

Minutes of the Meeting of the **FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
held at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER 2007** at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor G.M. Suttle (Town Mayor) – Chairman.

Councillor C.R. Bright
Councillor L. Gloyn-Cox
Councillor M. Hadley
Councillor M. Pratt
Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Also in attendance:- Councillor M. Whitwam

Public Participation Time

In addition to Members of the Council and Officers, 4 members of the public attended the Meeting.

The following matters were raised by members of the public:-

Request from the Bay View Caravan Owners Association to meet with representatives of the Council to discuss the Statement of Accounts. Some concerns had already been raised with the Audit Commission.

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies to report for inability to attend the Meeting.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW POLICY DOCUMENTS**

(a) **Anti-fraud & Corruption Policy**

Consideration was given to the Anti-fraud & Corruption Policy (copies having been circulated to all Members of the Committee prior to the Meeting).

Following discussion, during which it was acknowledged that the existing systems met with the approval of the Internal Auditor, but that there was a need to document these, it was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Hadley, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

TO RECOMMEND:

That the Anti-fraud & Corruption Policy document be accepted.

During the debate, it was suggested that the document be cross-referenced with other policy documents and incorporated within one folder, and this suggestion was noted.

(b) **Procurement Strategy**

Consideration was given to the Procurement Strategy document (copies having been circulated to all Members of the Committee prior to the Meeting).

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Hadley, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

TO RECOMMEND:

**That the Procurement Strategy be accepted,
subject to the Council's commitment to protecting
the environment being included within the document.**

(c) **Value for Money Policy**

The Clerk presented copies of the Value for Money Policy document for consideration.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the matter be deferred for consideration at a future meeting.

3. **MONITORING AND REVIEW OF DECISIONS**

Detailed consideration was given to the monitoring and review of Council's decisions/recommendations and the Action Plan, which currently listed 248 outstanding/ongoing items.

Following discussion, it was RESOLVED:-

That the Action Plan be updated and referred to a future meeting of the Committee.

Arising from the above, consideration was given to the replacement of the Council's vehicles, and having regard to the urgent nature of the matter, it was AGREED:-

That the matter be referred for consideration at the next meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters.

During consideration of the Action Plan, concern was expressed that some matters had been recommended for referral to Working Groups that had now been disbanded, and it was AGREED:-

That these items be referred to the appropriate Committee for consideration.

4. **SERVICE & STAFFING REVIEW AND OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

Further to Minute No. 4 of the Council Meeting held to discuss policy and planning matters on 7th September 2007, the Clerk submitted a document giving a brief outline of the scope, timescale, priority areas and methodology of the Service Review and Options Appraisal. He explained that the timing and dates of meetings were critical for the completion of the Service Review and Options Appraisal within the proposed six week timescale.

5. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That, as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

6. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Disposal of Land Proposals**

The Clerk reported on the legal requirements for the disposal of land – Sections 123 (2), 127 (2) and 128 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972, and the conditions appertaining thereto were noted.

(b) **Emmanuel Baptist Church**

The Clerk reported that approval had not yet been granted by Purbeck District Council in respect of the planning application for the Emmanuel Baptist Church at Herston.

In consideration of the above matter regarding the disposal of land, it was noted that the requirements for the disposal of land at Herston would need to be ratified. The current position regarding planning approval required the Council to work together with the representatives/agents of the Emmanuel Baptist Church in order to progress the project.

(c) **Coastguard Building, North Beach Car Park**

The Clerk reported that approval had not yet been determined by Purbeck District Council in respect of the planning application for the Coastguard Building in North Beach Car Park.

During the ensuing discussion, concerns currently being expressed relating to the settlement boundary, flood plain, and the requirement for public toilets to be incorporated within the proposed building, and the type of facility to be provided were noted. Questions were posed regarding environmental issues and it was noted that all alternative sites had previously been investigated.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED:-

That delegated powers be given to the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk to progress the matter and report to a future meeting of the Council.

The meeting concluded at 11.40 a.m.
