



DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

Council Offices, 19 North Square, Dorchester, Dorset. DT1 1JF
Telephone: (01305) 266861 Fax: (01305) 266085

Dennis Holmes, Town Clerk

14th January, 2009

Dear Sir or Madam,

A MEETING of the POLICY COMMITTEE will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, DORCHESTER on TUESDAY, 20th JANUARY, 2009 commencing at 7.00pm.

I hope that it will be convenient for you to attend.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk

Public Rights to Speak

If any member of the public wishes to speak at this meeting they may be allowed to do so at the discretion of the Chair. It would be helpful if anyone who wishes to address the Committee made their desire known to the Chair before the meeting starts: anyone allowed to speak will be expected to confine their comments to the matter in hand and to be as brief as is reasonably possible.

Declaration of Interests

Members are reminded that the Code of Conduct requires Members to declare any interest which they have in any matter under discussion. If the interest is regarded as a Personal Interest the Member may remain and take part in the consideration of the item but if the interest is a Prejudicial Interest the Member must withdraw from the Chamber during the consideration of it.

A G E N D A

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **MINUTES**

To read, confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 18th November, 2008 (adopted by Council on 25th November, 2008).

3. **MINUTES OF OTHER COMMITTEES**

To consider the under-mentioned Minutes of the Committees stated:

(a) Planning and Environment Committee – 5th January, 2009

Minute 63 – Estimates – 2009-10

(b) Management Committee

Minute 37 – Municipal Buildings – Lift

Minute 38 – Estimates – 2009-10

Minute 51 – Dorchester Arts Review

4. **POWER OF WELLBEING**

To receive and note the enclosed copy of The Parish Councils (Power to Promote Well-being) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2008 together with an accompanying Legal Briefing prepared by the National Association of Local Councils and to consider what arrangements to make for the receipt of the training required and the publication of the statement of intent as to community engagement required by paragraph 4 of the Schedule to the Order.

5. **EXTERNAL AUDIT: ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER – 2007/08**

To receive and consider the enclosed copy of the Annual Audit Letter in respect of 2007-08.

6. **INTERNAL AUDIT**

In accordance with Council Minute 45 to give further consideration to the most recent report of the Council's Internal Auditor.

7. **MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

To consider the enclosed copy Management Accounts for the period ended 31st December, 2008.

8. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT**

(a) Cash Deposits

In accordance with Minute 26 to receive and consider the enclosed copy report of the Financial Service Provider on the fluctuations in the value of the Council's cash deposits in recent years. Also enclosed is a summary of a range of investment interest rates currently available.

(b) Treasury Management Policy

In accordance with Minute 26 to consider the enclosed copy of a suggested revised Treasury Management Policy.

9. **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

To consider the enclosed copy of a draft updated Medium Term Financial Strategy.

10. **DRAFT BUDGET AND ESTIMATES – 2009-10**

(a) To consider the draft Estimates for the Policy Committee for 2009-10 (copy enclosed).

(b) To consider the draft Estimates for the Management and Planning and Environment Committees for 2009-10 (copies enclosed).

(c) To consider the Budget for 2009-10 and to recommend a precept to the Council. (Enclosed are copies of a table showing the impacts of alternative levels of precept, a summary of the principal issues affecting the Budget and an explanation prepared by the Financial Service Provider of the reason for the difference between the Council's cash balances and the level of Reserves identified in the Accounts.)

11. **DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL – AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT 2008**

To note that a copy of this Report is available for inspection in the Council Offices or by download from www.dorsetforyou.com/index.jsp?articleid=333783.

12. **A MANAGER'S GUIDE TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

To consider the enclosed copy of this document which has been prepared by the Improvement and Development Agency, the National Association of Local Councils and the Audit Commission.

13. **CONSULTATION – CODE OF RECOMMENDED PRACTICE ON LOCAL AUTHORITY PUBLICITY**

To consider whether to submit any comments in response to this Consultation Paper.

14. **URGENT ITEMS**

To consider any other items which the Chairman or Town Clerk decides are urgent.