

**DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING ON 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2007**

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2007 in the Committee Rooms A-C, Level –1, Monkton Park Offices, Chippenham, commencing at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:**

Chairman: T.R. Sturgis

Committee Councillors: D.B. Allen, J.R. Ireland, N.T. Maidment, N.M. Phillips, C. Reid, R.L. Tonge, J. Webb and J.M. Wood

**Officers Present:**

A. Davies (Strategic Manager – Planning Services), N. Fenwick (Strategic Manager - Customer Services), P. Hawley (Chief Accountant), S. Pangbourne (Strategic Manager - Corporate Services), C. Pescod (Development Control Team Leader), P. Timmins (Interim Section 151 Officer), J. Whittleton (Policy & Democratic Services Assistant) and S. Wright (Policy and Democratic Services Officer)

**095. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S.R. Coy, S.D. Meadows, J H Rooke and J.P.S.S. Thomson.

**096. Membership**

The Committee were informed of the following temporary changes in membership:

<b>Councillors to be replaced</b>	<b>Replacement</b>	<b>Political Group</b>
J.P.S.S. Thomson	N.M. Phillips	Conservatives
S.D. Meadows	N.T. Maidment	Conservatives
J.H. Rooke	D.B. Allen	Liberal Democrats

**097. Public Question Time/Receipt of Petitions**

There were no public questions or petitions received.

**098. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006 and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006 were considered.

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006 and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006 be signed as a correct record.

**O99. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**O100. Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman, Councillor T.R. Sturgis: "In accordance with Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 having regard to the special circumstances pertaining in this matter namely the need to make an appointment to the Working Party as a meeting is required before the next scheduled meeting of this Committee, I am of the opinion that, despite its non-inclusion on the agenda, the matter of Appointment to the Car Park Working Party should be considered as a matter of urgency". The item was taken after Agenda Item No. 13.

**O101. Overview & Scrutiny Task Group Outcomes**

Consideration was given to Report No 7, which presented the outcomes of the Overview & Scrutiny Planning Task Group which met on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2006.

Issues discussed included:

- The likely level of Planning Delivery Grant in the future and other funding issues; and
- Partnership working on Section 106 agreements.

**Resolved** to Note the outcome of the Planning Scrutiny Task Group held on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2006 and note the uncertain future of the Planning Delivery Grant.

**O102. Corporate Plan Progress Update October to December 2006**

Consideration was given to Report No. 8, which provided an update and exceptions report on the delivery and performance of the Corporate Plan for the period October to December 2006.

Issues discussed included:

- The Committees disappointment at the non-attendance of an Executive representative to answer questions relating to the report;
- Procedures for the attendance of members at Scrutiny meetings at other councils; and
- The collation of information for the progress reports.

**Resolved** that

- (1) Consideration of the Corporate Plan Progress report be deferred to the next meeting of this committee; and
- (2) The Chairman writes to the Leader of the Council conveying the Committees' disappointment at the non-attendance of an Executive representative.

**O103. Revenue Monitor 2007/08 – Month 8**

Consideration was given to Report No. 9, which set out the Revenue budget monitor for Month 8 of the 2006/07 financial year showing the financial position at the end of November 2006 and setting out the anticipated variations in income and expenditure that could impact on the Council by the end of the year.

Issues discussed included:

- The timetabling of meetings to ensure that reports are considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to Executive;
- The structure and content of future monitoring reports;
- Virement of funds and the drawing of reserves; and
- The position regarding payment to Wiltshire County Council for bus services.

**Resolved that**

- (1) the Report be noted;
- (2) the Section 151 Officer brings forward recommendations on how to improve the reporting of monitoring information; and
- (3) the Executive be requested to clarify whether the subsidy to Wiltshire County Council for bus services has been identified as a saving

**O104. Capital Monitor 2006/07 – Month 8**

Consideration was given to Report No. 10, which informed the Committee of the latest position and forecast outturn on the 2006/07 capital programme. The Report was considered by the Executive, ahead of the Overview & Scrutiny meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> January; the Executive decisions were considered.

**Resolved** that the Report be noted.

**O105. Annual Prudential Indicators Statement**

Consideration was given to Report No. 11, which proposed the Council's prudential indicators for 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 as part of the Budget Setting process.

The Report was considered by the Executive, ahead of the Overview & Scrutiny meeting On the 25<sup>th</sup> January; the Executive decisions were received and the revised decisions noted.

Issues discussed included:

- The improvements in the reporting of the indicators statement; and
- The implications of losing debt free status.

**Resolved** that the Report be noted.

**O106. Annual Report on Treasury Management 2005/06**

Consideration was given to Report No. 12, which reported on the Council's Treasury Management.

The Report was considered by the Executive, ahead of the Overview & Scrutiny meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> January; the Executive decisions on this matter were noted.

Issues discussed included:

- The implications of managing the funds in-house; and
- The importance of retaining independent advice and monitoring in respect of the Council's Treasury Management Policy.

**Resolved** that the Report be noted.

**O107. Overview & Scrutiny Work Plan**

Consideration was given to Report No. 13, which asked the Committee to consider the Overview & Scrutiny Work Plan and agree the inclusion of any additional issues it considers appropriate.

Issues discussed included:

- Health Scrutiny issues and the timing of discussions at Wiltshire Primary Care Trust.

**Resolved** that the Report be noted.

**O108. Appointment to the Car Park Working Group**

Consideration was given to Report No. 14, circulated at the meeting, seeking a nomination to the Car Parking Working Group that had been established by the Executive.

**Resolved** that Councillor C. Reid be nominated as the Committee's representative on the Car Park Working Group.

The meeting finished at 7.00pm.

There was 1 member of the public present.