to a public consultation to gauge the opinion of all affected persons and that a further report should be submitted to the Committee at the end of the consultation period.

Members were advised that the public consultation ran between 18<sup>th</sup> January 2008 and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2008, and included delivery of a small pamphlet to residents, land owners and all amenity groups with a vested interest in the area. In addition to this a display copy of the Character Appraisal was displayed in the foyer of the

## **Agenda Item No. 4**

Worcestershire Hub in Kidderminster Town Hall for the duration of the consultation period.

Members noted that a wall in Threfall Drive, which was proposed for inclusion on the List, was now proposed to be removed from the list due to the fact that it was only seven years old.

Councillor Hart left the meeting at this point (6:55pm)

The Conservation Officer advised Members that comments from Summerdyne Nursing Home had not been included in the report as, at the time of printing, discussions with the owners had not been concluded. However, discussions had since been completed and, as the building had been extended during the 1960's, 70's and 80's, the Conservation Officer advised that he was satisfied that the building had lost much of its original character and so should be removed from the local list.

The Committee noted that a total of 13 comments had been received in relation to the proposals.

### **Recommended to Cabinet:**

**The List of Buildings of Local Architectural and/or Historic Interest (The Local List) Bewdley Parish be agreed.**

### **RAE.7 Work Programme:**

The Panel considered its work programme for the current municipal year with regard to the Community Strategy, Corporate Plan, Annual Priorities and the Forward Plan.

The Chairman advised that it was anticipated Lea Castle Centre would close in September 2008.

### **Agreed:**

**The work programme for the current municipal year be approved subject to:**

- 1. A review on employment and economic prospects being added to the Work Programme for July 2008.**
- 2. The re-structure of the Town Centre Partnership and Town Centre issues, including the Empty Shops Strategy, be added to the work programme for July 2008.**

The meeting ended at 7:00 pm.

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