

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ



please ask for Devina Lester
direct line 01234 228857
date 9 June 2009

NOTICE OF MEETING

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL (ANNUAL MEETING)

Date & Time

Thursday, 18 June 2009 at 6.30 p.m.

Venue at

Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford

Jaki Salisbury
Interim Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

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

AGENDA

Prayers to be taken by the
Reverend Richard Andrews

1. **Apologies**

The Chairman to ask the Assistant Director Legal & Democratic to announce any apologies received in advance of the meeting. The Chairman to ask the meeting if there are any other apologies to be recorded.

2. **Election of Substitute Chairman**

To elect a person to preside if the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are absent.

3. **Election of Chairman 2009/10**

To elect the Chairman of the Council for the Municipal Year 2009/10. The retiring Chairman (or if absent the retiring Vice-Chairman or substitute Chairman) will call for nominations for Chairman and each nomination must be seconded. Members may speak in support of the nominations.

(Note: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 20.7, if more than one nomination is received, a show of hands will be conducted).

The appointed Chairman to sign and read out the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. **Election of Vice-Chairman 2009/10**

To elect the Vice-Chairman of the Council for the Municipal Year 2009/10. The Chairman will call for nominations for Vice-Chairman and each nomination must be seconded. Members may speak in support of the nominations.

(Note: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 20.7, if more than one nomination is received, a show of hands will be conducted).

The appointed Vice-Chairman to sign and read out the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

5. **Election of Leader of the Council 2009/10 and 2010/11**

In accordance with B5 Council Procedure Rule No. 2.3 and C1 Executive Arrangements paragraph 3.1, the Chairman to invite nominations for the election of the Leader of the Council for the period until the next election of all members of the Council in 2011.

6. **Minutes**

To receive and sign the Minutes of the meetings of the Councils of the predecessor authorities as follows:

- (i) Central Bedfordshire Shadow Council – 26 February 2009
- (ii) Bedfordshire County Council – 26 March 2009
- (iii) Mid Bedfordshire District Council – 26 March 2009
- (iv) South Bedfordshire District Council – 31 March 2009

7. **Member's 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

8. **Chairman's Announcements and Urgent Communications**

If any

9. **Public Participation**

The Chairman to preside over any questions, statements, deputations or petitions from members of the public (this session is to be held at the Chairman's discretion and will normally last no more than 15 minutes).

The Chairman to inform Members of any request to speak before any individual item on this Agenda in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure set out in A4 Citizens and the Council, Appendix A.

10. **Report of the Returning Officer**

The report outlines the outcome of the election to the new Central Bedfordshire Council.

(Report attached – pages 10/1 to 10/12)

11. **Appointment of Members, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to Committees and Other Council Bodies 2009/10**

The report outlines the requirements for member appointments to committees and other Council bodies, including political proportionality. Nominations from group leaders will be circulated separately.

(Report attached – pages 11/1 to 11/17)

12. **Scheme of Council Delegations to Officers**

In accordance with Full Council Procedure Rule 2.2.2.11, to confirm the Scheme of Delegation to officers as set out in Part H3 of the Constitution.

13. **Local Development Framework (Rural Area): Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document Examination**

To report proposes that Council delegates authority to the Director of Sustainable Communities in consultation with the Sustainable Development Portfolio Holder to make minor changes to the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document.

(Report attached – pages 13/1 to 13/3)

14. **Composition of the Executive and Proposed Scheme of Delegation of Executive Functions**

To receive a report from the Leader of the Council regarding the composition of the Executive for the coming year, the names of the Councillors appointed to the Executive and the responsibilities to be held by those Councillors together with a record of the proposed Scheme of Delegation of Executive Functions. (Executive Procedure Rule C4 1.2 refers)

15. **Appointments to the Joint Selection Committee (for Bedfordshire Police Authority) and the Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority 2009/10**

The report outlines the requirements for member appointments to these two bodies, as previously agreed. Nominations from group leaders will be circulated separately.

(Report of the Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic attached – pages 15/1 to 15/5)

16. **Appointments to Outside Bodies**

To authorise the Assistant Director Legal & Democratic, in consultation with the Group Leaders, to make appointments to the outside bodies listed in the schedule attached to this agenda for the period until the Council election in 2011.

(Report of the Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic attached – pages 16/1 to 16/22)

17. **Members' Allowances Scheme 2009/10**

To consider the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance to the 4 former non-portfolio Members of the Executive and an enhanced Special Responsibility Allowance for the Deputy Leader of the Council, who served as Vice-Chairman of the Executive without Portfolio, for the second transitional period, that being the period from 1 April 2009 until the fourth day after the ordinary election on 4 June 2009.

(Report of the Director of Corporate Resources attached – pages 17/1 to 17/3)

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CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE SHADOW COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE SHADOW COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford on Thursday, 26 February 2009.

PRESENT

Cllr D McVicar (Chairman)
Cllr A Duggan OBE (Vice-Chairman)

| | | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Cllrs | P N Aldis | Cllrs | Mrs R B Gammons | Cllrs | Mrs B Meakins |
| | A R Baines | | M Gibson | | S A Mitchell |
| | R G Baker BEM | | B J Golby | | J Murray |
| | R A Baker | | J Goodchild | | Mrs M Mustoe |
| | Mrs A Barker | | Mrs S Goodchild | | T Nicols |
| | A R Bastable | | Ms A M W Graham | | P Penman |
| | R D Berry | | T Green | | P Rawcliffe |
| | Mrs R Bird | | Mrs A Guess | | A J Rayment |
| | L Birt | | Mrs D B Gurney | | A A J Rogers |
| | P A Blaine | | J A Gurney | | G Rolfe |
| | D Bowater | | H T W Harper | | J A G Saunders |
| | A D Brown | | M Hearty | | J E Scott |
| | M Butler | | Mrs C Hegley | | A Shadbolt |
| | P B Carne (late arrival) | | D Hogan | | K Sharer |
| | A B Carter | | R W Johnstone | | D Smith |
| | Mrs C F Chapman MBE | | D Jones | | M A Smith |
| | M R Chapman | | M R Jones | | Miss A Sparrow |
| | J A E Clarke | | J Kane | | R Stay |
| | N B Costin | | Mrs K D Keen | | J Street |
| | I Dalgarno | | R V King | | G Summerfield |
| | Mrs J R Davison | | D J Lawrence | | P Swaisland |
| | Mrs R J Drinkwater | | Mrs J G Lawrence | | Mrs C Turner |
| | G Ellis | | V Lee | | Mrs P E Turner MB |
| | A Fahn | | Mrs A M Lewis | | E |
| | W Forde | | J H Lewis | | P F Vickers |
| | Mrs J Freeman | | H J Lockey | | N Warren |
| | M Freeman | | K D Lynch | | B Wells |
| | P Freeman | | S F Male | | J N Young |
| | D J Gale | | K C Matthews | | |

Apologies for Absence

| | | | | | |
|-------|------------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|
| Cllrs | P B Carne (for late arrival) | Cllrs | Mrs S Hills | Cllrs | I Shingler |
| | Mrs B Coleman | | Mrs E Morgan | | Mrs W P Smith |
| | A Fairbairn | | B Piggott | | P Snelling |
| | Mrs J Fairbairn | | D Ross | | T Swain |
| | E Gilchrist | | Mrs M Russell | | J Taylor |
| | Mrs S Gilchrist | | B Sadler | | |
| | R Goodwin | | | | |

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Officers in Attendance: | Mr G Alderson | – Director of Environmental & Planning Services, MBDC/Director of Sustainable Communities, CBC |
| | Mr J Atkinson | – Head of Legal Services, BCC |
| | Miss H Bell | – Committee Administrator, MBDC |
| | Mrs M Clampitt | – Committee Administrator, MBDC |
| | Mr B Dunleavy | – Democratic and Administrative Services Manager, SBDC |
| | Mr R Ellis | – Director of Business Transformation, CBC |
| | Mrs E Grant | – Director of Children, Families and Learning and Deputy Chief Executive, CBC |
| | Mr C Heaphy | – Director of Corporate Resources, CBC |
| | Miss S Hobbs | – Committee Administrator, SBDC |
| | Miss M A Houghton | – Members' Services Officer, MBDC |
| | Mr M Hustwitt | – Communications Manager, MBDC |
| | Mrs K John | – Democratic Services Manager, MBDC |
| | Mrs B Morris | – Director of Corporate & Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer, CBC |
| | Mrs J Ogle | – Director of Social Care, Health & Safety, CBC |
| | Mr J Phillipson | – Senior Committee Administrator, MBDC |
| | Mr M Ronan | – Legal Officer, SBDC |
| | Mr J Ruddick | – Chief Executive, SBDC/Interim Deputy Chief Executive, CBC |
| | Mrs J Salisbury | – Chief Executive MBDC/Interim Chief Executive, CBC |

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by the Reverend Richard Andrews, Team Rector and Principal Minister at Priory Church of St. Peter, Dunstable.

SC/08/16

MINUTES

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Shadow Council held on 8 July 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

SC/08/17 **MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

(a) **Personal Interests: -**

None.

(b) **Personal and Prejudicial Interests:-**

None.

SC/08/18 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman declined to make any announcements or communications except to observe that the Shadow Council had before them an extensive agenda.

SC/08/19 **VACATION OF OFFICE**

The Shadow Council received and considered the report of the Monitoring Officer advising of the vacation of the office of Councillor at Bedfordshire County Council. The report advised that Bedfordshire County Council had declared the seat in the Plantation Division of the Council vacant owing to the failure of County Cllr Paul Walley to attend any meeting of the County Council for a period of six consecutive months and that Cllr Walley had also therefore ceased to be a Member of the Shadow Council. In addition to the report as now presented, the Shadow Council was informed of the resignation of Cllr Zain Haider from membership of the Mid Bedfordshire District Council. Cllr Haider had represented the Langford and Henlow Village Ward since his election in May 2007. In the light of his resignation Cllr Haider had ceased to be a Member of the Shadow Council.

RESOLVED

- 1. that the Shadow Council notes that Cllr R P Walley, County Councillor for the Plantation Division, has ceased to be a member of the Bedfordshire County Council having failed to attend any meetings of the Authority for a period of six consecutive months and has therefore also ceased to be a member of Central Bedfordshire Shadow Council;***
- 2. that the Shadow Council notes that Bedfordshire County Council has declared the seat formerly occupied by Cllr R P Walley vacant under Section 86(1)(c) of the Local Government Act 1972 but that, in accordance with the Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008, there is no need to hold a by-election to fill the casual vacancy;***

3. (a) *that the Shadow Council notes that Cllr Z Haider, District Councillor for the Langford and Henlow Village Ward, has ceased to be a member of the Mid Bedfordshire District Council following his resignation and had therefore also ceased to be a member of Central Bedfordshire Shadow Council;*
- (b) *that the Shadow Council notes that, in accordance with the Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008, there is no need to hold a by-election to fill the casual vacancy.*

SC/08/20 **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2009/10**

The Portfolio Holder (Corporate Services) presented the report of the Director of Corporate Resources seeking approval and adoption of 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 held on 20 January 2009.

Following the presentation of the report, it was moved and seconded:-

“that the Shadow Council:-

- (a) adopts a Scheme of Members' Allowances for Central Bedfordshire Council for the year commencing 1 April 2009 as outlined in Appendix A.2 of the report of the Director of Corporate Resources and as recommended in the full Scheme set out at Appendix C to the report, at an estimated cost of £1,243,682 subject to:-
- (i) the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Luton and South Beds Joint Committee Chairman applying to the Vice-Chairman when the chairmanship is held by Luton Borough Council; and
- (ii) the mileage allowances for travel by car or motorcycle being set in accordance with the rates paid to local government staff, as shown below (those rates to be amended during the year ending 31 March 2010 in line with any change recommended by the National Joint Council for the payment of local government staff):-

| Car or Motorcycle Engine Size | Per Mile |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Not exceeding 999cc | 42.9 pence |
| 1000 – 1199cc inclusive | 46.9 pence |
| 1200cc and over | 58.7 pence |

- (iii) the application of the following additions for conveyance of Member passengers:-

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Addition for one Member passenger | 3 pence per mile |
| Addition for each further Member passenger | 2 pence per mile |

- (b) resolves that all Central Bedfordshire Councillors should be given access to the Local Government Pension Scheme, based on the sum of basic allowance and any special responsibility allowance that may be payable, at an estimated cost of £75,000;
- (c) requests the Independent Remuneration Panel to review the Scheme in the Autumn of 2009 in the light of further evidence of the demands and responsibilities placed upon Members of the new Council and of similar unitary authorities; and
- (d) agrees to amend retrospectively the Scheme of Members' Allowances for the year commencing 1 April 2008, adopted by the Shadow Council on 8 July 2008, to enable the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance to those members nominated by the Shadow Council to serve as observer members of the Bedfordshire Police Authority or the Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority who are not already Members; the allowance to be paid pro rata to the period of appointment at the rate set for existing Members by those two authorities."

As an amendment to the Motion, it was moved and duly seconded that the mileage allowances as originally recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel should be adopted.

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **lost**.

As a further amendment to the Motion it was moved and duly seconded that the mileage allowances for travel by car or motorcycle be amended to read as follows:-

| "Car or Motorcycle Engine Size | Per Mile |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Not exceeding 999cc | 42.9 pence |
| 1000 – 1599cc inclusive | 46.9 pence |
| 1600cc and over | 58.7 pence" |

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **lost**.

