

**KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL
RESOURCES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting of the Resources Executive Committee held in the Council Chamber, Browfort, Devizes on 18th March 2008 at 2.15 pm

PRESENT: Councillor L Grundy - Chairman

Councillor Adamson
Councillor A P J Duck
Councillor Mrs S Evans
Councillor R Gamble
Councillor T C F Howard

Councillor J J Kunkler
Councillor A Lake
Councillor J G Ody
Councillor A S Wood

APOLOGIES:

Councillor A Molland
Councillor J D Pearcy-Caldwell

PART 1

Items considered whilst the public were entitled to be present

1. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No questions had been received for response at the meeting.

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27th November 2007 (the meeting due to be held on 5th February 2008 had been cancelled due to lack of business) were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were none.

4. ANNUAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION LETTER

Members considered a report by the Corporate Services Manager which submitted the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter issued by the Audit Commission for consideration. The Chairman stated that the audit and inspection letter reflected well on the Council. It recognised that there were constraints as a result of local government reorganisation and despite this the Council was still judged as performing well.

RESOLVED:

THAT:

1. the Annual Audit & Inspection Letter be approved
2. the following actions be adopted and included in the council's Corporate Action & Improvement Plan.

- a. To continue to monitor service standards to ensure they remain in line with the recently adopted minimum standards.
- b. To ensure that sound governance arrangements remain in place in the period leading up to the establishment of the proposed new council.

5. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report which presented and sought approval for the proposed Treasury Management Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2008/09, which were attached as appendices to the report.

The Head of Financial Services informed Members that the Local Government Act 2003 required the Council to produce both these documents. The Head of Financial Services detailed the proposals in the report and answered questions from the Committee. Following consideration it was

RESOLVED:

THAT

1. The revised Treasury Management Policy Statement and Treasury Management Practices (appendix A), including the minor amendments, be adopted.
2. The Annual Investment Strategy for 2008/09 (appendix A of Treasury Management Statement) be adopted.

6. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Financial Services which set out the requirements of the Council to prepare and publish an Annual Governance Statement, as part of the Council's financial statements. A copy of the draft Annual Governance Statement was attached as an appendix to the report. The Head of Financial Services advised that because of the timescale, authority was being sought to make minor amendments, should the need arise.

RESOLVED:

THAT

- 1) the draft Annual Governance Statement (Appendix A) be approved, subject to minor amendments for signing by the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive and for inclusion in the Statement of Accounts for 2007-08.
- 2) the Head of Financial Services be given delegated authority to make minor amendments to the Annual Governance Statement, as may be necessary prior to publication of the document in the Statement of Accounts in June 2008.

7. ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Members considered a report by the Chief Internal Auditor which set out the activities of the Internal Audit Function during the past year and provided Members with an audit opinion of all the audits completed and an overall audit opinion for 2007/08.

The Head of Financial Services referred Members to the audits that had been undertaken in 2007/08 and audits planned for 2008/09 as set out in the appendices.

RESOLVED: THAT the contents of the report and Appendices A, B and C be noted.

8. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – SECTION 100 (A)(4)

RESOLVED

THAT in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 Schedule 12A the Act.

9. BUSINESS RATES, MARLBOROUGH

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Financial Services which set out a request for rate relief in Marlborough.

The Head of Financial Services drew Members' attention to the key points contained within the report and responded to specific questions.

RESOLVED:

THAT the request for 100% rate relief be granted.

10. LAND AT BROOMCROFT ROAD, PEWSEY

Members considered a report by the Assistant to the Chief Executive which was concerned with land at Broomcroft Road, Pewsey.

The Assistant to the Chief Executive took Members through the report, highlighted the key elements and responded to questions.

RESOLVED:

THAT the recommendations 1-4 as set out in the report be approved.

11. APPLICATION FOR HARDSHIP RELIEF

Consideration was given to a report which set out the details of an application that had been received for hardship relief. The Head of Financial Services highlighted the key points of the report and referred Members to the appendices.

RESOLVED:

THAT the committee accept that hardship has been demonstrated in this case and that the granting of relief is in the interests of the Council Tax Payer and should be granted at a level of 100%.

Chairman
27th June 2008