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**COUNCIL MEETING**

**24 April 2008 – 7.00 pm**

**PRESENT:**

The Mayor, Councillor Garrod (in the Chair); Councillors Ames, Barker, Blyth, Burroughs, Castle, B Coleman, M Coleman, Collins, Cook, Easter, P Hacon, Hewitt, Holmes, Jermany, Linden, Peck, Pettit, Plant, Reynolds, Shrimplin, Stone, B Taylor, M Taylor, D Thompson, M Thompson, Wainwright, B Walker, C Walker, Weymouth and Williamson.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Hacon, Smith, Tate and Watts.

Mr R Packham (Managing Director), Mr C Skinner (Head of Central Services) and Mr R Hodds (Member Services Manager and Scrutiny Officer).

**1. MINUTES**

The minutes of the 21 February 2008 were confirmed.

**2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Members were advised that no questions had been raised by a member of the public.

**3. REPORTS TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION**

**(a) Annual Audit and Inspection Letter – Audit Commission**

Council was advised that Cabinet at its meeting on the 23 April 2008 had referred the following action points to Council for approval:-

- Continue to drive forward the Council's Improvement Programme to address areas of poor performance
- Ensure that it has sufficient capacity to deliver its improvement agenda
- Ensure that the recommendations made in the Auditor's Annual Governance Report are implemented
- Take the necessary steps to address the matters set out in the Commission's Use of Resources Report and improve the Council's use of resources assessment

- Monitor the progress on the implementation of agreed recommendations in the Commission's Data Quality Report.

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That the action points as outlined above be approved.

CARRIED

**(b) Cabinet Advisory Groups**

On reference from Cabinet of the 19 March, Council was recommended to agree to replace the existing five Cabinet Advisory Groups with three Advisory Groups (Strategic and Community, Customers and Resources and Economy and Environment), to be based around Directorates rather than Cabinet Portfolios, with the terms of reference of the Advisory Groups to remain unaltered but with the membership being increased from seven to twelve Members (politically balanced), and that each Advisory Group to agree a timetable of meetings and work programme for the 2008/09 Municipal Year.

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That the arrangements for the Cabinet Advisory Groups for the 2008/09 Municipal Year as outlined above be approved.

CARRIED

**(c) Audit and Risk Committee – Terms of Reference**

Council considered the Head of Financial Services' report which sought endorsement of revised terms of reference for the Audit and Risk Committee.

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That the revised terms of reference for the Audit and Risk Committee as detailed in the Head of Financial Services' report be approved.

CARRIED

**(d) Local Code of Corporate Governance**

Council considered the Head of Financial Services' report which sought endorsement of a "Revised Code of Corporate Governance".

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance as detailed in the Head of Financial Services' report be approved.

CARRIED

**(e) Committee Timetable 2008/09**

Council considered the Member Services Manager and Scrutiny Officer's report in respect of the proposed Committee Timetable for 2008/09.

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That the proposed Committee Timetable for 2008/09 as amended be agreed.

CARRIED

**4. MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

**(a) Council – 21 February 2008**

The Mayor presented the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 21 February 2008.

**(b) Cabinet – 19 March and 23 April 2008**

The Leader presented the minutes of the Cabinet Meetings held on the 19 March and 23 April 2008.

**(c) Scrutiny Committee – 25 February and 25 March 2008**

The Chairman presented the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee meetings held on the 25 February and 25 March 2008.

**(d) Audit and Risk Committee – 10 March 2008**

Council considered the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on the 10 March 2008.

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That the minutes of Council of the 21 February 2008, Cabinet of the 19 March and 23 April 2008, Scrutiny Committee of the 25 February and 25 March 2008 and Audit and Risk Committee of the 10 March 2008 be received.

CARRIED

**5. REPORT OF LEADER ON URGENT KEY DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING WHICH WERE NOT IN THE FORWARD PLAN**

The Leader reported that there were no issues for consideration.

**6. KING JOHN'S CHARTER 800TH ANNIVERSARY FEAST – 17 MAY 2008**

The Leader reminded Council of the arrangements in respect of the King John's Charter 800th Anniversary Feast to be held at St Nicholas Church on the 17 May 2008.

**7. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 7.05 pm