The original Motion as set out above was then presented as the Substantive Motion and was duly moved and seconded.

Upon being put to the vote, the Substantive Motion was **carried**.

RESOLVED

that the Shadow Council:-

(a) adopts a Scheme of Members Allowances for Central Bedfordshire Council for the year commencing 1 April 2009 as outlined in Appendix A.2 of the report of the Director of Corporate Resources, and as recommended in the full Scheme as set out in Appendix C to that report, as an estimated cost of £1,243,682, subject to:-

(i) the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Luton and South Beds Joint Committee Chairman applying to the Vice-Chairman when the chairmanship is held by Luton Borough Council; and

(ii) the mileage allowances for travel by car or motorcycle being set in accordance with the rates paid to local government staff, as shown below (those rates to be amended during the year ending 31 March 2010 in line with any change recommended by the National Joint Council for the payment of local government staff):-

| Car or Motorcycle Engine Size | Per Mile |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Not exceeding 999cc | 42.9 pence |
| 1000 – 1199cc inclusive | 46.9 pence |
| 1200cc and over | 58.7 pence |

(iii) the application of the following additions for conveyance of Member passengers:-

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Addition for one Member passenger | 3 pence per mile |
| Addition for each further Member passenger | 2 pence per mile |

(b) resolves that all Central Bedfordshire Councillors should be given access to the Local Government Pension Scheme, based on the sum of basic allowance and any special responsibility allowance that may be payable, at an estimated cost of £75,000;

(c) requests the Independent Remuneration Panel to review the Scheme in the Autumn of 2009 in the light of further evidence and demands and responsibilities placed upon Members of the new Council and of similar unitary authorities; and

- (d) ***agrees to amend retrospectively the Scheme of Members' Allowances for the year commencing 1 April 2008, adopted by the Shadow Council on 8 July 2008, to enable the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance to those Members nominated by the Shadow Council to serve as observer members of the Bedfordshire Police Authority or the Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority who are not already members; the allowance to be paid pro rata to the period of appointment at the rate set for existing Members by those two authorities."***

SC/08/21

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE DRAFT CONSTITUTION AND INTERIM GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Council received and considered the report of the Constitution and Governance Working Group which sought the approval and adoption of the Constitution of Central Bedfordshire Council together with the interim governance arrangements during the period 1 April to 7 June 2009. In presenting the report, the Chairman of the Working Group presented a list of proposed minor amendments to the Constitution, previously circulated to all Members of the Shadow Council as an Appendix to the Shadow Council meeting update letter dated 24 February 2009. In light of the proposed minor amendments and the recommendations of the Working Group, it was moved and seconded:-

- "1. that further to the decision of the Shadow Executive at its meeting held on 17 February 2009 to re-designate second and third tier posts in the Central Bedfordshire staffing structure as "Assistant Directors" and "Heads of Service" respectively, the necessary adjustments be made throughout the Constitution to reflect the new post titles;
2. that paragraph 10.17 of Part D2 of the Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules) be amended to provide that there is an expectation that any Member(s) who calls in a decision should attend the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at which the call-in is to be heard;
3. that the following typographical errors in the draft Constitution be corrected as follows:-
 - (a) Part A4 – page 9 – paragraph 5.1.5 delete the word "the" between "to" and "an";
 - (b) Part E2 – page 10 – paragraph 7.2.2 delete "arsing" and replace with "arising";
 - (c) Part H3 – page 9 – paragraph 4.1.4 delete "here" in penultimate line and replace with "where";

4. that the Members Planning Code of Good Practice contained in the Ethical Handbook be amended in the following respect:-
 - (a) Appendix A – page 20 - delete “A Member of the Development Management Committee” and replace with “Any Member of the Council”.
5. (a) that, subject to 1 to 4 above, the draft Central Bedfordshire Constitution, as now submitted at document number 7, be approved and implemented either with effect from 1 April 2009 or 8 June 2009, as appropriate, as provided in 7 below; and
 - (b) that, in so doing, the Shadow Council specifically resolves to approve the Code of Conduct for Members set out in part F2 of the Constitution;
6. (a) that the Ethical Handbook, now submitted at document 8, be approved and implemented with effect from 1 April 2009; and
 - (b) that, in so doing, the Shadow Council specifically resolves to adopt the Indemnity for Members and Officers of the Council, as set out in part 6 of the Ethical Handbook;
7. that the Interim Governance arrangements for the period 1 April to 7 June 2009, as set out in the schedules attached at document No. 6, be adopted;
8. that a Constitution Advisory Group be established to advise the Council upon any amendments required to the Constitution;
9. that during the period 1 April to 7 June 2009, the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Advisory Group, be authorised to amend the Constitution to reflect any urgent, statutory, consequential or other necessary changes which may be required in the light of experience of operation, and which will not admit of delay to the annual meeting of the Council in June 2009;
10. that the principle of establishment of a small number of positions (up to 5) of Assistant Portfolio Holders, whose role is to support the Portfolio Holder workloads but not to substitute in any executive decision making capacity, be supported."

As an amendment to the Motion, it was moved and duly seconded:-

"that paragraph 2.1.11 of Part G1 of the Constitution (decision making) which reads "that all decisions should be evidence – based" be deleted and replaced with "that due weight be given to all material considerations in making decisions."

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment was **lost**.

RESOLVED

1. **that further to the decision of the Shadow Executive at its meeting held on 17 February 2009 to re-designate second and third tier posts in the Central Bedfordshire staffing structure as “Assistant Directors” and “Heads of Service” respectively, the necessary adjustments be made throughout the Constitution to reflect the new post titles;**
2. **that paragraph 10.17 of Part D2 of Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules) be amended to provide that there is an expectation that any Member(s) who calls in a decision should attend the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at which the call-in is to be heard;**
3. **that the following typographical errors in the draft Constitution be corrected as follows:-**
 - (a) **Part A4 – page 9 – paragraph 5.1.5** delete the word “the” between “to” and “an”;
 - (b) **Part E2 – page 10 – paragraph 7.2.2** delete “arsing” and replace with “arising”;
 - (c) **Part H3 – page 9 – paragraph 4.1.4** delete “here” in penultimate line and replace with “where”.
4. **that the Members Planning Code of Good Practice contained in the Ethical Handbook be amended in the following respect:-**
 - (a) **Appendix A – page 20 - paragraph 1(a)** delete “A Member of the Development Management Committee” and replace with “Any Member of the Council”.
5. (a) **that, subject to resolutions 1 to 4 above, the draft Central Bedfordshire Constitution, as now submitted at document number 7, be approved and implemented either with effect from 1 April 2009 or 8 June 2009, as appropriate, as provided in 7 below; and**
 - (b) **that, in so doing, the Shadow Council specifically resolves to approve the Code of Conduct for Members set out in part F2 of the Constitution;**
6. (a) **that the Ethical Handbook, now submitted at document 8, be approved and implemented with effect from 1 April 2009; and**

- (b) *that, in so doing, the Shadow Council specifically resolves to adopt the Indemnity for Members and Officers of the Council, as set out in part 6 of the Ethical Handbook;*
7. *that the Interim Governance arrangements for the period 1 April to 7 June 2009, as set out in the schedules attached at document No. 6, be adopted;*
8. *that a Constitution Advisory Group be established to advise the Council upon any amendments required to the Constitution;*
9. *that during the period 1 April to 7 June 2009, the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Advisory Group, be authorised to amend the Constitution to reflect any urgent, statutory, consequential or other necessary changes which may be required in the light of experience of operation, and which will not admit of delay to the annual meeting of the Council in June 2009;*
10. *that the principle of establishment of a small number of positions (up to 5) of Assistant Portfolio Holders, whose role is to support the Portfolio Holder workloads but not to substitute in any executive decision making capacity be supported."*

SC/08/22

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)*

RESOLVED

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**

The Chairman drew attention to recommendations of the meeting of the Shadow Executive held on 17 February 2009 which had been circulated separately to Members on 24 February 2009. The Chairman determined to admit these recommendations with supplementary papers prepared by the Director of Corporate Resources setting out the further options requested by the Shadow Executive in relation to the revenue budget as urgent items of business in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 to allow the setting of the Budget and Council Tax within the statutory timescale.

(i) *Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2009/10*
(Minute No. SE/08/87)

The Portfolio Holder introduced the recommendations of the Shadow Executive and moved the recommendation in an amended form as follows:-

That the Council be recommended to:-

1. approve the Treasury Management Policy Statement, as set out in Annex 1 to the report of the Director of Corporate resources; and
2. approve the Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2009/10, as set out at Annex 2 to that report and specifically to resolve to adopt:-
 - (a) *the Investment Policy and Strategy 2009/10 – 2011/12, as set out at paragraph 6 of the Annual Treasury Management Strategy;*
 - (b) *the Prudential Indicators for 2009/10 – 2011/12, as set out in Appendix A to the Strategy; and*
 - (c) *the Annual Minimum Reserve Position (MRP) Statement as set out in Appendix C to the Strategy;*
3. adopt the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services (Revised 2001).

(Amendments to original recommendation denoted in italics)

RESOLVED

that the Shadow Council:-

- 1. approves the Treasury Management Policy Statement, as set out in Annex 1 to the report of the Director of Corporate Resources;**
 - 2. approves the Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2009/10, as set out at Annex 2 to that report and adopts:-**
 - (a) the Investment Policy and Strategy 2009/10 – 2011/12, as set out at paragraph 6 of the Annual Treasury Management Strategy;**
 - (b) the Prudential Indicators for 2009/10 – 2011/12, as set out in Appendix A to the Strategy;**
 - (c) the Annual Minimum Reserve Position (MRP) Statement as set out in Appendix C to the Strategy;**
 - 3. adopts the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services (Revised 2001).**
- (ii) Capital Programme 2009/10 – 2012/13
(Minute No. SE/08/88)**

RESOLVED

that having noted that the Shadow Executive has considered the comments of the Shadow Scrutiny and Corporate Resources Transitional Task Force on the proposed Draft Capital Programme, the Shadow Council:-

- (a) approves the General Fund Capital Programme for 2009/10 and 2010/11 attached at Appendix B to the report of the Director of Corporate Resources submitted to the Shadow Executive;**
- (b) approves in principle the indicative Capital Programme proposals for 2011/12 – 2012/13 attached at Appendix C to that report subject to:-**
 - (i) a limit of expenditure of £50m, as indicated in paragraph 5 of the aforementioned report and that the Shadow Scrutiny Committee be requested to establish a Task Force to review the Capital Programme having regard to the requirements of Central Bedfordshire Council, early in the new Municipal Year;**

- (ii) adoption of the principle that the Capital Programme should not include provision for bridging loans in respect of Section 106 Agreements except where exceptional circumstances dictate;**
 - (c) approves the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for 2009/10 – 2012/13, attached at Appendix E of the aforementioned report;**
 - (d) approves the Capital Investment Strategy, attached at Appendix F to the aforementioned report.**
- (iii) Revenue Budget 2009/10 and Medium Term Financial Plan
(Minute No. SE/08/89)**

In advance of the consideration of this matter, the Chairman advised that under the provisions of Rule No. 2 he wished to vary the order of business to enable the recommendation set out in Minute No. SE/08/89 to be taken in conjunction with item 9 on the Agenda on the subject of the Council Tax 2009/10. Accordingly the Council considered recommendations of the Shadow Executive from its meeting held on 17 February 2009 together with the report of the Director of Corporate Resources relating to the setting of the Council Tax together with the report of the Director of Corporate Resources providing an update to the previously circulated Budget report which set out the implications of two alternative Council Tax strategies as requested by the Shadow Executive. Details of town and parish council meetings precepts were set out at Appendix A to the Council Tax report of the Director of Corporate Resources and an outline of the Council Tax resolution 2009/10 was set out at Appendix B to that report. Alternative resolutions were set out in the update report relative to the Revenue Budget 2009/10 and Medium Term Financial Plan.

The Leader of the Council referred to the receipt of a petition from the Biggleswade and District Pensioners Association signed by 149 people which read as follows:-

"Are you working together to sort out how we meet the financial cost of our essential costs?"

Those who lose their employment and those who rely on income from savings will be forced to reduce normal purchases. With evidence of the financial crisis in the private sector struggling to survive the crash.

The public sector must also ration the use of finance and immediate help will be to freeze the intended increase of Council Tax for 2009/2010.

Would you kindly indicate your current action and future plans that will assist the increasing numbers of those with reduced income?"

The Portfolio Holder (Corporate Resources) proposed the Revenue Budget 2009/10 and Medium Term Financial Plan, recommendations of the Shadow Executive and consideration of the updated report of the Director of Corporate Resources on this subject, and it was proposed and seconded as follows:-

- "1. that having regard to the advice of the Chief Finance Officer (Director of Corporate Resources) as set out in his update report previously circulated, the Revenue Budget for 2009/10 and the Medium Term Financial Plan 2009/10 to 2013/14 be approved in accordance with the summary revenue account, reserves position and Council Tax schedule set out in Annex 1 (2.5% Council Tax option) to that update report;
2. that a Band D Council Tax of:-
 - (a) £1,263.52 for former Mid Beds residents; and
 - (b) £1,314.11 for former South Beds residentsbe set for 2009/10;
3. that the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan, as set out at Appendix 7 to the report of the Director of Corporate Resources, be approved;
4. that:-
 - (a) the proposed differential fee structure for 2009/10 in respect of the limited number of district fees and charges set out in paragraph 8 of the report now submitted be approved, save for the reinstatement of the concession for collection of cement bound asbestos for people in receipt of means tested benefits; and
 - (b) subject to (a) above and the rounding up of figures where appropriate, the fees and charges as set out in Appendix 8 of the report, be approved for implementation with effect from 1 April 2009;
5. that the formal Council Tax resolution as set out in Appendix B1 previously circulated (based on 2.5% increase), be approved".

