

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 4th December 2007 at 2:15pm.

PRESENT:

Councillor C P G Hoddinott - Chairman

Councillor S M Dagger

Councillor S Miles

Councillor Mrs P M Winchcombe

Councillor A Wood

Councillor Mrs S Zweck

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor A Lake

Councillor Mrs L Mayes

Councillor J Seed

PART 1

Items considered whilst the public were entitled to be present

42 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 23rd October 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

43 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were none.

44 CORPORATE FINANCE SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Finance Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 20th November 2007 were received and noted.

45 URGENT ITEM

Under the provisions of Section 100B 4 (b) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Chairman gave notice of his intention to take the following item as an urgent item for consideration by the Board.

46 HOUSING POLICY SCRUTINY

The Board considered a report by the Housing Policy Scrutiny Task Group that made recommendations for good practice for the interpretation and application of policy HC32 of the Local Plan.

RESOLVED

THAT the Board:

1. Recommends that good practise guidance on the interpretation and application of policy HC32 of the local plan be adopted by Planning Policies Executive and Community Development Executive Committees. Such guidance should also be included in a supplementary planning document as part of the local development framework. The content of the good practice guide should include the following principles:-
 - a. Local need for both affordable and/or social rented housing should be properly established and considered for all planning applications where HC32 is triggered.
 - b. An affordable housing threshold cost should be established and maintained by the council and applied to all applications where HC32 is triggered.
 - c. HC32 should not be considered in isolation but alongside other Housing Policies, particularly HC24 and Parish Plans where village developments are proposed.

47 LITTER BIN POLICY TASK GROUP

The Board considered a report by the Litter Bin Policy Task Group, setting out its work to date in the context of a larger street scene agenda.

RESOLVED

THAT

- i. The Litter Bin Policy Task group be discontinued.
- ii. The Board recommends a couple of quick win educational activities to publish an article in the Kennet Times and elsewhere and also send out a newsletter to all the parish councils to involve and inform the wider public.

48 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Corporate Services Manager introduced report C/20/07 reporting on the progress made to date on joint scrutiny arrangements for the work of the Transitional Executive.

Members were informed that the Board would become a conduit for information flow between the Transitional Executive and Kennet Members.

RESOLVED

THAT

1. The Board note the report and continue to support the transitional arrangements.
2. The subject areas of leisure centres, waste recycling and disposal, housing and development control be identified as areas of work for the draft work programme.

49 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT – QUARTER 2

The Board considered a report by the Corporate Services Manager providing members with the half year position for performance indicators.

The Board held a brief debate around the validity of collecting such indicators during the last year of the Council, but agreed that there were certain areas where monitoring would be necessary to ensure that the quality of key services did not diminish.

RESOLVED

THAT

The report be noted.

PART 2

Items considered whilst the meeting was closed to the public

None

Chairman
12th February 2008