

## **KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Overview and Scrutiny Management Board**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board Held  
in the Council Chamber, Browfort, Bath Road, Devizes on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>  
October 2005 at 2.15pm

**PRESENT** – Councillor C.P.G. Hoddinott – Chairman

Councillor B.G. Ashley  
Councillor J.D. Pearcy-Caldwell  
Councillor Mrs P.M. Winchcombe

#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillor N.D. Carter  
Councillor W.B. Cavill  
Councillor Mrs J.K. Coombe  
Councillor Dr J.P.M. Reid

### **PART 1**

#### **Items considered whilst the meeting was open to the public**

#### **13. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **14. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

No disclosures were made.

#### **15. WORK PLAN PROGRESS 2005/2006**

The Policy Support Manager updated the Board on the work of Task Groups at that point in time, and requested that members considered making appointments to the Task Groups which had not yet met in the municipal year. The Chairman expressed his opinion that it was difficult to form the additional Task Groups with 6 of the Management Board absent. The Chairman explained to the Board that the Tourism Task Group could not proceed until a report had been received by the Director of Resources.

## **RESOLVED**

**THAT** a proforma be circulated to members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board with the Minutes of the Meeting seeking expressions of interest in sitting on the outstanding Task Groups. The Policy Support Manager, in consultation with the Chairman to be delegated to form the membership of the outstanding Task Groups as listed in the report.

## **16. TASK GROUP UPDATES**

The Chairman of the Car Parking Task Group spoke to a report which had been circulated with the Agenda. The Board was informed of the need to change the terms of reference for the Task Group, and told of the development of an outline car parking strategy.

## **RESOLVED**

**THAT** the following revised terms of reference be approved for the Task Group;

1. To develop a Consultative Car Parking Strategy Paper for Kennet and to undertake consultation with all key partners on its development of the strategy.
2. To send the Paper as a recommendation to Community Services Executive Committee for consideration in the creation of the policy.

A member of the Use of Resources Scrutiny Task Group informed the Board of the progress of the Task Group, and of a future meeting that had been arranged with the Director of Resources and Human Resources Manager.

## **RESOLVED**

**THAT** the report of the Use of Resources Scrutiny Task Group be noted.

## **17. ANNUAL MONITORING OF MEMBER PLANNING DECISIONS**

The Planning Services Manager reminded the Board that it had requested this report in October 2004 as a result of a previous Task Group. The attention of the Board was drawn to a statistical analysis of decisions of the Regulatory Committee, made against officer recommendation, that had been subsequently overturned on appeal, and to the apparent improvement in the performance of the Regulatory Committee. The Planning Services Manager expressed his opinion that Regulatory Committee members had benefited from two training

sessions held during 2004. He also informed the Board that additional training was planned, and that co-operation had improved between members and Planning Officers.

In response to a question from members the Planning Services Manager agreed that he would update the Board on appeal statistics as soon as the finalised figures for 2004/2005 were available.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT** the report of the Planning Services Manager be noted.

**18. CORPORATE FINANCE SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE**

The Board considered a report written jointly by the Policy Support Manager and the Chief Accountant and Auditor, which outlined potential weaknesses in the current system for auditing the Council's budgetary situation. The Board were reminded that should a sub-committee be appointed the membership would be decided by Group Leaders rather than the Board, but that any recommendations of the sub-committee would come to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in the first instance for recommendation to the relevant body.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT** a Corporate Finance Scrutiny Sub-Committee be established comprising of eight members. The sub-committee to be subject to political balance rules and include five Conservative members, two Independent members and one Liberal Democrat.

**19. PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT YEAR QUARTER 1**

The Policy Support Manager introduced her Report to the Board, and drew Members' attention in particular to a range of best value indicators that had underperformed in the first quarter. Members noted the rise in the recorded incidents of violent crime and of the increase in Planning Appeal overturns during the quarter.

**RESOLVED**

**THAT** the performance indicators for the first quarter be noted.

**PART 2**  
**Items considered whilst the meeting was closed to the public**  
**None**

Chairman  
6<sup>th</sup> December 2005