As an amendment to the motion, it was moved and duly seconded:-

- "1. that having regard to the advice of the Chief Finance Officer (Director of Corporate Resources) as set out in his update report previously circulated, the Revenue Budget for 2009/10 and the Medium Term Financial Plan 2009/10 to 2013/14 be approved in accordance with the summary revenue account, reserves position and Council Tax schedule set out in *the annex now attached (tabled at the meeting)*;
2. and a Band D Council Tax of:-
 - (a) £1,264.09 for former Mid Beds residents; and
 - (b) £1,313.45 for former South Beds residentsbe set for 2009/10;
3. that the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan, as set out at Appendix 7 to the report of the Director of Corporate Resources, be approved;
4. that:-
 - (a) the proposed differential fees structure for 2009/10 in respect of limited number of district fees and charges set out in paragraph 8 of the report now submitted be approved, save for the reinstatement of the concession for collection of cement bound asbestos for people in receipt of means tested benefits; and
 - (b) subject to (a) above a rounding up of figures where appropriate, the fees and charges as set out at Appendix 8 of the report, be approved for implementation with effect from 1 April 2009;
5. that the formal Council Tax resolution *now attached (tabled at the meeting) be approved.*"

(Amendments to original motion denoted in italics)

In order to provide clarification on the effect of the revised budget proposal now submitted, it was confirmed that the amendment varied the original motion by:-

- (a) the deletion in paragraph 1 of the words "Annex 1 (2.5% Council Tax option) to that update report and their replacement by "the Annex now attached";
- (b) (i) the deletion in paragraph 2 (a) of the figure "£1,263.52" and its replacement by "£1,264.09";

- (ii) the deletion in paragraph 2 (b) of the figure "£1,314.11" and its replacement by "£1,313.45";
- (iii) the deletion in paragraph 5 of the words "set out in Appendix B1 previously circulated (based on 2.5% increase)" and their replacement by "now attached."

Following extensive debate upon both the motion and amendment the Portfolio Holder (Corporate Resources) agreed to incorporate the amendments to his motion as a measure on which the Council could achieve a degree of unity within the new unitary authority.

Upon being put to the vote, the substantive motion was **carried**.

RESOLVED

1. ***that, having regard to the advice of the Chief Finance Officer (Director of Corporate Resources) as set out in his update report previously circulated, the Revenue Budget for 2009/10 and the Medium Term Financial Plan 2009/10 to 2013/14 be approved in accordance with the summary Revenue Account, Reserves Position and Council Tax schedule set out in the option tabled at the meeting for 2.5% average Council Tax in 2009/10 amended for equal cash increases.***
2. ***that the Shadow Council sets the level of Band D Council Tax as follows:-***
 - (a) ***£1,264.09 for former Mid Beds residents; and***
 - (b) ***£1,313.45 for former South Beds residents******be set for 2009/10;***
3. ***that the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan, as set out at Appendix 7 of the report of the Director of Corporate Resources, be approved;***
4. ***that:-***
 - (a) ***the proposed differential fee structure for 2009/10 in respect of the limited number of District Fees and Charges set out in paragraph 8 of the report now submitted be approved, save for the reinstatement of the concession for collection of cement bound asbestos for people in receipt of means tested benefit; and***

(b) subject to (a) above and rounding up of figures where appropriate, the fees and charges as set out in Appendix 8 of the report now presented, be approved for implementation with effect from 1 April 2009;

5. that the following amounts be calculated in accordance with Sections 32 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

(a) aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act as its Budget expenditure, transfers to reserves and town and parish precepts **£508,442,534**

(b) aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act as its Budget income and grants **£329,667,243**

(c) the amount by which the aggregate at 5(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 5(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act as its Budget requirement for the year **£178,775,291**

(d) aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates for 2009/10 will be payable into its General Fund in respect of:-

(i) Formula Grant **£49,411,615**

(ii) the amount that the Council estimates will be transferred to its General Fund from its Collection Fund in respect of the estimated surplus on its Collection Fund 2008/09 (including prior year assessment)

£204,000
£49,615,615

| | |
|---|---|
| (e) the amount at 5(c) (Budget requirement for the year) | £178,775,291 |
| less the amount at 5(d) | £49,615,615 |
| net budget requirement for the year | £129,159,676 (£67,539,308 – Mid Beds area £61,620,638 – South Beds area) |
| (f) divided by the Council Tax Bases (calculated in accordance with Section 33 (1) of the Act) as approved by Shadow Executive on 17 February 2009 (94,040; 50,450; 43,590 respectively) equal of the basic amounts of Council Tax for 2009/10 | £1,373.45 (£1,338.74 - Mid Beds area £1,413.64 - South Beds area) |
| (g) aggregate of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (Town and Parish precepts) | £8,133,051 (£3,765,968 - Mid Beds area £4,367,083 - South Beds area) |
| (h) the amount at 5(f) above | £1,373.45 (£1,338.74 - Mid Beds area £1,413.64 - South Beds area) |
| less the amount at 5(g) above divided by the Council Tax Bases of 94,040; 50,450 and 43,590 respectively | £86.49 (£74.65 - Mid Beds area £100.19 - South Beds area) |
| (i) equals the basic amount of its Council Tax for 2009/10 for dwellings in those parts of the area to which no special item relates (calculated in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act) | £1,286.97 (£1,264.09 - Mid Beds area £1,313.45 - South Beds area) |

(j) the amounts shown in Appendix A to these Minutes in column "Band D", lines (b), being the amounts given by adding to that amount in 5(i) above, the amounts of special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area shown in the schedule divided in each case by the tax base for the relevant area calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for 2009/10 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which the special items relate

(k) the amounts shown in Appendix A to these Minutes, lines (b), being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 5(i) and 5(j) above by the number which, in the proportion set in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as amounts to be taken into account for 2009/10, in respect of the categories of dwellings listed in the different valuation bands; and

6. that the Shadow Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2009/10 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings;

| |
|------------------------|
| Valuation Bands |
|------------------------|

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL – MID BEDS AREA

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| £842.72 | £983.19 | £1,123.64 | £1,264.09 | £1,544.99 | £1,825.91 | £2,106.81 | £2,528.18 |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL - SOUTH BEDS AREA

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| £875.63 | £1,021.58 | £1,167.51 | £1,313.45 | £1,605.32 | £1,897.21 | £2,189.08 | £2,626.90 |

BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| £93.71 | £109.32 | £124.94 | £140.56 | £171.80 | £203.03 | £234.27 | £281.12 |

BEDFORDSHIRE & LUTON COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| £54.42 | £63.49 | £72.56 | £81.63 | £99.77 | £117.91 | £136.05 | £163.26 |

AGGREGATE OF COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENTS – MID BEDS AREA

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| £990.85 | £1,156.00 | £1,321.14 | £1,486.28 | £1,816.56 | £2,146.85 | £2,477.13 | £2,972.56 |

AGGREGATE OF COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENTS – SOUTH BEDS AREA

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| £1,023.76 | £1,194.39 | £1,365.01 | £1,535.64 | £1,876.89 | £2,218.15 | £2,559.40 | £3,071.28 |

SC/08/23

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS AND CHAIRMAN TO COMMITTEES - APRIL TO JUNE 2009

The Shadow Council received and considered 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 Chairman and Vice-Chairman of certain committees of the Council between April and June 2009.

Shadow Council members had received an update regarding the political composition of the Shadow Council following the resignation of Cllr Z Haider.

A revised schedule of appointments was circulated at the meeting and a number of further oral amendments to the proposed appointments were made.

Following the conduct of an election for the appointment of Members to serve on the Luton and South Bedfordshire Joint Committee, it was:-

RESOLVED

- 1. that the size of the committees and forums and the allocation of seats to groups in accordance with the Political Proportionality Rules, where applicable, as set out at Appendix A to the report of the Monitoring Officer now submitted be approved;**
- 2. that the appointment of Members and substitutes to committees and other forums, as set out in Appendix B to these Minutes be approved;**
- 3. that the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of committees for the period April to June 2009 as set out in the Appendix to these Minutes be approved;**

4. ***that the following persons be appointed to the Scrutiny Committee as co-opted members with voting rights on education matters:***
- (a) ***Mr Ben Sear, parent governor representative;***
 - (b) ***Mrs Frances Image, Roman Catholic Diocesan representative; and***
 - (c) ***Mr Jon Reynolds, Church of England Diocesan representative.***
5. ***that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to appoint up to two additional parent/governor representatives who have been nominated and, if necessary, duly elected through the statutory process.***

SC/08/24 **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS APRIL 2009 - MAY 2010**

The Shadow Council was invited to approve the Calendar of Meetings for Central Bedfordshire for the period April 2009 to May 2010 as set out in the report of the Monitoring Officer on this subject.

RESOLVED

that the Shadow Council approves the Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings for the period April 2009 – May 2010, as set out in the Appendix to the report of the Monitoring Officer.

SC/08/25 **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS TO THE CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Shadow Council was invited to approve the appointment of five independent persons to the Standards Committee details of whom were contained in the report of the Monitoring Officer on this subject.

RESOLVED

that Kenneth Frazer, Keith Ford, Jeremy Danns, Deborah Maggs and Mike Jones formally be appointed as Independent Persons to serve on the Standards Committee with effect from 1 April 2009 until elections to be held in 2011.

SC/08/26

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

The Shadow Council received and considered the report of the Monitoring Officer seeking approval of the appointment of five Town/Parish Council persons to the Standards Committee. Corrections were made to the report in respect of the name of Mrs K Cursons and the designation of Mr B Collier as Chairman of Stotfold Town Council.

RESOLVED

that Mr B Collier, Mrs K Cursons, Ms J Hughes, Ms J Rollings and Mr J Eilbeck formally be appointed as Town/Parish Council Members to serve on the Standards Committee with effect from 1 April 2009 until the elections to be held in 2011.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 5.00 p.m. and concluded at 7.12 p.m.)

MINUTES

FINAL MEETING OF BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

26TH MARCH 2009 (9.30am start)

Present:

Councillors Atkins, Richard Baker, Roger Baker, Blaine, Bootiman, Burley, Colling, Drinkwater, Duggan, Fairbairn, Faulkner, Gillard, Jack Goodchild, Susan Goodchild, Goodwin, Grugeon, Gwynne Jones, Hand, Hollick, Johnston, King, Lee, Male, Mingay, Oliver, Record, Reedman, Rogers, Ross, Russell, Sadler, Saunders, Scott, Shingler, Spurr, Stay, Street, Summerfield, Swaisland, Walker, Willey, Wootton and Younger

08-09cc90 PRAYERS

The Reverend Richard Hibbert, Christ Church, Denmark Street Bedford led the Council in prayer.

08-09Ccc91 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Elford, Gaszcak, Howard and Piggott.

08-09cc92 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 12th February 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

08-09cc93 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

No Member declared an interest in any of the items on the Council agenda.

08-09cc94 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, COUNCILOR ROBIN YOUNGER

1. Running of the meeting

Councillor Younger, Chairman orally reported on how he proposed to conduct the business of this meeting given the large number of items on the Council Agenda. He indicated that at the end of the normal business (Part 1 of the Agenda) which he hoped to conclude by 11.45am there would be a short adjournment of the Council meeting to enable stakeholders, guest speakers to join the meeting. When the meeting re-commenced he proposed to move a motion for the suspension of Council procedures under Rule 21, to enable guest speakers to speak at the meeting. Council Procedure Rules would be re-applied for the final Item of Council Business to enable him as Chairman to formally deal with the closure of the Council.

2. Thanks to Officers/Councillors

Councillor Younger said that today was a very difficult meeting for him given it was

the last meeting of Bedfordshire County Council and he would say more about that under the final item on the Council's Agenda.

This was the last meeting for all County Councillors and officers who have worked so very hard to provide services for the people of Bedfordshire. A number of Councillors would be looking forward to working in the new Councils but many may not be standing so this would be their last meeting. He did not plan to mention all Councillors by name but would want to make reference to those Councillors who had had 12 or more years of **continuous service** with Bedfordshire. In order of length of service, they were:

Councillor Kay Burley with **25 years service**.

Councillor Richard Baker with **24 years service**.

Councillors Brian Piggott and John Saunders with **20 years service**.

Councillors Tony Duggan, Roger Gwynne Jones, Peter Hollick, John Scott and Robin Younger with **16 years service**.

Councillors Alan Carter, Gordon Colling, Rhys Goodwin, David Reedman and Richard Stay with **12 years service**.

He wished them and all other County Councillors the very best for the future whatever their plans.

