

AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 7th February 2012 at Worksop Town Hall

Present: Councillor R B Carrington-Wilde (Chair)
Councillors Mrs V A Bowles, K Bullivant, H Burton, I J Campbell, D Challinor,
P Douglas, G Freeman, B Jones, C Palmer, D Potts, J B Rickells, Mrs C Troop and
Mrs V Wanless

Officers: C Crossland, M Hill, M Ladyman, N Taylor and R Theakstone

Also in attendance: A Ali and N Carpino

Standards Committee Members: B Letherland

Also present: Councillor J Evans

47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P C Offer and A A D Tromans.

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

(a) Members

There were no declarations by Members.

(b) Officers

There were no declarations of interest by officers.

48. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24th NOVEMBER 2011 AND 9th JANUARY 2012

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November and 9th January 2012 be approved.

49. MINUTES FOR ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

RESOLVED that the Minutes for Action be received.

50. OUTSTANDING MINUTES LIST

RESOLVED that the Outstanding Minutes List be received.

51. CHANGE OF AGENDA ORDER

The Chairman advised a change of order to the Agenda so that items 7(a) and 7(c) would be considered first followed by item 7(b).

52. REPORT(S) OF THE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

(a) Annual Audit Letter 2010/11

The District Auditor presented the Annual Audit Letter for 2010/11 for the last completed audit year. Bassetlaw has been issued with an unqualified audit opinion for the last financial year's accounts. Members were informed that Bassetlaw has the proper arrangements in place to secure value for money and financial resilience. Recommendations have been made regarding sustainability in the long term.

Members were informed that there will be a change in external auditors from March 2012 and new auditors will be appointed. The District Auditor thanked Members and Officers for their support and co-operation over the years during the audit.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and recommended to full Council on 5th March 2012 for noting.

(c) Certification of Claims and Returns – Audit Commission Annual Report 2010/11

The District Auditor presented Members with the Audit Commission's annual report on the certification of claims and returns for 2010/11. A total of six claims were audited during 2010/11, details were contained within the report.

RESOLVED that Members receive and accept the Report.

(b) Internal Audit Reports 2011/12

Members were presented with the Internal Audit Report. Members were advised that from the 24 internal audits outlined in the report, 112 recommendations have been identified and will be followed up in due course. Three reports were identified as high risk.

Members and Officers have held review meetings regarding red reports for Parks and Open Spaces and Markets. Minutes from the meeting held on the 6th February 2012 regarding Markets was circulated to Members at the meeting.

At a previous meeting on the 22nd September it was resolved that the high risk recommendation regarding contaminated land be amended and the wording of the recommendation be presented to the Committee. The recommendation agreed with management was presented to the Committee and Members were advised that these recommendations would be followed up.

Elected Members asked questions/ raised issues on contaminated sites and the markets.

The Chairman thanked officers and RSM Tenon for their work on the Audit.

RESOLVED that:

1. The possibility of reports regarding contaminated sites being presented to the Council's Health and Safety Committee be looked into and reported back to a future Committee.
2. An update on the new database for markets be presented to a future meeting.
3. It be ensured that the market stalls at Retford are correctly set up to allow access for wheelchairs and an update to be given to a future committee.
4. That the Town Centre Manager be invited to attend a future meeting to update Members regarding the Markets.
5. Members receive the Report and note actions taken or to be taken.

Key Decisions

53. REPORT(S) OF THE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

(a) General Fund Budget 2012/13 (Key Decision No. 300)

Members were presented with the General Fund Budget 2012/13 which will be reported to Cabinet on the 9th February 2012.

The Director of Resources informed Members regarding: savings achieved; 2011/12 budget pressures; level of reserves; capital financing charges; formal grant settlement 2012/13; council tax; business support and consultation; collection fund surplus and the 2012/13 work programme.

Elected Members asked questions/ raised issues on: the increase in costs for Democratic Representation and Support; funding withdrawn from swimming development and the markets.

RESOLVED that:

1. The outcome of the Retford Market consultation exercise be reported back to the Committee.
2. General Fund Budget 2012/13 report be noted.

(b) General Fund Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2016/17 (Key Decision No. 301)

Members were presented with the General Fund Capital Programme for 2012/13 to 2016/17, which will be reported to Cabinet on the 9th February 2012.

RESOLVED that General Fund Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2016/17 be noted.

(c) Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15 (Key Decision No. 303)

Members were presented with the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/14 which will be reported to Cabinet on 9th February 2012.

RESOLVED that Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15 be noted.

(d) Capital Investment Strategy 2012/13 to 2016/17 (Key Decision No. 304)

Members were presented with the Capital Investment Strategy 2012/13 to 2016/17 which will be reported to cabinet on 9th February 2012.

RESOLVED that Capital Investment Strategy 2012/13 to 2016/17 be noted.

(e) Property Asset Management Plan 2012/13 to 2016/17 (Key Decision No 305)

Members were presented with the Property Asset Management Plan 2012/13 to 2016/17 which will be reported to Cabinet on the 9th February.

RESOLVED that the Property Asset Management Plan 2012/13 to 2016/17 be noted.

Other Decisions

54. REPORT(S) OF THE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

(f) Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves – 2012/13

Members were presented with a report which deals with the robustness of estimates and the adequacy of reserves which will be reported to Cabinet on the 9th February 2012.

RESOLVED that Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves 2012/13 be noted.

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

None.

55. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

The Chairman thanked the Director of Resources, Head of Finance and Property, everyone who has contributed to the budget and Councillor J Evans for attending the meeting.

As there was no other urgent business to consider, the Chairman closed the meeting.