

KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Browfort,
Bath Road, Devizes on Tuesday, 19th April, 2005 at 2.15 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs. J.K. Combe - Chairman

Councillor B.G. Ashley	Councillor C.P. Humphries
Councillor K.R.F. Beard	Councillor D.T.B. Hunter
Councillor J.A. Booth	Councillor J.J. Kunkler
Councillor G. Brewer	Councillor S.J. Miles
Councillor Mrs. K. Callow	Councillor A. Molland
Councillor Mrs. T.M. Carr	Councillor J.D. Ody
Councillor N.D. Carter	Councillor R.T. Parsons
Councillor W.B. Cavill	Councillor J.D. Percy-Caldwell
Councillor A.R. Connolly	Councillor Dr. J.P.M. Reid
Councillor A.P.J. Duck	Councillor P. Richardson
Councillor P. Evans	Councillor A. Skittrall
Councillor Mrs. S.M. Findlay	Councillor A.H. Still
Councillor J.N. Fogg	Councillor C.R.W. Stone
Councillor Mrs. J.M. Giles	Councillor Mrs. M.S.N. Taylor
Councillor L.H. Grundy	Councillor B.J. Twigger
Councillor Mrs. E. Hannaford	Councillor D. J. Willmott
Councillor Mrs. A. Hayhoe	Councillor Mrs. P. Winchcombe
Councillor C.P.G. Hoddinott	Councillor A.S. Wood

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor P. Brown
Councillor D. Campbell
Councillor P.L. Colling
Councillor Mrs. R.S.E. Cummins
Councillor Mrs. N.G. Rawlins
Councillor P.N. Veasey

PART 1

Items considered whilst the public were entitled to be present

71. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22nd February, 2005, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

A member of the Council referred to minute no. 62 in respect of the Council Tax for 2005/2006 and the appendix to the minutes which

indicated a wide variation between the precepts of various parishes with approximately the same tax base and asked why this was so.

The Director of Resources indicated that the calculation was made on the same basis for each parish and that it was a matter for each parish council or town council to set the precept that they required. The variation referred to would relate to a variation in parish council budgets.

72. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures were made.

73. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chairman made the following announcements:-

1. Year of Office

The Chairman of the Council referred to the fact that this was her last meeting at the end of her year of office and thanked all the Councillors for their support and assistance throughout the year. The Chairman remarked on how she had enjoyed her time in office.

2. Standards Committee

The Chairman informed the Council that two appointments had been made to the Standards Committee. Mr. J. Macdonald of Berwick Bassett Parish Council had been appointed as an independent parish councillor and Mr. R. Harrison had been appointed as an independent member of the public. The Chairman welcomed Mr. Macdonald to the meeting of the Council and informed the Council that Mr. Harrison had unfortunately been unable to attend.

3. Chairman's Charity

The Chairman thanked Members for contributing prizes and buying raffle tickets for her chosen charity of Multiple Sclerosis throughout her year of office culminating in the casino night. The Chairman thanked Councillor Parsons and Mrs Parsons, for their help and Councillor Evans and Mrs Evans who also assisted on the night. A total of £553 had been raised at the casino night and the final total for Multiple Sclerosis was £1,000.

The Chairman handed a cheque in the sum of £1,000 Catherine Brown, Chairman of the Devizes Branch of Multiple Sclerosis.

There were no announcements from the Leader of the Council or from

the Chief Executive.

74. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from members of the public.

75. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -1ST MARCH, 2005

The minutes of the meeting of the Community Development Executive Committee held on 1st March, 2005, were submitted by way of report. Arising there from:-

1. Minute No.69 – Public Conveniences

A member of the Council spoke against the decision to remove public convenience facilities from Pewsey and Tidworth and also asked whether or not an equalities impact assessment had been made with regard to this decision.

The Leader of the Council replied that the issue of public conveniences had been the subject of a long and full best value fundamental review. That review included extensive surveys and consultation, including a Member Sounding Board.

The conclusions of the review, and associated action plan, were approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and recommended by the Board to the Community Development Executive Committee, and adopted as Council policy by that Committee.

The best value review identified potential revenue savings of £35,000 per annum and would obviate the need for capital investment of some £1.25m on refurbishing public conveniences.

A member of the Council commented that there were no outright winners for each area of the District and some things were of benefit to some areas whilst others were of benefit to other areas.

2. Minute No.64 - Kennet Community Safety Strategy “Staying Safe, Feeling Safe” – A strategy for reducing crime, antisocial behaviour and drug misuse in Wiltshire April 2005 – March 2008

On consideration of the recommendation contained in this minute it was

RESOLVED

THAT the Council adopt the strategy for reducing crime, antisocial behaviour and drug misuse in Wiltshire April

2005 – March 2008 and the summary for Kennet.

76. PLANNING POLICIES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 3RD MARCH , 2005

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Policies Executive Committee held on 3rd March, 2005, were submitted by way of report.

Arising there from:-

1. Minute No. 460 (2) North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Nature Beauty Management Group

A member of the Council asked whether or not the proceedings of the group were open to the public and whether or not minutes were available. The question was also raised as to why the Chairman of the Planning Policies Executive Committee had been reluctant to sign the new Memorandum of Agreement.

In response the Chairman of the Committee indicated that the proceedings were open and minutes were available to members of the public. He indicated that he had been concerned that the draft of the new Memorandum of Agreement was somewhat open ended with the demands that could be placed on Kennet District Council and was not acceptable. Further negotiations had taken place and the agreement was now satisfactory and was about to be signed.

77. RESOURCES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Resources Executive Committee held on 15th March, 2005, were submitted by way of report. There were no matters arising.

78. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD - 29th MARCH, 2005

The minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board held on 29th March, 2005 were submitted by way of report.

Arising there from:-

1. Minute No. 47 – Tourism and IT Task Group

In response to a question it was confirmed that the Task Group would be meeting next year and would be reformed for the purpose.

79. REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The minutes of the meetings of the Regulatory Committee held on

17th February, 7th March (site meeting) and 10th and 31st March, were submitted by way of report.

Arising there from:-

1. Minute No. 122(11) Application No. K/51647/F

A Member indicated that the village referred to should be Marston and not Marsden as set out in the minute.

80. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 7TH APRIL, 2005

The minutes of the meeting of the Human Resources Committee held on 7th April, 2005, were submitted by way of report. There were no matters arising.

81. COUNCIL WORKPLAN

The Council considered the report of the Director of Resources on the Council wide work plan 2005/2006.

RESOLVED

THAT the Council wide work plan 2005/2006 be approved and adopted.

PART 2

Items considered whilst the public were excluded from the meeting

None

Chairman
10th May, 2005