

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY COMMITTEE

15th JULY, 2008

At a Meeting of the Policy Committee held on 15th July, 2008:

PRESENT Councillors M.A. Allwood, D.J. Barrett, R.M. Biggs, V. Black, T.C.N. Harries, Trevor Jones (Chairman) and L.M. Phillips.

APOLOGY for absence was received from The Mayor (Councillor C.M. Hebditch).

3. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 13th May, 2008, adopted by Council on 20th May, 2008, and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Committee held on 26th June, 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members of the Committee, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. **PANELS – 2008-09**

(a) **Membership of Panels 2008-09**

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 2008-09 Council year:

Arts

Councillor V. Black

Borough Gardens

Councillor D.J. Barrett

Community Activities

Councillor Trevor Jones

Grants

Councillor T.C.N. Harries

Property Management and Maintenance

Councillor L.M. Phillips

Recreational Activities

Councillor L.M. Phillips

Resources

Councillors D.J. Barrett, T.C.N. Harries and Trevor Jones

Risk Management

Councillors M.A. Allwood and R.M. Biggs

(b) Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Panels

The Committee considered the appointments of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Resources and Risk Management Panels and it was

RESOLVED

- (1) That Councillor Trevor Jones be elected Chairman of the Resources Panel and Councillor T.C.N. Harries its Vice-Chairman for the 2008-09 Council year.
- (2) That Councillor R.M. Biggs be elected Chairman of the Risk Management Panel and Councillor M.A. Allwood its Vice-Chairman for the 2008-09 Council year.

5. **FINAL ACCOUNTS – 2007-08**

Further to Minute 1 the Committee received and noted revised copies of pages 10, 30, 31 and 41 of the draft Statement of Accounts which had been amended to harmonise the presentation of credit and debit figures, taking account of comments passed during the detailed consideration of the draft Accounts.

6. **MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

The Committee received and noted the Council's Management Accounts for the period ended 30th June, 2008.

7. **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

The Committee considered a revised Medium Term Financial Strategy for the period 2008-09 to 2011-12 inclusive.

It was

RESOLVED

That the draft Medium Term Financial Strategy as now submitted be approved subject to the re-assignment of 75% of the project cost of installing a lift in the Municipal Buildings to the 2009-10 financial year and the remaining 25% to the 2010-11 financial year.

8. **DORCHESTER MARKETS JOINT COMMITTEE**

(a) Minutes

The Committee received and noted the Minutes of the Dorchester Markets Joint Committee held on 25th June, 2008 and considered the specific recommendation to the constituent authorities regarding the Joint Committee's arrangements for internal audit.

It was

RECOMMENDED

That the Recommendation contained in Dorchester Markets Joint Committee Minute 11 be approved so far as this Council is concerned.

(b) Distribution of Wednesday Market Surplus

The Committee considered a letter dated 1st July, 2008 from the Finance Manager to the West Dorset District Council seeking the Council's attitude to the future allocation of market surpluses in the light of recent changes in the financial performance of the market operation.

Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

That the West Dorset District Council be informed of this Council's view that the amount accruing to each of the constituent authorities should be derived by the application of the agreed percentages to the net surplus arising from the operation of the Wednesday stall market and that surpluses arising from the operation of the Sunday car boot sale should continue to be ring-fenced for the benefit of charitable and community organisations within the market area.

9. **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

It was

RESOLVED

That in view of the fact that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the following matter the public and representatives of the press be excluded from this meeting during its discussion.

10. **PROVISION OF FINANCIAL SERVICE**

The Committee considered what arrangements to make for the provision of financial services to the Council on the expiry of the initial period of the current arrangements with the West Dorset District Council on 31st March, 2009.

It was

RESOLVED

That no objection be raised to the extension of the current arrangements for a further period of three years commencing on 1st April, 2009 subject to the Town Clerk reaching a satisfactory conclusion to discussions regarding the ongoing occasional problems with payroll administration.

Chairman