

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY COMMITTEE

16th MAY, 2006

At a Meeting of the Policy Committee held on 16th May, 2006:

PRESENT Councillors T.C.N. Harries, Trevor Jones (Chairman), L.M. Phillips and R.G. Tarr.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor R.M. Biggs) and Councillors Miss C.M. Hebditch, Mrs. S.C. Hosford and T.A. Parsley.

51. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 21st March, 2006, adopted by Council on 28th March, 2006, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

52. **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

The Committee received and considered the Minute of the Annual Town Meeting held on 28th March, 2006.

In respect of the point raised at Minute 4 referring to the proposed Business Improvement District for Dorchester the Town Clerk reported his understanding that the BID Steering Group hoped that the proposal would yield approximately £500,000 over three years but that the precise proposal would emerge as the work of the Group progressed.

53. **PERFORMANCE AND POLICY PLAN 2006**

The Town Clerk reminded Members that the Performance and Policy Plan for 2006 was required to be published by 30th June, 2006 and, in accordance with the practice in recent years, it was

RECOMMENDED

That approval of the Performance and Policy Plan for 2006 be delegated to a working group comprising the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Management, Policy and Planning and Environment Committees but that copies of the draft Plan be circulated to all Members of Council as soon as practicable.

54. **PANELS 2006/07**

(a) **Membership of Panels 2006/07**

The Committee considered the allocation of Members of this Committee to Panels following the receipt of Councillors' individual preferences.

It was

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the following Members be appointed by this Committee to Panels for the 2006/07 Council year:

Arts

Councillor Miss C.M. Hebditch

Best Value

Councillor R.M. Biggs

Borough Gardens

Councillor Mrs. S.C. Hosford

Community Activities

Councillor P.G. Mann

Grants

Councillor T.C.N. Harries

Property Management and Maintenance

Councillor L.M. Phillips

Recreational Activities

Councillor L.M. Phillips

Resources

Councillors R.M. Biggs, T.C.N. Harries and Trevor Jones.

- (b) Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Resources Panel

The Committee considered the appointments of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Resources Panel and it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor Trevor Jones be elected Chairman of the Resources Panel and Councillor R.M. Biggs its Vice-Chairman for the 2006/07 Council year.

55. **CYCLICAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME**

Further to Minute 44(3) the Committee considered whether to make arrangements for the external preparation of a cyclical property maintenance programme.

Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

That the Committee records its opinion that the preparation of such a programme is desirable, that it should include all structures within the Council's property portfolio including structures within the Borough Gardens and the new Depot and that the funding of this matter be further considered during the preparation of the Estimates for 2007/08.

56. **DELEGATION SCHEME**

In accordance with Minute 30(5) (2004/05) the Committee reviewed the operation of the Council's Scheme of Delegation in the light of the comments of the Town Clerk and it was

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the Scheme of Delegation be amended to include additional delegations to the Planning and Environment Committee to deal with matters relating to public car parking, routine highway maintenance, public toilets and tree preservation orders.
- (2) That no change be made to the present arrangements whereby there are no direct delegations to panels save as authorised by Standing Order 50.

57. **DORCHESTER BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

As an urgent item the Committee received and noted Terms of Reference adopted by the Dorchester Business Improvement District Steering Group.

Chairman