Councillor Younger wished to place on record the deep appreciation and grateful thanks of the County Council to the Chief Executive, Directors and Staff. He stated "I am on record as saying that I have never come across such a cadre of skilful and high performing senior officers. It is not just their individual skills and professional expertise which has been so apparent; it is teamwork which has driven the way the whole County Council has delivered services of the highest order to the public of Bedfordshire.

Leader and Chief Executive, Director and Cabinet Member, Staff and County Councillors; all worked together so closely to produce the first class teamwork that has delivered those services so effectively and efficiently. The amount of awards and plaudits that have been received is all too evident of that teamwork. What might well have been further achieved in the future if that team had been allowed to carry on is now, a matter for history to judge. But the public of Bedfordshire have been well served by everyone here."

08-09cc95 EXECUTIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chairman reported that there were no recommendations for Council consideration arising from the recent meeting of the Executive.

08-09cc96 REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

Councillor Madeline Russell moved her report and those from cabinet members on bloc without any formal introductions. There were no oral questions put to cabinet members.

a) Report from Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader of the Council

The Council received a report from Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader of the Council which outlined work undertaken since the last report to the Council and summarised the Council's achievements over the last four years.

b) Report from Councillor Richard Stay, Cabinet Member for Finance

The Council received a report from Councillor Richard Stay, Cabinet Member for Finance which outlined work undertaken since his last report to the Council and summarised the Council's achievements over the last four years within his portfolio of responsibility.

c) Report from Councillor David Reedman, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

The Council received a report from Councillor David Reedman, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People which outlined work undertaken since his last report to the Council and summarised the Council's achievements over the last four years within his portfolio of responsibility.

d) Report from Councillor Peter Hollick, Cabinet Member for Community Service

The Council received a report from Councillor Peter Hollick, Cabinet Member for Community Service which outlined work undertaken since his last report to the Council and summarised the Council's achievements over the last four years within his portfolio of responsibility.

e) Report from Councillor John Street, Cabinet Member for Customer Service

The Council received a report from Councillor John Street, Cabinet Member for Customer Service which outlined work undertaken since his last report to the Council and summarised the Council's achievements over the last four years within his portfolio of responsibility.

f) Report from Councillor Rita Drinkwater, Cabinet Member for Education

The Council received a report from Councillor Rita Drinkwater, Cabinet Member for Education which outlined work undertaken since her last report to the Council and summarised the Council's achievements over the last four years within her portfolio of responsibility.

g) Report from Councillor Tom Wootton, Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste

The Council received a report from Councillor Tom Wootton, Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste which outlined work undertaken since his last report to the Council and summarised the Council's achievements over the last four years within his portfolio of responsibility.

h) Report from Councillor John Scott, Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth

The Council received a report from Councillor John Scott, Cabinet Member for Planning and Growth which outlined work undertaken since his last report to the Council and summarised the Council's achievements over the last four years within his portfolio of responsibility.

i) WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

In accordance with Councillor Procedure Rules, Councillor Peter Blaine put the following written question to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste, Councillor Tom Wootton:

"For around two years some "bus lanes" in London have been available for use by motorcycles. I understand that this trial has produced no significant problems and motorcycle use has been extended to more "bus lanes". When will motorcycles be permitted to use "bus lanes" in Bedfordshire?"

Response by Councillor Tom Wootton, Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste:

"The use of motorcycles in bus lanes was only recently adopted as policy in London by Mayor Boris Johnson after his election in May 2008, although a small number of discreet trials did take place prior to this.

Officers have investigated the possibility of adopting this type of policy in Bedfordshire with a view to running a trial in Bedford town and the necessary approvals have been sought from the Department for Transport. Consequently it is not possible to state when trials might begin."

In response to a further question Councillor Wootton confirmed that he would pursue this issue, as far as was practicable, whilst he was still in office as Cabinet Member.

08-09cc97 AUDIT COMMITTEE – ANUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Council considered a report and recommendation from the Audit Committee about the Annual Statement of Accounts for 2008/09 based on the third quarter closedown of the accounts at 31st December 2008.

Councillor Roger Gwynne Jones, Chairman of the Audit Committee drew attention to the following points in the report:-

- The robust financial management in place with a forecast underspend of £246k, a variation of only 0.1% against the budget requirement. (Since the figures for the third quarter report were produced, the position had continued to be monitored closely, and the forecast outturn was now a £47k overspend. The movement was mostly due to the recent national pay award.)
- Reserves were at £13.7m; in line with the Budget Strategy agreed by the Council in February 2008. The overall level of earmarked reserves had reduced by £7.2m as existing reserves had been utilised for their intended purpose which is normal practice but new reserves had not been created at this time.

- There was a 'loss' on sale of assets of £69m. This was a technical accounting entry, having no effect on the general fund balances, and reflected the change in status of a number of schools becoming trust/foundation schools and consequently no longer being assets on the County's Balance Sheet.
- There had been little movement on the level of debt – some borrowing was taken in advance of the current financial year and there has been a general slow down in the capital programme and hence the financing required.

Whilst the third quarter close was an extensive exercise building on the one in 2007/08, the financial information was nevertheless incomplete, as it was based on information as at 31 December 2008. Specific attention was drawn to three key areas:

- There had been a significant downturn in the property market. The impact of this as at 31 March 2009 has not yet been assessed and the accounts prepared at the end of June would doubtless include a significant 'impairment' and hence writing down of the value of fixed assets.
- There would be an offsetting entry to this as the 'additions' to asset values are also unknown at this time. There was always uncertainty as to the exact completion date of capital schemes and the position at 31 March 2009 had not been estimated at this point.
- The FRS17 (pension) adjustments had not been made to the accounts as the necessary information from the actuary was not available at this time.

The production of these accounts had also been used to bring forward actions that would enable the full year Statement of Accounts to be completed more swiftly. The completion of the year-end Statement of Accounts for Bedfordshire County Council is the responsibility of Central Bedfordshire, supported by Bedford Borough.

The Audit Committee agreed that the accounts were a good foundation for the final accounts that would be produced by the end of June 2009. These would, in turn, be a robust basis for the new unitaries to disaggregate assets and balances. The County Council's legacy would, in this regard, be a robust foundation for sound financial control going into 2009/10.

Councillor Richard Stay, Cabinet Member for Finance endorsed the work of the Audit Committee and its Chairman, Councillor Roger Gwynne Jones and paid tribute to Peter Lewis, Director of Finance and Human Resources and his team for their work. He concluded that the County Council was leaving a very robust financial picture. He expressed his extreme irritation at recent media references to "black holes" in the County's accounts. The Council emphatically asked that it be placed on record that there is no 'black hole' in the Council's accounts. This position had been confirmed by the Director of Finance and Human Resources, Bedfordshire County Council; the Director of Finance, Bedford Borough Council and the Council's Audit Committee.

Councillor Stay also referred to recent references to the debts of the County Council. He reiterated the need for Council's providing the breadth of services provided by the County to have to borrow money to invest in the infra structure. The County had over £1 billion of assets and its ratio of debts against assets was very sound.

Councillor Colling whilst recognising the current sound position on the accounts reminded the Council of the poor starting position following the then Administration's

decision to outsource the back office functions to Hyder Business Services and its costing a “small fortune” to terminate the contract. (see response to this point by Leader of Council under minute on the Performance Report).

Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader of the Council drew attention to the robust financial position of the Council arising from its strong budget management, the provision of value for money and the Council’s achievements in meeting its efficiency targets and going beyond these targets. She paid tribute to Peter Lewis and his team and also to Cajetan Chukwolezie, the former Head of Internal Audit, for their outstanding work on budget management.

RESOLVED:

1. That the third quarter Statement of Accounts based on figures as at 31st December 2008, be noted and received.
2. That the Council notes the robust financial position to be handed over to the successor unitary authorities.

08-09cc98 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Council considered a report from Tasnim Shawkat, Assistant Director Corporate Governance concerning the Annual Governance Statement which the Council was required to make and needed to be signed by the Leader and the Chief Executive of the Council in accordance with CIPFA/SOLACE.

Councillor Madeline Russell indicated that a number of people had been involved in the preparation of the Statement and she moved its acceptance which was duly seconded by Councillor Roger Gwynne Jones and agreed by the Council.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Governance Statement signed by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive as now submitted, be approved.

08-09cc99 REPORTS FROM NON-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

a) Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Jane Walker, Chairman presented the report which outlined the achievements of the Committee and the former Select Committee over the Council’s four year term. She drew attention to the contribution played by witnesses from the wider community that assisted in policy development activities and also the vital role played by young people and looked after children who attended as witnesses.

The report also included a summary of the important work undertaken by the Corporate Parenting Panel chaired by Councillor Peter Swaisland.

Councillor Walker paid tribute to the support given to the Committee by members of the Committee including its co-opted parent and church representatives. She expressed special thanks to Malcolm Newsam, Director of Children’s Services; to Councillors Drinkwater and Reedman Cabinet Members and to Peter Storey, Clerk to the Committee.

Councillor Rita Drinkwater thanked the Committee for their outstanding work both in challenging matters and also in supporting her in her work. She was particularly pleased with their engagement with young people which was good practice.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

b) Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Brian Sadler, Chairman presented his report which outlined the achievements of the Committee over the past four years and in so doing drew attention to some specific projects with which the Committee had been involved.

He thanked members of the Committee for their work and support. He expressed his and the Committee's sincere thanks and appreciation to Charlie McNally, former Director of Community Services and Ian Porter, Assistant Director for their support. He also expressed his special thanks to Greg Jeffrey, Committee Adviser for the professional way in which he had supported him and the Committee. He also thanked his Vice-Chairman Councillor Jack Goodchild for his work and support.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

c) Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Peter Blaine, Chairman presented his report which outlined the achievements of the Committee over the past four years. He referred to the significant volume of work and projects undertaken by the Committee.

He expressed his thanks to fellow members of the Committee and particularly to Councillor Steve Male, his Vice-Chairman who had played a significant role in the work of the Committee. He expressed his special thanks to Tasnim Shawkat, Assistant Director Corporate Governance for her tremendous help on the Committee and to Mel Peaston, Committee Adviser who had been a wonderful support to him and the Committee.

Councillor Male, Vice Chairman also added his vote of thanks to Tasnim Shawkat for the breath of fresh air she had brought to the Committee which had helped it develop as a Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

d) Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Brian Spurr, Chairman presented the report of the Committee which outlined the achievements over the past four years. He drew attention to the number of the significant projects that the Committee had been involved with. He expressed his particular thanks for the dedicated work of Councillor Brian Piggott who had been Chairman of the Committee until the last few months.

Councillor Spurr also paid tribute to all members of the Committee and thanked Councillors Wootton and Scott, Cabinet Members for their support. He paid tribute to Richard Watts, Director of Environment for his support and to an officer who he felt was one of the best Directors the Council has had. He also thanked Peter Storey, Committee Adviser who had been superb.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

e) Bedfordshire Health and Adult Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Steve Male, Chairman presented the report of the Committee outlining its achievements over the past four months. He drew attention to the variety of work undertaken by the Committee.

He posed the question whether or not the Committee had been successful in its work. He responded by drawing attention to a letter from the Chief Executive, NHS East to Go East as appended to the report. The Committee had been asked to lead on a joint review of the Strategic Strategy Clinical Vision – Towards the Best. In the response to Go East the Chief Executive of NHS East of England had drawn attention to the excellent response received from the joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee that was set up to scrutinise the proposals. He went on to indicate that 'it seems to me that this provides an excellent example of what can be achieved by proper partnership working and may be worth bringing to the attention of others. If you would like a fuller briefing on any aspect of this, please do not hesitate to contact me.'

Councillor Male also referred to the significant underspending in NHS Bedfordshire; it was 3½% short on its funding, compared to the allocation that the Department of Health needs analysis indicated it should have. The service demands remained and the NHS bodies had in the past spent at, or near, the level of their allocation. Any over-spends were carried forward from one year to the next and this compounded the spending shortfall in any single year. He hoped that the new authorities would work together to press the Government to meet this short fall in funding.

Councillor Male thanked the members of the Committee for their work and support. He expressed his special thanks to Bill Hamilton, Adviser to the committee and to Mel Peaston, Clerk to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

f) Audit Committee

Councillor Roger Gwynne Jones, Chairman presented the report of the Audit Committee covering work over the past four years. He said that every recommendation from the Audit Commission or the internal Audit Team was reported to the Committee, reviewed and followed up on.

He expressed his thanks to members of the Committee and officers who supported them.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

g) Development Control Committee

Councillor Roy Johnston, Chairman presented the report of the Committee covering its work over the last four years which he said was self-explanatory. He reminded Council that the work of this Committee was more high profile given some of the significant planning applications it needed to determine. This was particularly challenging to officers and members and he thanked them for their work.

He expressed his personal thanks to Councillor Vic Lee, Vice Chairman who he had worked with closely and who had supported him. He also expressed his thanks to members of the Committee and officers who had supported the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

h) Pension Fund Committee

Councillor Roger Gwynne Jones, Chairman presented the report which covered the work of the Committee over the last four years. He referred to the credit crunch and the volatile nature of the market. He suggested that all things being equal – with rising interest rates in the next few years - the long term prospects would be good. He thanked his fellow trustees for their work and officers who supported the Committee.

