

Environment Select Committee

A meeting of Environment Select Committee was held on Monday, 21st May, 2012.

Present: Cllr Nigel Cooke (Chairman), Cllr Derrick Brown, Cllr Steve Walmsley, Cllr David Wilburn, Cllr Mick Womphrey, Cllr Bill Woodhead

Officers: Neil Ellison, Melanie Greenwood (DNS); Tanya Harrison, Michelle Jones (LD)

Also in attendance: Cllr David Rose (Cabinet Member for Environment)

Apologies: Cllr Jean Kirby, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Mrs Maureen Rigg

1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Minutes for Signature - 27th February 2012

The minutes were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3 Draft Minutes - 30th April 2012

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2012.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

4 Scrutiny Review of Affordable Warmth

Members received a presentation regarding Affordable Warmth which included:

- Fuel Poverty
- Affordable Warmth
- Energy Efficient Homes
- Healthier Homes

The main issues discussed were as follows:

- Health impacts - including cold related illnesses, choices of heating over food and cold related deaths.
- The condition of local homes - Current UK laws and regulations resulted in better insulated homes, however, greater improvements could still be made. Many properties in the UK were older and therefore could not meet regulations but were in great need of other, appropriate measures for insulation etc.
- National drivers and initiatives - Members were advised of previous and existing schemes.
- The Green deal and Energy Company Obligations (ECO) - The future initiatives to support the implementation of energy efficiency improvements to homes and address fuel poverty. There would be no upfront cost, these would be attached to fuel bills and would remain with the property i.e if the property

changed owners, the new owners would continue to repay the loan.

AGREED that the report be noted.

5 Work Programme

Consideration was given to the project plan and it was noted that the Housing aspects would be presented at the next meeting in June 2012.

Members were advised that a site visit to Gowarm Parkfield, would be arranged in June. Members would receive details once arrangements had been finalised.

AGREED that the item be noted.

6 Chair's Update

The Chair had nothing to report.