

## **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, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2007 at 2.15 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs P M Winchcombe – Chairman

Councillor A Adamson	Councillor C P G Hoddinott
Councillor K R F Beard	Councillor C Howard
Councillor J Beinhorn	Councillor C P Humphries
Councillor G Brewer	Councillor D Hunter
Councillor P Brown	Councillor A Lake
Councillor J Percy-Caldwell	Councillor Mrs L Mayes
Councillor A Connolly	Councillor A Molland
Councillor S Dobson	Councillor J Ody
Councillor Mrs P Dow	Councillor R Parsons
Councillor A Duck	Councillor Mrs N G Rawlins
Councillor Mrs S Evans	Councillor J Seed
Councillor P Evans	Councillor Mrs J Triggs
Councillor Mrs S Findlay	Councillor P Veasey
Councillor Mrs E Fogg	Councillor S Wheeler
Councillor N Fogg	Councillor C Williams
Councillor R Gamble	Councillor D Willmott
Councillor Mrs J M Giles	Councillor A S Wood
Councillor L Grundy	

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillor S Dagger  
Councillor Mrs A Hayhoe  
Councillor J J Kunkler  
Councillor B Twigger

### **PART 1**

#### **Items considered whilst the public were entitled to be present**

Before the commencement of the meeting the Chairman reminded members of the recent sad death of Councillor Dominic Campbell.

The Council stood in silent memory of Councillor Campbell after which the Chairman took the opportunity to remind members of the service given by Councillor Campbell to both the council and the community.

## **99. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2007, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **100.DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were none.

## **101.ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Chairman made the following announcements:-

### **1) Chairman's Events**

The Chairman of Council thanked members and staff for their support of the Christmas party and civic service and reminded the meeting that her Christmas raffle would be held after the council meeting had finished.

### **2) Mr Frank Marshall - Director of Resources**

The Chairman reminded the council that Mr Frank Marshall was retiring from the council at the end of December after 27 years service.

The Chairman and other members paid compliment Mr Marshall's service to the council and presented him with a selection of gardening implements.

Mr Marshall thanked members for their kind words and generosity.

The Leader of the Council made the following announcement: --

### **1) Local Government Association of Assembly**

The Leader of the Council reported that he had recently attended the local government Association assembly when the council's low rates for Grant had been announced.

He also stated that the progress towards setting of the unitary authority remained the same.

There were no announcements by the Chief Executive.

## **102.QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were none.

### **103.COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Community Development Executive Committee held on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2007, were submitted by way of report. There were no matters arising.

### **104.RESOURCES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Resources Executive Committee held on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2007, were submitted by way of report. There were no matters arising.

### **105.REGULATORY COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meetings of the Regulatory Committee held on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2007 and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2007, were submitted by way of report.  
Arising therefrom:

e-government award for excellence - Minute Number 105

The Chairman of Regulatory Committee drew the attention of members to the fact that the council had been selected as a finalist for the national e-government award for excellence in planning services. The winner of the award would be announced in the New Year.

### **106.HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Human Resources Committee held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 2007, were submitted by way of report. There were no matters arising.

### **107.OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2007 and 4<sup>th</sup> December 2007, were submitted by way of report.  
Arising therefrom:

Scrutiny of Transitional Arrangements - Minute Number 41

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board reminded members that 39 of them were eligible to take part in the scrutiny workgroups in relation to the scrutiny of decisions made by the Implementation Executive.

### **108.PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Partnership Development Executive Committee held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2007 were submitted by way of report.  
Arising therefrom:

#### Terms of Reference - Minute Number 4

A member of the council raised the question of a possible conflict between this committee and the Resources Executive Committee with respect to paragraph 1.5 of the terms of reference.

The Chief Executive drew members attention to the note appended to the terms of reference which dealt with this matter.

#### **109.LICENSING COMMITTEE - 21ST OF NOVEMBER 2007**

The minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 21st of November 2007 were submitted by way of report.