Councillor Stay expressed his thanks for the work undertaken by Councillor Gwynne Jones on this Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

i) Standards Committee

Councillor Bob King, Vice Chairman presented the work of the Committee covering achievements over the last four years. He expressed his thanks to Ken Frazer, Independent Chairman for all his work on the Committee and to the other independent members.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

08-09cc100 MINUTES OF NON-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

a) Audit Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 16th March 2009 having been submitted.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received.

b) Development Control Committee

The minutes of the meetings of the Development Control Committee held on 28th January and 5th March 2009 having been submitted.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received.

c) Standards Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 5th December 2008 having been submitted.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received.

d) Pension Fund Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Pension Fund Committee held on 18th February 2009 having been submitted.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received.

08-09cc101 BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

The report from the meeting of the Bedfordshire Police Authority held on 13th February 2009 was submitted. Councillor Hollick, representative of the Police Authority elaborated on issues contained in the report. He thanked the members from the County Council who served on the Committee and fellow representatives from Luton Borough Council. He informed the Council that there was uncertainty about the membership of the Police Authority from the two unitary authorities from 1 April, and until this was settled he was not sure how many members would be serving from each of those two authorities prior to the June 2009 elections.

He responded to questions put to him by members.

It was noted that there were no written questions submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2.

08-09cc102 REPORT FROM BEDFORDSHIRE AND LUTON COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Councillor Duggan, Chairman of the Fire Authority presented a report from a meeting of the Combined Fire Authority held on 6th February 2009. He paid tribute to the eight members from this Council who had served on the Fire Authority together with those appointed by Luton Borough Council. He indicated that the Fire Authority was in a good shape. He had been able to develop strong links both regionally and nationally through the Local Government Association, whose Fire Panel he had

chaired over the last eight months, and he particularly thanked Councillor Madeline Russell for her support.

Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader of the Council thanked Councillor Duggan for the first class job he had done in chairing the Combined Fire Authority. Councillor Duggan's work on the fire authority was well known both regionally and at a local level and he had been one of the county's best ambassadors. Councillor Shingler endorsed the views expressed by Madeline Russell and said that the Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority was a highly regarded Authority which was a great tribute to the staff and to Councillor Tony Duggan as Chairman.

It was noted that there were no written questions submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2.

08-09cc103 PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2003/04 – 2008/09

The Council considered a report from Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader of the Council about the Council's performance for the period 2003/04 to 2008/09 and which highlighted the Council's performance journey. Councillor Russell expressed her pleasure in moving a motion for the Council's acceptance of the performance report as a legacy to the new Unitaries. She paid tribute and expressed her thanks to Councillors elected in 2005, of which 50% were new, and were elected on the promise of turning the Council around and to the Officers who had jointly helped in the achievement of this goal.

Three stars was the County Council's legacy and whilst the Council had not been issued with a Direction of Travel Statement due to its abolition, if the Council had done so, it would have continued to be 'improving strongly'.

Councillor Russell also paid tribute to the stunning performance of the Environment Directorate in achieving four stars. Part of the success undoubtedly had been due to the innovative partnership with Amey. A recent survey among Town and Parish Councils in Bedfordshire showed the very high level of satisfaction about the performance of Amey.

Councillor Russell referred to an earlier comment by Councillor Colling under the Annual Statement of Accounts item about the termination of the HBS Contract costing the Council "a small fortune". She stressed that the only cost to the County Council was some £6.7m to purchase the assets in which HBS had invested. Councillor Russell, whilst acknowledging that the HBS contract should have been better managed, said that, as soon as it was clear that the Council was not deriving the expected benefits, the Administration took the decision to terminate the contract.

Councillor Russell, in commending the report to the Council, said that the Council's improvement from one to three stars was recognised nationally as the fastest turnaround anywhere in the country and the Performance Report as now submitted "speaks for itself".

Councillor Grugeon congratulated all Members/Officers for their dignity in continuing to improve service provision in the final year of the Council. He referred to the improvements made in education over the past two years which would be a challenge for the new Unitary authorities to take forward.

Councillor Blaine referred to his term on the Council in the 1980's which was an institution that he was proud of. He said that when he returned to the Council in 2001

the difference in the Authority was obvious and his view was that the Council had failed to deal with the changes placed on it. From 2005 however, with a new Council and the appointment of a new Chief Executive and Management Team, considerable improvements were made and he was now again proud to be a Member of Bedfordshire County Council. He went on to indicate that although a star rating was a useful indicator, the real test was how the people of Bedfordshire felt about the service they were getting. He felt that the loss of the County Council had resulted in its replacement by a unitary authority covering the Mid and South Beds areas of the County to which electors would not naturally relate. He referred to the Performance Report and whilst acknowledging that there had been improvements in education results in Bedfordshire, he felt that the Authority should be doing better than the national average.

Councillor Scott, Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Growth, paid tribute to the four star achievement of the Environment Service. He stated that Bedfordshire, a small Authority, was achieving a great deal and “punching above its weight”. He referred to two recent successes namely the agreement of the Core Strategy for South Bedfordshire and the launch of the Local Delivery Vehicle.

Councillor Hollick expressed his pleasure at being Cabinet Member for Community Services and referred to the tremendous improvements in Adult Care. He recorded his thanks to Councillor Bob King, former Cabinet Member for his stewardship in this area.

Councillor Drinkwater, Cabinet Member for Education referred to the incredible journey of the Council since 2005. The Council had set her and the Children’s Services Directorate a huge challenge to improve education results, a challenge which she believed had been met. She expressed her personal thanks and the Council’s thanks to Malcolm Newson for his inspirational leadership.

Councillor Reedman, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, added that some of the improvements in children’s care were due in part to the introduction of new procedures and practices which had resulted in the outstanding services now being provided by the Council. This was also due in part to the closer working relationship and support that had been developed with the voluntary sector, and the sharing of information.

Councillor Johnstone said that his impression of the County Council was that it had been fantastic and he would take this philosophy forward when working in the new unitary authority.

The Council unanimously received the Performance Report.

RESOLVED:

That the Performance Report for 2003/04 – 2008/09 as now submitted showing the Council’s tremendous improvement journey from a one star to a three star Authority be noted and received.

08-09cc104 VOTE OF THANKS TO CHAIRMAN, COUNCILLOR ROBIN YOUNGER

At this point of the meeting, with the approval of the Council, Councillor Madeline Russell asked the Council to consider the following motion:

“1. The County Council tender to Councillor Robin Younger their sincere thanks for the service rendered by him in the discharge of the important and exacting duties of the office of Chairman of the County Council for the period from 10th May 2007 until 31st March 2009 and to Mrs Carol Younger, their gratitude for her invaluable support to Robin during this period.

2. That an engrossment be signed ”

The motion was duly seconded and approved by the Council.

At this point in the meeting (12.05 pm) there was a 10 minute adjournment of the Council to enable some guest speakers to attend the last session of the Council meeting.

08-09cc105 CLOSURE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

The meeting of the County Council resumed at approximately 12.15 pm, at which point the Chairman asked the Council to consider the following motion:

“That the suspension of Council Procedure Rules under Rule 21 be agreed to enable guest speakers to speak at the meeting. Council procedures will re-apply for the final item when, as Chairman I will formally deal with the formal closure of this final meeting of the County Council.”

The motion was wholeheartedly supported by Members and agreed by the Council.

Councillor Robin Younger, Chairman introduced the second part of the meeting which would celebrate the proud 120-year history of the County Council.

He extended a warm welcome to the guest speakers Councillor Margaret Eaton, Chairman of the Local Government Association and Councillor Tim Palmer, Chairman of the County Councils’ Network, both of whom would be giving keynote addresses to the Council.

He also welcomed with pleasure Councillor John Reynolds, Chairman of the East of England Regional Assembly; Councillor Robert Gordon, Chairman of the East of England Strategic Authority Leaders’ group; and Councillor Henry Smith, Chairman of the South East County Leaders’ Group.

Councillor Younger said that it is always a pleasure to see familiar County Council faces of the past and he welcomed the following:

Angela Roberts, former Leader of the Council
Allan Chapman, former Chairman of the Council
Janice Gwilliam, former Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group
Peter Roberts, former County Councillor
David Bell, former Chief Executive of the Council

The Chairman also welcomed some of the Council’s key partners, namely:

Graeme Smith, Acting Chief Fire Officer, Bedfordshire and Luton Fire and Rescue Service; Andrew Morgan, Chief Executive of Bedfordshire Primary Care Trust; and

Tim Allen, Programme Director for Research and Knowledge Management at the LGA.

And last but not least he was delighted to welcome, Alistair Burt, Conservative MP for North East Bedfordshire.

Councillor Younger informed Council that the 68 members of the new Bedfordshire County Council were elected on 24 January 1889. The first meeting of the County Council took place at Shire Hall, Bedford, on 7 February 1889. Charles Magniac of Colmworth, the former Liberal MP for North Bedfordshire, was elected Chairman of the County Council.

They started what was to become an amazing journey for Bedfordshire County Council through two world wars, tremendous social and cultural changes, and much innovation, much of which would be covered throughout this final session.

Councillor Robin Younger, Chairman invited Councillor Margaret Eaton OBE, Chairman of the Local Government Association to address the Council. He reported that Councillor Margaret Eaton OBE was elected Chairman of the Local Government Association in September 2008, having served on Bradford Metropolitan District Council, since May 1986.

08-09cc106 Councillor Margaret Eaton OBE

Councillor Margaret Eaton, Chairman of the LGA thanked Members for inviting her to speak at this final meeting of Bedfordshire County Council. As Chairman of the LGA her intention was to visit as many Councils as she could. She congratulated the present Bedfordshire County Councillors and previous Councillors for their valuable work for the people of Bedfordshire. Councillor Eaton indicated that although Central Government had a key role in setting the national agenda, the Government was in many ways very remote and it was locally elected Members who were the lynchpin of the community. The service demands on Local Government were now greater than ever which required bold decisions and innovative working on the part of the County Council and she paid tribute to Bedfordshire Councillors for continuing to deliver services and keeping morale high during its final year of existence.

She expressed her sadness that after 120 years, the County Council was being abolished and referred to its many outstanding achievements and its modernisation over the years. She concluded by wishing Members a long, bright and very successful future.

08-09cc107 Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader of the Council

Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader of the Council, spoke to Council as follows:

Bedfordshire County Council ends 120 years of stewardship of the County on Tuesday.

Bedfordshire may seem a small, rural county but history shows that its citizens have always had 'big' ideas and the local authority has often been at the forefront of innovation. Of course, the history of the County Council is only a small part of the heritage of Bedfordshire as a place. The first mention of Bedfordshire as an entity dates back 1000 years to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle of 1011.

The English Shire is one of the most ancient units of local government. Bedfordshire's origins lie with the midland shires created by the Anglo-Saxons following their defeat of the Danes in the 10th century. The county has given people a sense of place for 1,000 years. During that time, its administration has taken many forms.

The Shire Reeve or Sheriff was the principal officer of the County from the 10th century, acting as the King's agent. The Sheriff ran the Assize Court and was responsible for prisons. In 1586, Henry Grey, 6th Earl of Kent, was commissioned as Bedfordshire's first Lord Lieutenant. Since then, except for a confused period in the Civil War, the succession of lieutenants has been unbroken and for over 60 of the last 100 years, the Lord Lieutenant has been a Whitbread –culminating with our current Lord Lieutenant, Sam Whitbread, since 1991.

At the end of the 19th century, changes wrought by the industrial revolution and increasing urbanisation demanded a new form of effective government at the local level. The Local Government Act 1888 created Bedfordshire County Council as one of a new national network of 56 elected County Councils.

The Council chose as its motto 'Constant Be' from John Bunyan's hymn. The usual meaning of the word 'constant' is unchanging. Over its 120 years, the history of the County Council has been rich and varied, certainly not unchanging. But constant can also mean reliable and dependable – which we hope our services are – and resolute and determined – which we have been in pursuing what is best for Bedfordshire.

Our County Council has been groundbreaking in its time –

- Bedfordshire Record Office founded in 1913 was the first of its kind in the Country;
- By serving school meals in Sharnbrook in 1925, we were one of the first councils to do so in rural areas
- Bedfordshire took full advantage of powers granted in 1929 to produce an overall plan for the County. The report published in 1937 paved the way for the County Development Plans required by the 1947 Planning Act.
- In the 1980s, we led the successful campaign against Nirex's plans to store low-level nuclear waste at Elstow – an early example of community leadership.
- More recently, we were one of the first councils to introduce the Cabinet system of governance.

Over the decades, services, functions and responsibilities have been added, expanded or removed from the County's remit. For example:

- Our education service was not set up until 1905.
- With the advent of the motor car, we were given responsibility for licensing both vehicles and drivers. This only came to an end when the DVLA was formed in the 1960s.
- Our health functions were removed when the National Health Service was set up in 1948.
- After the Second World War, we took responsibility for the Fire and Ambulance services.

Through all these changes, the focus has been service to the individual and service to the community. And we continue to be proud of our services and our Council now that we have regained our rightful place in the local government family.

Only a few years ago Bedfordshire was dubbed the 'worst county council in the country'. The Audit Commission assessed the Council as 'poor' in the new Comprehensive Performance Assessment in 2002 and we were in special measures for Children's Social Services.

At the beginning of this Council, we had achieved a one-star rating and the council-wide change programme 'Transforming Bedfordshire' had been launched. But there was still much to be done if we were to achieve our objective of the Council becoming a 3 star authority. We called this challenge our 'Race against Time'.

