

Creating Central Bedfordshire

Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands
Shefford SG17 5TQ

please ask for Mr John Phillipson
direct line 01462 611034
date 17 February 2009

NOTICE OF MEETING

*Members of the Central Bedfordshire Shadow Council are hereby
summoned to attend a meeting of the: -*

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE SHADOW COUNCIL

***Date:* THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2009**

***Time:* 5.00 p.m.**

***Venue:* COUNCIL CHAMBER, PRIORY HOUSE,
MONKS WALK, CHICKSANDS, SHEFFORD**

Jaki Salisbury
Interim Chief Executive
Central Bedfordshire Shadow Council

To: The Chairman and Members of the Central Bedfordshire Shadow
Council

***MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME
TO ATTEND THIS MEETING***

AGENDA

**PRAYERS TO BE TAKEN BY
REVEREND RICHARD ANDREWS,
TEAM RECTOR AND PRINCIPAL MINISTER
AT PRIORY CHURCH OF
ST PETER, DUNSTABLE**

APOLOGIES

The Chairman to ask for any apologies received in advance of the meeting. The Chairman to ask the meeting if there are any other apologies to be recorded.

MINUTES

The Chairman to invite the Council to approve the signing of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Shadow Council held on 8 July 2008 (Minute Nos. SC/08/11 to SC/08/15).

MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members declarations and the **nature** thereof in relation to: -

- (a) Personal Interests in any Agenda item
- (b) Personal and Prejudicial Interests in any Agenda item

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman to make any announcements or communications.

VACATION OF OFFICE

To advise the Shadow Council that Bedfordshire County Council has declared the seat in the Plantation Division of the County Council vacant owing to the failure of County Councillor Paul Walley to attend any meeting of the County Council for a period of six consecutive months and that Cllr Walley has therefore has also ceased to be a Member of the Shadow Council.

(Report of the Monitoring Officer attached – pages 5.1 to 5.2)

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2009/10

To approve and adopt a Scheme of Members' Allowances for Central Bedfordshire Council for the year commencing 1 April 2009, having regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and a revised Scheme proposed by the Shadow Executive at its meeting on 20 January 2009.

(Report of the Director of Corporate Resources attached – pages 6.1 – 6.44)

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE DRAFT CONSTITUTION AND INTERIM GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

To approve and adopt the Constitution of Central Bedfordshire Council together with the interim governance arrangements during the period 1 April to 7 June 2009.

(Report of the Constitution and Governance Working Group attached – pages 7.1 to 7.2)

Please note that the Constitution can be viewed by taking the following link:

[Mid Beds District Council - Library document - Draft Central Bedfordshire Council Constitution](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SHADOW EXECUTIVE AND ANY QUESTIONS RAISED UNDER FULL COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 8.1 IN RELATION TO THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) SHADOW EXECUTIVE – 20 JANUARY 2009

(i) *Reserves Policy*
Minute No. SE/08/77

The Shadow Executive considered the report of the Director of Corporate Resources, which asked for an appropriate policy for the level of general fund reserve for 2009-10 be agreed.

The Portfolio Holder (Corporate Resources) informed the Committee that the level of reserves had been calculated using the information available.

In response to questions regarding the level proposed in paragraph 17, the Portfolio Holder and Director of Corporate Resources confirmed that the figure was realistic and had been risk assessed. The level would be reviewed each year with a target of £6m to £7m reserves once transitional costs had been repaid. It had been noted that until the three legacy authorities had closed down their accounts an accurate review would not be possible. It was agreed that this be done as soon as possible after account closure.

Reason for decision: To agree an appropriate policy for the level of general fund reserves during 2009/10.

RECOMMENDED

that the Shadow Council:-

- (a) approves the reserves policy for 2009/10 as set out in the report of the Director of Corporate Resources;**
- (b) approves the setting of the minimum General Fund Reserve level for 2009/10 at £4.68m for Central Bedfordshire as indicated in paragraph 17 of Appendix 1 to the report of the Director of Corporate Resources; and**
- (c) determines that the Authority will review the reserves policy following the closure of the accounts of the three legacy authorities.**

(b)	SHADOW EXECUTIVE – 17 FEBRUARY 2009
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- NOTES: 1. *This Agenda has been despatched prior to the Executive's meeting on 17 February 2009. However it is anticipated that recommendations on the following items will be submitted for Council approval:-*
- (a) Treasury Management Strategy*
 - (b) Capital Programme and Investment Strategy*
 - (c) Revenue Budget 2009/10 and Medium Term Financial Plan*
2. *The recommendations will be circulated as soon as possible after the Shadow Executive's meeting, together with any comments of the Scrutiny Committee upon the budget following its meeting on 19 February. The Chairman will permit these recommendations to be dealt with as urgent items of business to allow the setting of the Budget and Council Tax within the statutory timescales.*
3. *The Chairman has exercised his authority under Council Procedure Rule No. 2 to vary the order of business to take this item in conjunction with the report on the Council Tax at item 9.*

COUNCIL TAX 2009/10

To report the Budget Proposals of the Executive from its meeting of 17 February 2009 and present the Formal Council Tax Resolution.

(Report of the Director of Corporate Resources attached – pages 9.1 to 9.17)

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS AND CHAIRMAN TO COMMITTEES FROM APRIL TO JUNE

To receive and consider the report of the Monitoring Officer on recommendations of the Group Leaders in relation to the appointment of Members and substitutes to Committees and other forums and the appointment of the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of certain Committees of the Council between April – June 2009.

(Report of the Monitoring Officer attached – pages 10.1 to 10.13)

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS APRIL 2009 - MAY 2010

To approve the Calendar of Meetings for Central Bedfordshire April 2009 – May 2010.

(Report of the Monitoring Officer attached – pages 11.1 – 11.4)

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS TO THE CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

To endorse the appointment of the five independent persons to the Standards Committee.

(Report of the Monitoring Officer attached – pages 12.1 – 12.3)

APPOINTMENT OF TOWN/PARISH MEMBERS TO THE CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

To endorse the appointment of five Town/Parish Members to the Central Bedfordshire Standards Committee.

(Report of the the Monitoring Officer attached – pages 13.1 – 13.3)

Note:

This information can be provided in an alternative format or language on request (08452 30 40 40)

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