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COUNCIL MEETING

28 August 2008 – 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Coleman, Garrod, S Hacon and Page.

Mrs J Ratcliffe (Executive Director – Customers and Resources), Mr C Skinner (Head of Central Services) and Mr R Hodds (Member Services Manager and Scrutiny Officer).

1. MINUTES

The minutes of 26 June 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) Terms of Reference – Audit and Risk Committee

Council was advised that under the terms of the Constitution, the Executive Board recently approved a Business Continuity Policy and Management Strategy which would ensure that the Borough Council meets the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.

On reference from Cabinet of 23 July 2008, Council was recommended to agree to the part of this Policy which recommends an addition to the terms of reference of the Audit and Risk Committee as follows:-

“The Audit and Risk Committee will act as a point of strategic leadership and support regarding business continuity and receive recommendations and assessments from the Business Continuity Work Group”.

Proposer: Councillor Smith

Seconder: Councillor B Coleman

That the Audit and Risk Committee's terms of reference be amended on the lines detailed above.

CARRIED

(b) Appointments to Committees 2008/09

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That Councillor Butcher replace former Councillor Hodds on the following:-

- Strategic and Community Advisory Group
- Customers and Resources Advisory Group
- Housing Appeals Committee
- Audit and Risk Committee

CARRIED

(c) Appointments to Outside Bodies 2008/09

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That Councillor Butcher be appointed as the Borough Council's representative to serve on the Lynn Grove Football Pitch Management Committee.

CARRIED

4. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2007/08

The Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee presented the Committee's Annual Report for 2007/08 which informed Council and members of the public of the work undertaken by the Scrutiny Committee during 2007/08. The report provided details on reviews carried out, details of the structure of Scrutiny within the Council's Constitution, Scrutiny processes and the principles of Scrutiny, along with membership details of the Scrutiny Committee. In presenting the report, the Chairman expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Member Services Manager and Scrutiny Officer and to the Senior Member Services Officer for all their work with regard to the Scrutiny process.

In discussing the report, Council discussed the following issues:-

- The production of the Tenants Handbook had still to be completed.
- Details of all Section 106 monies should be sent electronically to all relevant Ward Members.
- The issue relating to the Integrated Services Centre.

The Cabinet Member (Resources) reported that a budget provision had been included in respect of this issue.

- SHARP Project – comments expressed with regard to the success of this project.

Proposer: Councillor Williamson

Seconder: Councillor B Coleman

That the Scrutiny Committee's Annual Report 2007/08 be approved.

CARRIED

5. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

(a) Council – 26 June 2008

The Mayor presented the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 June 2008.

(b) Cabinet – 23 July 2008

The Leader presented the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23 July 2008.

(c) Scrutiny Committee – 7 July and 26 August 2008

The Chairman presented the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 7 July and 26 August 2008.

Proposer: Councillor B Coleman

Seconder: Councillor Stone

That the minutes of Council of 26 June 2008, Cabinet of 23 July 2008, and Scrutiny Committee of 7 July and 26 August 2008 be received.

CARRIED

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

The Leader advised that there were no urgent key decisions to be reported.

7. SINGLE CABINET MEMBER DECISION – CHUBB FIRE REGIONAL

The Cabinet Member (Resources) advised Members of an amendment to a recent decision made by himself as part of the Single Cabinet Member Decisions with regard to the waiving of financial standing orders in respect of an issue relating to Chubb Fire Regional.

8. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting ended at 7.20 pm.