In November 2005, Andrea and I used a Managers' Action Conference and staff roadshows to talk about our vision for achieving 3 stars in our CPA assessment 17 months later. We said that we needed to quicken the pace of change, that we could not achieve success without the staff, that they were the people who could make a difference. We borrowed the NIKE slogan and told them to 'Just do it'. We also recognised that when you innovate, you sometimes make mistakes. We told staff that they would have our full support if they made a mistake – although we might be a bit annoyed if they kept making the same mistakes! Staff took us at our word. They were motivated and got on and made the changes that they could see were needed.

It was not a straightforward journey and there were brave decisions along the way including ending the contract with HBS and letting staff go who did not want to change with the Council. None of it was easy and it required a great deal of hard work from both staff and Members. It also required a culture change to something much more positive and 'can do'.

But we were successful. Our Corporate Inspection in March 2007 confirmed Bedfordshire as a 'good' council and we officially became a 3 star authority in July 2007. It was an achievement of which we could all be proud and we celebrated in style at the LGA conference in Birmingham.

Achieving three stars was important not only because it demonstrated that the County Council was no longer a poorly performing authority but because it meant we were making a real difference to people's lives. And it showed what a fantastic amount of talent there was in the County Council - everyone had made a contribution

In February 2008, the County Council received the highest rating - 'improving strongly' – in its annual 'Direction of Travel' assessment. This, along with our 3 Stars, meant that we were the second highest performing strategic council in the East of England. And earlier this month, the Audit Commission confirmed that Bedfordshire County Council would end as a 'good' or 3 star authority. We did not receive an official direction of travel statement this year but the improvement in our key performance indicators during the year would have justified a further 'improving strongly'.

We are particularly pleased with our Level 4 for Environment Services – all of us know that this area forms the bulk of our postbags! And we are very proud of our Level 4 for Children's Safeguarding.

But being a good Council is about more than good services – and, dare I say, more than CPA. It is about having a vision for Bedfordshire, understanding our communities and their issues and inspiring everyone to work together to achieve what Bedfordshire needs and wants.

We set up our Countywide Partnership – an LSP by another name – and our Countywide Assembly for wider consultation and reviewed our Sustainable Community Strategy. We produced a first-class evidence base and then gained agreement from our partners on what the priorities are for Bedfordshire. The Local Area Agreement became, effectively, the delivery plan for those aspirations. That evidence base is still valid – Bedfordshire’s needs haven’t changed dramatically – and I am pleased that the new authorities LAAs will take the delivery plans forward.

The part of the Sustainable Community Strategy that was particularly relevant to the County Council was embodied in our own vision document, ‘Making Bedfordshire Thrive’. This was originally launched in May 2005 with short term priorities for turning the Council round and medium and long-term priorities focussing on the needs of Bedfordshire and its residents. We revised it in 2007 when we had achieved the short term priorities.

Making Bedfordshire Thrive gave us a strong vision and enabled us to allocate our budget to our real priorities.

We have planned for the County’s growing need for additional new homes by supporting developments such as the Wixams, which will be one of the largest new sustainable communities to be built in the UK. We have also focused on improving road and rail infrastructure in Bedfordshire to support this growth.

Growth also demands jobs – already too many people commute out of Bedfordshire every day. We have lost our old industries – market gardening and manufacturing – and our future lies with high tech, science-based industries and with tourism. Much of our work has been to encourage both of these sectors.

Links have been built with the University of Bedfordshire and Cranfield University to commercialise the fruits of their research.

The Council has been in discussion with an American consortium looking for locations around the world for implementation of a Science City concept, with huge potential benefits from inward investment and the growth of high tech companies. Bedfordshire is well positioned to take advantage of such opportunities as they arise.

We encouraged Center Parcs to develop their fifth village in Bedfordshire and we have supported the Nirah project for some five years. This is an ambitious scheme to convert a former quarry into the world’s first freshwater sanctuary, for conservation, education, science and entertainment. Nirah will really put Bedfordshire on the map.

And we have worked to bring an end to the importation of waste into the county. We don’t want waste from elsewhere but wish to be self-sufficient in dealing with our own waste. This means trying to recycle as much as possible and dealing with the rest in an environmentally friendly way through providing energy from waste to heat homes.

At the same time as we were putting all this in place, however, we were also getting to grips with the Government’s unitary process.

The LGR White Paper was published in October 2006 and bids were required by January 2007. We were preparing for our CPA corporate inspection and Joint Area Review in March 2007 but the capacity which we had built in the organisation allowed us to do both.

This process would prove to be very convoluted and time-consuming, with the County Council producing four different submissions to government. Through it all, we presented a very strong case but ultimately, for, it would seem, political reasons, the Secretary of State decided that Bedfordshire should have two new unitary authorities.

I have to ask how the smallest county in the country can sustain three viable unitaries? Luton, which became unitary in 1997, has formally decided to ask for a boundary review. Milton Keynes wants to build houses in the west of the county. It is interesting to wonder what local governance in geographic Bedfordshire might look like in 100 years' time – or even a generation.

Anyway, in this round of reorganisation, we know we could not have done more. We put forward a good proposal; we are a good council; our performance, our people and our services are great.

But once we had the final decision, the only way forward was to do everything in our power to ensure that the changes were implemented in the best way possible for the people of Bedfordshire.

We set up a Transition Board to oversee the work needed to support the new councils and to close down the business of the County Council.

We set up a secure website for the Chief Executives of the new councils which contained information essential for setting up the two new authorities.

And we successfully disaggregated some 5,000 staff into two viable teams and through discussions with the new councils, reached agreement on which staff will TUPE where.

The East of England Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership commissioned a peer review of the transition process in Bedfordshire to inform any future local government restructuring. This has been led by Mark Lloyd, Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire. The peer review report states:

- Maintaining service delivery while managing transition is a major challenge. The County council focussed on its strengths – maintaining a tough culture of performance and delivery. Its effective performance management system has enabled the authority to focus activity on enhancing front line services whilst more than meeting its duty to cooperate with the creation of two new unitaries.
- Quite rightly, there is great pride in the professionalism of staff during transition maintaining and improving service performance in a highly demanding and stressful period.

We recognised that staff morale was key to maintaining and improving services and the Chief Executive, Martin Reeves, and I made it our top priority to talk to staff, to listen to their issues and keep them informed.

Our staff have been pivotal in our journey of the last few years. We have used the conference/roadshow formula to talk to staff at each critical point over those years and each time we have answered their questions as well as giving our messages. It has been a real privilege to relate to staff in this way.

We used the formula to launch From Good to Great, our programme for continued improvement after we had achieved three stars. It began with our middle managers leading the work on developing our organizational values. Shared values define the character of an organisation. They give a clear message about which behaviours will be encouraged and what is not acceptable. There was wide consultation with staff and the result was

DELIVERY - Do - Excel - Listen - Inspire - Value - Energise - Respect - You

After the final unitary decision, we used roadshows to give staff some key messages:

- We must give a great service to Bedfordshire right to the end – in fact we challenged staff to continue to improve our services.
- As individuals, they must make the most of the possibilities for their own careers
- They must use their expertise to find good workable options for the new councils
- That is how we will protect our services in transition and achieve most for Bedfordshire

And the staff response has been stunning. We had our best quarter's performance to date in the second quarter of last year and two-thirds of our key performance indicators continued to improve in the quarter to December. Staff achieved this at a time of great uncertainty for themselves.

80% of the staff in the new unitaries will be from the County Council and I am sure that, given the right leadership and resources, they will continue to do just as good a job for Bedfordshire.

And our good performance has been backed up by strong financial management and controls; effective use of resources; a well-managed capital programme and efficiency savings well beyond the Gershon requirements. This has provided a firm financial foundation for the new unitary councils to build upon.

Our success has been due to the Council's vision for fast improvement, its bold decision-making, determination and sheer hard work.

Being an external ambassador for the Council, it has been great to see attitudes changing as we improved. And it has been good to hear from people in Bedfordshire how they appreciate the changes. I would particularly like to thank our guests today from local government organisations. They have encouraged us on our journey and have been very supportive to me.

My thanks also go to the senior officers who have done so much to make the last few years such a triumph. Some are going to the new unitaries, others are taking up senior roles elsewhere. Along with their professional expertise, they all take with them our values and the experience of working in a first-class team. I know they will continue to be successful.

And thank you to Members of Council. We have made some tough decisions and faced challenging issues but our work has been very interesting and often fun. It has been a real privilege to be Leader of the Council over the last four years.

Some of you will know of my venture into Gilbert and Sullivan - it was a great way to vent the feelings of anger and injustice about what has happened.

Only those who have lived through the turmoil, insecurity, and numerous humiliations of the last twelve months will really understand the emotional impact for many of us of the loss of the County Council or appreciate the quite incredible achievements we have delivered in our final difficult year BUT my overwhelming feelings as the Council draws to an end are thanksgiving and pride.

Thanksgiving for the privilege of being part of the County Council story; thanksgiving for working with a great team of people.

Pride in all that we have achieved; pride in the 120 years of the County Council's history; pride in the legacy that we will leave through our people and our services.

We are going into the new, unitary era with our heads held high, knowing that as a County Council we have served Bedfordshire well.

And to finish on a philosophical note – Tennyson's poem, The Brook, has a couplet repeated several times - For men may come and men may go, But I go on for ever.

I paraphrase – For councils may come and councils may go, But Bedfordshire goes on forever.

At this stage, the Chairman gave Councillors the opportunity to add their own views.

Councillor Street referred to his election in 2005 (one of the 26 new Councillors elected that year), and the first meeting with Andrea Hill, the then Chief Executive. He recalls her clearly stating that Members did not know what they were letting themselves in for but together they were going to turn the Council around. It had been a breathtaking journey in turning the Council around and he paid particular tribute to the Directors and other Officers from the Customer Services Directorate, who had supported him as Cabinet Member for Customer Services. It had been his privilege to be part of that Team.

Councillor Blaine referred to his early experiences when he first stood for election as a Councillor in West Yorkshire County Council. When he was first elected to Bedfordshire County Council in the mid 80's, he felt most welcomed and proud to be a Member of the Council. He was particularly pleased to be a Member of the current County Council, given its current status as a "good" Authority.

Councillor Kay Burley, the longest serving Member of the County Council, also reflected on the changing role of Councillors over the years. She referred to her preference for the former Committee system with programme and service committees when in her view Councillors felt fully involved in the decision making process and were able to discuss matters in greater detail. The new Cabinet/Scrutiny process was far more removed. She emphasised the need for more women to get involved in politics as they were often aware of the local issues. This was the third reorganisation of Local Government during her period as a Councillor and the County Council had to accept that a decision had been made at national level that would impact on all Councillors. She was very pleased to have been a Councillor on Bedfordshire County Council, particularly the period when the County was a "hung council". She had enjoyed every minute of her role as a Councillor.

Councillor Drinkwater referred to her role as a County Councillor since her election in 2005 and as Cabinet Member for Education for the last three years. She had

enjoyed her term and had found the last four years an inspiration, particularly the speedy turnaround by the County Council to a three star Authority.

Councillor Lynne Faulkner said that she was part of the 2005 new intake of County Councillors, having served on various other local authorities previously. During her time on the County Council, she had served as a Cabinet Member and as Vice-Chairman of the Council. She was very proud of the achievements of the County Council under Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader, together with the support of Councillors and Officers.

Councillor Saunders expressed his privilege at being a Member of Bedfordshire County Council over 20 years. One of his interests was steam engines and he indicated that he was proud to be the owner of the first steamroller bought by the County Council and which was pictured in the official commemorative book.

Councillor Rogers expressed his privilege at being a County Councillor in Bedfordshire and referred to the kindness shown to him by other Members during his recent recovery from a heart attack.

08-09cc108 Address by Councillor Tim Palmer, Chairman of the County Councils' Network

Councillor Younger invited Councillor Tim Palmer, Chairman of the County Councils' Network to address the Council.

Councillor Palmer said that he had deep family roots in Bedfordshire, with his mother's family coming from Silsoe. He explained that the County Councils' Network was a special interest group of the Local Government Association. In addition to its County Council representation, one third of its Members would now be drawn from unitary authorities. Councillor Palmer said that his links with Bedfordshire County Council began some years earlier as Leader of Dorset County Council which was rated an "Excellent" Authority. He was part of a peer review group which included one of their officers, Peter Lewis, who was now Director of Finance with Bedfordshire and they had visited the County at its request following its poor Audit Commission rating, to review the position and to try to assist Bedfordshire in whatever way possible.

He paid tribute to the amazing turnaround that the County Council had made in performance moving from a one star to a three star Authority due primarily to the hard work of its Officers and Members. This tremendous achievement was recognised and talked about nationally.

Councillor Palmer emphasised the importance of County Councils in Local Government as they had a long history of representing the many very rural areas of the country. He paid tribute to the 120 years history of Bedfordshire County Council and all its achievements over those years as summarised by the Leader of the Council. He praised the historic nature of Local Government which comprised local elected people representing local communities as opposed to the increasing number of quangos that were being established comprising non elected people making decisions that impacted on many communities.

In conclusion, he drew attention to the proud 120 years history of Bedfordshire County Council and emphasised that although the County Council would no longer exist, Bedfordshire would continue to live on.