Arising therefrom:

#### The Licensing Act 2003 - Readopting the Statement of Licensing Policy - Minute Number 4

On consideration of the recommendation contained in this minute it was

#### **RESOLVED:**

**THAT** the Council:

(1) adopts the statement of licensing policy attached at annex A to the report to the Licensing Committee held on the 21st of November 2007

(2) authorises the Environmental Protection and Housing Services Manager to make necessary arrangements to publicise the adoption of the policy.

#### **110.COUNCIL TAX BASE 2008/2009**

The Council received report HOF/1202/2007 by the Head of Financial Services.

The Council was reminded that it was required by statute to calculate its council tax base every year and the formula involved.

The report set out the calculations involved.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**THAT:**

(1) the calculation of the Council's tax base for the year 2008/2009 be approved and set as **31,546.0**

(2) The Head of Financial Services be given delegated authority to determine the Council's estimated collection fund balance as at 31st of March 2008 on the 15th of January 2008.

## **111.REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR MEMBERS ALLOWANCES**

The Council received the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the recommended scheme of members allowances for 2008/2009.

The Chief Executive introduce a report and drew members attention to the summary of recommendations are set out in paragraph 6 on page 15 of the agenda where the proposed allowances and special allowances were set out in detail.

Members attention was also drawn to the fact that subsequent to the meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel the governance arrangements for the Implementation Executive charged with the implementation of the new Wiltshire Council had been decided.

kenet was to have two representatives on the Executive, the Leader and Deputy Leader, and they would be shadowed by a further two elected members who would need to commit as much time as the two principles. The work involved with this would be quite onerous, both in terms of attendance at meetings and the amount of reading to be done. In this situation the granting of a special responsibility allowance for the four Kennet members involved would be appropriate.

Members also discussed the question of payments to Member Champions and were of the opinion that those that were not also chairman of a committee should receive some remuneration to reflect the amount of extra work being undertaken.

### **RESOLVED:**

#### **THAT**

(1) the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel be accepted subject to: --

a) the four representatives of this council on the Implementation Executive (namely the leader, deputy leader and their two shadow members) should receive an allowance of at least £2300 but that there should be increased in line with allowances paid by other Wiltshire authorities if higher and;

b) the Member Champions for Housing and for Health, Community Safety and Well-Being should receive an additional responsibility allowance of £1000 per annum.

## **112.BOUNDARY COMMITTEE REVIEW CONSEQUENT UPON THE MOVE TOWARDS A UNITARY AUTHORITY**

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive on the review of boundaries and electoral arrangements for the unitary council.

The Boundary Committee for England had signalled their intention to carry out reviews or electoral arrangements during 2008 in areas such as Wiltshire that would become unitary in 2009. The review would either run from January to September 2008 or February 2 to November 2008.

The review would be in four stages and this council would be able to join in the consultation that stage one and stage three.

The Chief Executive reminded members that in the past such matters had been largely the prerogative of members with technical input from officers.

**RESOLVED:** that a cross-party subcommittee of five members be set up to consider the consequences of the boundary review with a view to submitting recommendations to the meeting of the council to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

### **113. STATUTORY REVIEW OF POLLING ARRANGEMENTS - RESULTS OF CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive submitted a report to members on the results of a statutory review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations. The report set out the comments of the returning officer on issues raised by the consultation.

**RESOLVED:**

**THAT:**

- 1) the schedule of polling places and polling stations at appendix A. the report be approved for publication in accordance with the statutory requirements.
- 2) the rationalisation of the polling districts for Roundway into the geographic North/South split, with the A 342 as the boundary between the polling districts, be approved to take effect on the 1st of December 2008.
- 3) a further report on the polling arrangements for Devizes, Marlborough and Roundway be submitted to the April meeting of the Council for consideration.

### **PART 2**

**items considered whilst the meeting was closed to the public**

**NONE**

Chairman  
26<sup>th</sup> February 2008