

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a MEETING held at COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE, on FRIDAY, 7th July 2000.

PRESENT: Mr. P.F. Chalke (Chairman), Mr. P.G. Allnatt, Mr. R.G. Catton, Mrs. C. Crisp, Mr. P.R. Davis, Mr. J.N.B. Irving, Mr. J.P. Johnson, Mrs. M. Salisbury, Mr. P.W.L. Sample, Mrs. J.H. Seager, Mrs. C.A. Soden, Mr. N.S.E. Westbrook and Mr. K.C. Wren.

Mrs. M.E.M. Groom and Lt. Col. D.B.W. Jarvis also attended in accordance with Standing Order No. 25.

Also Present: Mr. K. Sharpe (Chairman of Governors, Malmesbury School) and Mr. R. Hammond (Chairman of Governors, Abbeyfield School, Chippenham) attended as Stakeholder representatives.

98. **Membership** The Director of Corporate Services reported the membership of the Committee, incorporating any changes since the previous meeting.

99. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved: To note the summary version of the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June, 2000.

100. **LGA European and International Forum** On report,

Resolved: To agree that Mr. Newbury's attendance at meetings of the LGA European and International Forum be considered as an approved duty for the purpose of claiming travelling and subsistence allowances.

101. **LGA Seminar "Spending Review 2000: The Next Three Years", Manchester - 27th July, 2000** On report,

Resolved:

(1) *To agree that Mr. P.G. Allnatt and Mr. R.T. Rogers be authorised to attend the above seminar.*

(2) *To agree that attendance be considered as an approved duty for the purpose of claiming attendance, travelling and subsistence allowances, provided they travel together, and do not stay overnight unless absolutely necessary.*

102. **Exclusion of the Public**

Resolved: To agree that in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting for the business specified in Item Numbers 103 and 104 because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 9 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

103. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved: To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June, 2000.

104. **North Wiltshire Schools PPP/PFI Project** The Committee considered a confidential report giving the latest information regarding the proposal to enter into a contract under the Private Finance Initiative to design, build, finance and operate three secondary schools in North Wiltshire.

Tabled at the meeting was a confidential supplementary report which provided the Committee with further information on the revised offer from the White Horse Education Partnership (WHEP). Letters from WHEP dated 6th and 7th July, 2000 were also circulated. The letters set out the assessment of a Basic Annual Payment and conditions they would agree to in the event of the County Council approving the completion of a contract.

The Chief Executive, Deputy County Treasurer and Director of Environmental Services explained the implications of any decision to the Committee.

(**Note:** The Committee adjourned for five minutes to enable the Chairman's motion to be circulated to members.)

Resolved: That the Chief Executive, following consultations with the County Treasurer, the Solicitor to the Council and the Director of Environmental Services, be authorised to complete a contract with the White Horse Education Partnership for the North Wiltshire Schools Private Finance Initiative project at an agreed price at BAFO interest rates and otherwise on terms to be agreed by the officers.

(Duration of meeting: 1.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Marie Todd of the Committee Services Unit, direct line (01225) 713011.

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