08-09cc109 HISTORY OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Chairman asked all present to sit back and relax during the showing of a short DVD which, in some small way, marked the long history of Bedfordshire County Council.

08-09cc110 VOTE OF THANKS TO COUNCILLOR ROBIN YOUNGER, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

At this point of the meeting Council, Councillor Madeline Russell, Leader of the Council formally presented an engrossment with a vote of thanks to Councillor Younger for his service as Chairman of the Council since May 2007. The engrossment read as follows:

““The County Council tender to Councillor Robin Younger their sincere thanks for the service rendered by him in the discharge of the important and exacting duties of the office of Chairman of the County Council for the period from 10th May 2007 until 31st March 2009 and to Mrs Carol Younger, for her invaluable support to Robin during this period.”

Councillor Madeline Russell also presented Mrs Carol Younger with a bouquet of flowers to thank her for her support to Councillor Younger during this period as Chairman.

08-09cc111 FINAL CLOSURE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL BY COUNCILLOR ROBIN YOUNGER, CHAIRMAN

Councillor Robin Younger warmly thanked the Council for the presentation of the engrossment presented to him and formally closed the final meeting of the Council with the following words:

“So this brings us to the final moments of the County Council. We have heard tributes from our speakers and we’ve taken a bit of a journey back in time giving us an opportunity to reflect on the role Bedfordshire County Council has played in shaping our wonderful county. So many thanks to the guest speakers.

I would like to pay tribute to many people, to our partners, town and parish councils and voluntary organisations. The County Council values the partnerships that have been formed and the amazing job they do for the people of Bedfordshire.

To former county councillors who have magnificently served the County of Bedfordshire

I wish to place on record my personal deep appreciation and the grateful thanks of the County Council to the Chief Executive, his Directors and staff. I am on record as saying over my two years as Chairman, that I have never come across such a highly talented cadre of officers.

It is not just their individual skills and professional expertise which has been apparent, it has been the way they have formed the professional element of the County Council into such a high performing overall team.

The amount of awards and plaudits is all too self evident of the calibre of that team work. What might well have been achieved if that team had been allowed to play on! Such great people delivering great services. The public of Bedfordshire has been very well served by all of you.

And crucially, I wish to place on record my personal thanks to you, the final County Council. To the Leader and her Cabinet, who have worked tirelessly to create a better future for Bedfordshire.

As county councillors, it is a tough balancing act to serve your constituents, work within your political parties and serve on the county council and its committees. The achievements over the past four years are part of your story and you can be justly proud of the contribution you have made, and of the knowledge that you will be handing over good services to the new unitary councils next Wednesday.

Meetings of this County Council have provided an enduring symbol of vibrant local democracy and strong public service leadership in Bedfordshire. It has been the setting for impassioned political debate, always conducted within the agreed rules of decency and mutual respect. Over these many years, key decisions have been made and policy set for the future delivery of local services across the County.

The overriding ethos of public duty has never wavered, however tough and challenging the external environment has become. This County Council meeting represents everything that is good about local government. As it comes to a municipal end, it signifies the continuation of the core value of doing the right thing, and being seen to do the right thing, for the people of Bedfordshire.

It is with a sad heart, but with enormous pride, that I have to declare that the business of the County Council, not just this meeting, but its 120 years of service to the people of Bedfordshire, comes to an end.

I wish all Councillors and Officers good fortune in the new era of local government that commences in the County of Bedfordshire on 1 April 2009."

Meeting concluded at 13.35pm

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MID BEDFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

At the final meeting of the **MID BEDFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Priory House, Chicksands, Shefford on Thursday, 26 March 2009.

PRESENT

Cllr Mrs D B Gurney (Chairman)
Cllr A R Bastable (Vice-Chairman)

| | | | |
|-------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|
| Cllrs | P N Aldis | Cllrs | D J Lawrence |
| | Mrs A Barker | | Mrs J G Lawrence |
| | P A Blaine | | Mrs A M Lewis |
| | A D Brown | | J H Lewis |
| | P B Carne | | H J Lockey |
| | Mrs C F Chapman MBE | | K D Lynch |
| | M R Chapman | | S F Male |
| | J A E Clarke | | K C Matthews |
| | I Dalgarno | | S A Mitchell |
| | Mrs J R Davison | | A A J Rogers |
| | Mrs R J Drinkwater | | J A G Saunders |
| | G Ellis | | M A Smith |
| | D J Gale | | Mrs W P Smith |
| | M J Gibson | | J Street |
| | B J Golby | | G Summerfield |
| | Ms A M W Graham | | L Thompson |
| | J A Gurney | | Mrs C Turner |
| | H T W Harper | | Mrs P E Turner MBE |
| | M Hawkins | | D M Tysoe |
| | M R Jones | | P F Vickers |
| | Mrs K D Keen | | B Wells |

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------|
| Apologies for Absence: | Cllrs | A R Baines | Cllrs | M Cazaly |
| | | D A Bayntun | | A J Rayment |
| | | L Birt | | D Smith |
| | | M Butler | | Miss D C Maggs |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| Officers in Attendance: | Mr A Buckley | – | Web Content Manager |
| | Mr G Alderson | – | Director of Environmental & Planning Services |
| | Mrs M Clampitt | – | Committee Administrator |
| | Mr S Cooke | – | Electoral/Members' Services Manager |
| | Mrs J Crisp | – | Assistant Team Leader |
| | Miss S Fortune | – | Planning Officer |
| | Miss M A Houghton | – | Members' Services Officer |
| | Mr M Hustwitt | – | Communications Manager |
| | Mrs K John | – | Democratic Services Manager |
| | Mrs B Morris | – | Director of Corporate & Democratic Services |
| | Mr J Phillipson | – | Senior Committee Administrator |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Mrs J Salisbury | – Chief Executive, MBDC/Interim Chief Executive, CBC |
| Mr D Sutherland | – Chief Finance Officer |
| Mrs H Wall | – Senior IT Development / DAB/ Support Analyst |
| Mrs H Western | – Youth & Community Arts Worker |
| Mr D York | – Contract Supervisor |

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Cllr John Street.

C/08/59

MINUTES

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27 November 2008 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

C/08/60

MEMBERS' INTERESTS

(a) Personal Interests:-

None.

(b) Personal and Prejudicial Interests:-

None.

C/08/61

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT COMMUNICATIONS FROM LEADER

The Chairman of the Council presented a report summarising the activities and achievements of the Council during the Municipal Year 2008/09.

The Chairman informed the Council that since the last meeting resignations from Office had been received from Zain Haider and Mike Pearce. There was no requirement to hold by-elections to fill these casual vacancies.

In addition to the announcements a presentation was made to the Executive Members by the Chairman. The Chairman thanked the Vice-Chairman, Cllr A Bastable and his wife, Marion, for their support during her term of office as Chairman.

The Chairman presented long service awards for 25 year's service with Mid Bedfordshire District Council to the following members of staff:-

- Helen Wall – Senior development Analyst; and
- Janice Crisp – Assistant Team Leader – Revenues and Benefits.

The Chief Executive then made presentations to the following long serving members of the Council:-

- Sarah Fortune – Planning Officer;
- David York – Contract Supervisor;
- Andy Buckley – Web Content Manager.

The Chief Executive also commented upon other long serving members of staff who had been unable to attend the meeting:

- Jenny Carty – Senior Control and Incomes Officer;
- Elizabeth Darts – Technical Administrator;
- Kathy Izzard – Administration Officer.

Members recorded their thanks to all officers for their long and loyal support to Mid Bedfordshire District Council.

The Leader of the Council made a presentation to John Phillipson, Senior Committee Administrator, who had joined the Council on 1 April 1974 and had served Mid Bedfordshire District Council throughout its existence. The Council stood and applauded Mr Phillipson in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the work of the District Council.

The Leader of the Council presented Cllr Mrs D B Gurney, the Chairman of the Council, with her Past Chairman's badge. Members thanked Cllr Mrs Gurney for all her hard work and commitment during her period of office as Chairman of the District Council.

Cllr K C Matthews, the Deputy Leader of the Council, paid tribute to Cllr Mrs P E Turner, Leader of the Council, and on behalf of the Council, thanked her for her outstanding leadership during her term of office as Leader of Mid Bedfordshire District Council.

Tributes were also paid to Cllrs Mrs P E Turner, Mrs C F Chapman, D J Gale and B J Golby, the longest serving Members of the Council.

Finally, Group Leaders and Members recounted their years with the Council and their hopes for Central Bedfordshire Council.

Members were reminded that to commemorate Mid Bedfordshire District Council, a tree planting ceremony would take place at 12.45pm on Friday 27 March 2009.

C/08/62 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No applications had been received under the provisions of Appendix "A" to Full Council Procedure Rule No.C15.2 to speak during the 15 minute question and statement period, nor before any individual items included in the Agenda for this meeting.

C/08/63 **PETITIONS**

The Chairman advised that no petitions had been received.

C/08/64 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION**

The Council received a verbal update from the Chief Executive on progress made with the re-organisation of Local Government in Bedfordshire. It was noted that there were only 5 days left before Central Bedfordshire came into being. Members were informed of the following achievements:-

- DCLG had conducted a "stocktake" exercise on 10 March 2009 and had indicated they were happy with the progress made on re-organisation.
- Staff mapping had been completed with 3300 letters having been issued.
- The number of voluntary redundancies would be between 50 – 60, much lower than originally anticipated.
- The Government had awarded a 3% subsidy for housing rent, thus reducing the rent increase from 6% to just 3%.
- "Frequently asked questions" and responses had been prepared, Members were requested to continue to advise of any FAQs which were being asked by their Communities.
- Melbourne House was up and running for the Customer Services.
- SAP was working and the payroll had been tested.
- Member drop-ins would be held from 7 April.
- A Town & Parish Council conference to be held on 29 April 2009.

The Chief Executive thanked all of the staff for working so long and hard in preparing the re-organisation and also thanked the Leader for her work over the years.

C/08/65 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES (IF ANY) AND ANY QUESTIONS RAISED UNDER FULL COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. C10.1 IN RELATION TO THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Chairman advised that there were no recommendations arising from the meeting of the Executive held on 18 March 2009. There were no recommendations arising from meetings of Committees.

C/08/66 **QUESTIONS UNDER FULL COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. C10.1**

No questions were raised under Full Council Procedure Rule No. C10.1.

C/08/67 **WRITTEN QUESTIONS UNDER FULL COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. C10.2**

No written questions had been received under Full Council Procedure Rule No. C10.2.

C/08/68 **QUESTIONS UNDER FULL COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO C10.3**

The Chairman presided over oral questions asked of the Leader, Portfolio Holder or of the Chairman of any Committee under Full Council Procedure Rule No. C10.3.

Questions asked and answers given under these provisions were as follows:-

Q1 Cllr P N Aldis

Will the Leader accept a bottle of Priory House Gin?

A1 The Leader

I am happy to accept the bottle of Priory House Gin.

Q2 Cllr P N Aldis

Will the Leader have the releasing of land at Beeston for allotments top of her Community Engagement Agenda post 1 April 2009?

A2 The Leader

I cannot promise that anything will be resolved prior to the elections but confirm that Community Engagement is in the forefront of our priorities.

Q3 Cllr P N Aldis

Did the Council respond to the request under F.O.I. for details of how mobile CCTV cameras are used and what was the content of the response?

A3 Cllr Mrs A M Lewis

I do not believe the Council was asked to partake in this exercise and doubt that any Officers would use the system for anything unlawful.

C/08/69

VARIATION OF THE SCHEME OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DELEGATED TO OFFICERS

The Council noted that acting in accordance with the provisions of Rule No. E17 of the Executive Procedure Rules, the Leader of the Council had approved the following variations of the Scheme of Executive Functions Delegated to Officers:-

- (a) Deletion of existing delegation CFO/E10 and replacement with the following:-

| Power | Qualifications (if any) |
|--|--|
| To sell land surplus to requirements not exceeding £50,000 in value. | Subject to consultation with the Portfolio Holder (Finance) and the relevant Ward Member(s) and subject to the policy agreed under Minute No. E/07/82 in respect of areas of public open space and amenity land. Report for information via Council Information Bulletin. |

- (b) Amend existing delegation CFO/E15 to read as follows:-

| Power | Qualifications (if any) |
|--|---|
| To take decisions on applications by electricity, gas, water, telephone, broadcasting or cable companies to place any apparatus in, on over or under any land or buildings owned by the Council and enter into any leases or acquire the freehold of land where the Council is to construct or provide a public amenity. | In consultation with the Director Corporate and Democratic Services and Portfolio Holder (Finance). |

In response to a comment by Cllr Golby concerning the desirability of consulting Ward Members in the exercise of delegation (b) above, the Portfolio Holder (Finance) agreed to take on board his comments should any applications be received.

C/08/70

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7.58 p.m.

C/08/71 **RE-SUMPTION OF MEETING**

The meeting resumed at 8.05 p.m. whereupon Cllrs Mrs C F Chapman MBE, D J Gale and Mrs P E Turner MBE, gave a performance to mark the conclusion of the life of Mid Bedfordshire District Council.

C/08/72 **CLOSE OF MEETING**

The Chairman of the Council declared the final meeting of the Mid Bedfordshire District Council closed.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 6.30 p.m. and concluded at 8.20 p.m.)

