

RESOURCES TASK GROUP

Meeting No. 31 – 28th June 2010

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RESOURCES TASK GROUP

Minutes of Meeting No. 31 held in the McKinley Room, Riada House, on Monday 28th June 2010 at 2.00 pm.

CHAIR Alderman J Simpson

PRESENT

Alderman
F Campbell

Councillors
M McCamphill
E Robinson

APOLOGIES

Alderman
C Cousley MBE

Councillor
J Finlay

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive
Director of Borough Services,
Director of Central & Leisure Services,
Committee Clerk

31.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR

The Chief Executive invited nominations for the position of temporary Chair of the group.

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Alderman Campbell and **AGREED:**

that Alderman Simpson be elected as temporary Chair of the Resources Task Group.

31.2 MINUTES – MEETING NO 31 – 24TH MAY 2010**Matters Arising****2.1 Vacant Posts (30.4)**

At the request of Councillor Robinson, the Chief Executive clarified the posts agreed at the May meeting.

2.2 Overtime Report

At the request of Councillor Robinson, the Chair advised that the quarterly report relating to overtime would be available at the next meeting.

2.3 Adoption of Minutes

It was proposed by Alderman Campbell seconded by Councillor Robinson and **AGREED:**

that the minutes of Meeting No. 30 on 24th May 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

* **Councillor McCamphill arrived at 2.07 pm.**

31.3 POSSIBLE RATE INCREASES 2011/12

A list of possible rate increases for 2011/2012 was circulated to members for consideration.

Responding to questions, the Director of Central & Leisure Services advised that the increases listed are projected figures only as usages for items such as gas and electricity are unknown and other potential increases will be influenced by associated agencies and market influences; there will be a further review of the overall pension scheme, the outcome of which is expected in October/November which may result in an increase in employer's contributions. The Chief Executive advised that it is not clear how projected pay awards for local government employees earning under £21,000 would be implemented and that further advice is being sought from the Government.

Issues which engaged members included:

- Rationalisation of policies to ensure equality.
- Progress and timescales of planning applications for capital projects.
- Select lists and tendering processes.
- dNAP collaborative working and shared costs.
- Consultancy services.
- Review of general grant after July.
- NILAS waste targets.
- Increase in aftercare period of landfill closure site and associated costs.
- Assets for sale.
- Escalating cost of paper.
- Legislation currently under consideration relating to severance pay for councillors.

Members agreed that the best estimates provided will need to be carefully considered in order to reduce the projected increases.

31.4 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

27th September 2010 at 2.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 3.18 pm.

Appendices attached:

Appendix 1 Rates Estimate 2011/12 - Possible Increases

APPENDIX 1**Rates Estimates 2011/2012****Possible Increases**

Salaries & Wages	1% pension, 0.5% nic	43,902	
	pay award	19,252	
	unfilled posts	63,142	
			<hr/>
			126,296
Electricity/gas -			
10%			33,015
Building maintenance/contracts	-10%		12,770
Vehicle maintenance	- 10%		32,661
Landfill tax	9500 tonne x £8		76,000
Landfill provision			167,500
Election			30,000
Northern Area Plan consultancy			20,000
Customer Satisfaction survey			8,000
General Grant reduction			55,000
Capital Projects -			
	2 Refuse Coll Vehicles - £280k		47,319
	JDLC Maintenance - £100k		8,225
			<hr/>
Total possible increases			<u>616,786</u>
% increase on Rates			11.64

Notes:

Other possible increases not quantified are -

1. Running costs of new facilities
2. Bad Debts
3. Inflation
- 4 Compliance with legislative requirements - sustainable development
carbon reduction
NILAS targets
5. reduced government grants