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SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the District Offices, Dunstable, on Tuesday, 31 March 2009.

Present:

Councillors:

Mrs Gammons (Chairman)
Mrs Freeman (Vice-Chairman)
Berry
Mrs Bird
Bowater
Brandham
Mrs Coleman
Costin
Fahn
Fairbairn
Forde
M Freeman
P Freeman
Green
Guess
Hearty
Mrs Hegley
Hogan
Janes
Johnstone
Jones
Kane
Mrs Ledster

Councillors:

Machin
McVicar
Meakins
Mrs Morgan
Murray
Mrs Mustoe
Nicols
Northwood
Penman
Rawcliffe
Rolfe
Shadbolt
Sharer
Shingler
Snelling
Miss Sparrow
Mrs Staples
Swain
Taylor
Warren
Mrs Wyles
Young

Officers attending: Mr Ruddick, Mr Dean, Mr Keaveney, Mr Dunleavy, Mr Emerton and Mrs Hobbs

37. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None.

38. MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2008 as a correct record and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

39. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

40. CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman of the Council reported that she had looked back to 1974 when South Bedfordshire District Council was formed. She had managed to obtain a copy of the 1974 Year Book containing photos of the Members at that time and commented that in the 1976 Year Book there was a photo of a very young Councillor Costin.

She reflected that back in 1974 the services provided by the District Council had mainly revolved around areas such as housing and waste collection. The services had dramatically changed over the years with the Council now being responsible for the Grove Theatre, provision of open spaces and leisure facilities, planning, recycling, provision for gypsies and travellers and the new Envirocrime Unit. In addition to these services there was now increased pressure on the area to build an additional 43,000 houses in southern Bedfordshire. The Chairman also commented on changes in how the Council had operated since the introduction of the Leader and Executive model.

The Chairman advised that there would be many Members whom she would be sorry not to see standing at the June elections and in particular Councillor Mrs Morgan.

The Chairman also advised that it had been an unforgettable experience being Chairman of the Council and she had thoroughly enjoyed her term of office. It had been good to share the experience with other local authority Chairmen/Mayors known as the "chain gang".

The Chairman had held her Charity Ball on Friday 27 March 2009 at Luton Hoo and it had been a huge success with 222 people in attendance.

The Chairman thanked the following people:

- her husband for being there and supporting her throughout the year
- the Chief Executive
- Reverend Ruth Pyke for attending Council meetings and for the civic service
- the Personal Assistant to the Chairman, whom she thanked for her hard work and congratulated on her new role within Central Bedfordshire.

The Chairman also thanked all Members for their support and wished them good luck for the elections in June 2009.

41. OTHER MEETINGS

Meetings of other Committees which had taken place during the committee cycle, where there had been no recommendations were noted.

42. QUESTIONS

None received.

43. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

The following motion was received from Councillor Costin, seconded by Councillors Snelling and Murray and adopted by the Council:

“In wishing Central Bedfordshire Council every success in the future this Council is invited to reflect on the achievements that have been secured during the life of the Council and which will continue to provide a solid base going forward. The Council is also invited to place on the record the Council's thanks to the many people, both within and outside the organisation, that have played their part in ensuring South Bedfordshire communities have been well served over the past 35 years.”

Councillor Snelling said he had become a Member of South Bedfordshire District Council in 1992, since when there had been many changes. He highlighted the negatives and the positives that the Council had achieved throughout the 35 years, including:

- the collapse of BCCI
- the closure of Toddington Slaughterhouse
- the development of the Grove Theatre
- outsourcing the waste collection service

The few negative experiences such as the collapse of BCCI had enabled the Council to learn from its mistakes, for instance as the Council had not been affected recently as some other local authorities had by losing their investments in Icelandic banks.

Councillor Snelling thanked all Officers at South Bedfordshire District Council, especially those not transferring to Central Bedfordshire. He also thanked the Liberal Democrat Group including those Members, Councillors Mrs Bird, Mrs Ledster, Shingler and M Freeman, who were not standing at the elections in June. He was aware that Members who returned after June would have a considerable workload.

Councillor Murray said he had been a district councillor for 11 years and had experienced many happy and embarrassing memories. He thanked all Officers including the Legal Services Manager for his support and advice at Planning Committee, the Benefits Manager, Committee Administrators and the Democratic and Administration Services Manager. He also thanked Councillor Mrs Coleman as she was not qualified to be a Councillor from 1 April 2009.

Councillor Costin reminded Members of the Council's history. In particular there had been 3 Chief Executives, 34 Chairmen (Councillor Brewer had been Chairman twice) and around 250 different Councillors. He referred to the Leader and Cabinet committee system that came into place in 2000. More topically, he was disappointed that the Northern Dunstable bypass had not yet been achieved.

He had enjoyed his time as a Councillor at South Bedfordshire District Council where he became a Councillor at the age of 29. He stated that Councillors joined the Council for the same reason and that was to make the life for the local community better. He thanked the quality of the work carried out by Officers, including those Officers that had left.

Councillor Mrs Wyles advised that it had been a privilege and a pleasure to be a Councillor serving the electorate. She expressed her disappointment at being unable to act as a Councillor after 31 March as her role as a teacher within the new authority disqualified her from being a Central Bedfordshire Councillor.

Councillors Mrs Staples took the opportunity to reflect and celebrate the success of the authority. She highlighted the areas of achievement within her portfolio including the InformAction publication, improvements within the Downside Estate, Dunstable and Trailblazers. These improvements had transformed the lives of the residents in this area.

Councillor Mrs Hegley paid tribute to the Officers working within ICT and Customer Services as there were huge demands on these services. She was pleased that South Bedfordshire District Council's website had been assessed by SiteMorse as being in the top 10% over the year out of 462 local authorities. On behalf of the Federation of Small Business she thanked the Chief Executive and the Strategic Director.

Councillor Sharer said he had served South Bedfordshire District Council for 18 years. He was proud to have been Chairman of the Council and Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committees. He thanked Members for their support over the years.

Councillor Johnstone stated that South Bedfordshire District Council had been an excellent Council since he had been a councillor on and off since 1982. He had made many friends including Councillors Rawcliffe, Costin, Snelling, M Freeman, Rolfe, Mrs Ledster, the Democratic and Administration Services Manager and the Strategic Director. He also thanked the Legal Services Manager for his advice.

Councillor Shadbolt said he had been on the Planning Committee for 7 years and he had learnt a lot from his predecessor as Chairman, the late Barry Harris, in whose memory, a planning design award had been presented to representatives from Luton Hoo at the Design Awards on 24 March 2009. He thanked Officers for their support on the Planning Committee which had made his life as Chairman easier.

Councillor Penman commented on the Council's history including the achievements of improving the Benefits Service, the success of the in-house investment team and the successful transition to Central Bedfordshire. He was pleased that South Bedfordshire District Council was handing over a clean bill of health to Central Bedfordshire. He thanked Officers for their hard work and Councillor Mrs Ledster for allowing him to attend Local Governance Committee.

Councillor Shingler commented that ex-councillor George Hickenbottom had supported him when he was a new councillor. He expected that Central Bedfordshire would have new younger councillors elected in the future and hoped that the existing councillors would support them.

Councillor Rawcliffe said he had worked over the last 20 years with a keen interest in housing. He was pleased that the Decent Homes Standards would be achieved in 2010. He thanked Mrs Brereton, the Director of Landlord Services and the Strategic Director for their support. He also thanked ex-councillors Hickinbottom, Roberts and Date. He also thanked Councillor Costin for leading the Council over the years.

The Chief Executive reflected back to when he commenced his duties as Director of Finance in the 1990s and then he had the privilege of becoming the Chief Executive. He commented on his good fortune to have had good leading Members. He advised Members that he was taking on the responsibility of Returning Officer for the elections in June and reminded them not to be late with their nomination forms. He thanked all Members for their support.

The Strategic Director stated that he had been with South Bedfordshire District Council for 23 years. He had enjoyed his time with the Council and hoped that he had made a difference for residents. He thanked Officers for their hard work and support.

Councillor McVicar, as the incoming Chairman for Central Bedfordshire, presented the outgoing Chairman of South Bedfordshire District Council with the past Chairman's badge. He thanked her warmly and stated that she had done an excellent job during her term of office.

CHAIRMAN

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Agenda Item: 10

Meeting: Council

Date: 18 June 2009

Subject: Report of the Returning Officer

Report of: Returning Officer to Central Bedfordshire Council Election, June 2009

Summary: The report outlines the outcome of the election to the new Central Bedfordshire Council.

Contact Officer: Rob Mills, Committee Services Manager

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That the Central Bedfordshire Council election results be noted.**

Appendix:

Results of Central Bedfordshire Council election 4 June 2009.

RETURNING OFFICER REPORT TO CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL JUNE 2009 ELECTIONS

1. There were 3 tiers of election in 2009 in the Central Beds area ; the European (the CB area with the largest electorate, some 192,000, in East of England region) , Local Government elections for Central Bedfordshire Council (first elections to 28wards with 66 councillors) and Dunstable Town Council (6 wards , 21 councillors). The other parish elections scheduled for 2009 were not contested following the receipt of valid nominations.
2. The Bedfordshire (Structural Changes) Order 2008 Part 6 dealt with electoral matters and designated the proper officer of SBDC as Returning Officer for the 2009 election. This in part recognised the timing of the elections early on in the life of the Central Bedfordshire Council and the increased risk that the preparation may be subject to at a time of major change. The Shadow Executive Committee confirmed the RO appointment at its meeting on 25th November 2008.
3. The costs of the combined election will be allocated between the budget provided by the Ministry of Justice and the CBC budget using the MoJ guidance and the usual accounting conventions in line with good financial practice. There are statutory requirements regarding the completion of the Election accounts and meeting these is the responsibility of the LRO/RO. This will be achieved in conjunction with the Director of Resources and his team.
4. The objective of the elections team throughout has been to manage the additional complexity of the task, keeping to the tight statutory timetable whilst meeting the high standards expected by the public and other bodies including the Electoral Commission. There were more than 500 people involved on election day at the 190 polling stations and the two count centres. The European election count was carried out by some 90 people on the 7th June.
5. I would like to place on record my thanks to all those who supported the process in the run up to the day and on the day. Without their (and their managers') support the election just could not happen. The process is always an intense and demanding one and this time has been additionally challenging as we strived to make the first CBC elections not only an efficient process but also a CBC shop window. The media coverage of the Count gave CBC prominence at the regional level and in early morning national broadcasts. The long day/night/morning proved worthwhile.

There were "moments" and many of them during the weeks leading up to the day and on the day !

I would like to place on record my personal tribute to in particular ; Brian Dunleavy , Barbara Morris , Kathrin John and Stephen Cooke for , not only their specialist skill and knowledge , but also their total commitment and the sheer hard mental and physical slog over a sustained period.

6. There were a total of 318 valid candidate nominations this time and communication with political parties, candidates and agents at that key stage and throughout the process is crucial. Two formal meetings were held with candidates and election agents and feedback from these sessions and during the process has been very positive. I complete a performance report to the electoral commission and any further feedback on the administration of these elections would be welcomed for that purpose and for the conduct of future elections in the area.
7. I am pleased to say liaison with, and support from Bedfordshire police colleagues was again very good. My thanks to them.
8. The attached appendix sets out those people that have been elected Councillors with a two year term until elections in 2011. These elections are expected to be based on warding arrangements following the boundary review due to start next month.

I wish the Council well on the next stages of its journey.

Jon Ruddick

Local Returning Officer/ Returning Officer

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CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results

Barton

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|----------|
| Christopher ATKINSON | Labour | 142 |
| Martin HAWKINS | Conservative | 1000 |
| Theresa MILLER | Labour | 157 |
| Anthony NORTHWOOD | Liberal Democrat | 1302 (E) |
| Janet NUNN | Liberal Democrat | 1268 (E) |
| Frederick WILSON | Conservative | 898 |

Dunstable Downs

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------|----------|
| Wendy BATER | Labour | 855 |
| Peter COLE | United Kingdom First | 856 |
| Paul FREEMAN | Conservative Party | 1828 (E) |
| Lesley GATES | Liberal Democrat | 775 |
| Derek GODFREY | National Front | 423 |
| Anthony GREEN | Conservative | 2011 (E) |
| Carole HEGLEY | Conservative | 1664 (E) |
| David KING | Labour | 556 |
| David LARKMAN | Liberal Democrat | 799 |
| James O'NEILL | Labour | 520 |
| Sally POINTER | Liberal Democrat | 746 |
| Joy SHAW | Labour | 557 |
| Ian WITHERICK | Liberal Democrat | 692 |
| John YOUNG | Conservative | 1855 (E) |

Grovebury

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|----------|
| Raymond BERRY | Conservative | 1052 (E) |
| Jennifer BONE | Labour | 398 |
| Adam FAHN | Conservative | 1028 (E) |
| Hugo GRIFFIN-JORGENSEN | Liberal Democrat | 504 |
| Peter McMORROW | Liberal Democrat | 444 |
| Christopher NORTHEGE | Labour | 325 |

Houghton Regis

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Steven BRIDGEMAN | British National | 735 |
| John CHATTERLEY | Conservative | 998 |
| Rita EGAN | Liberal Democrat Focus | 1650 (E) |
| Susan GOODCHILD | Liberal Democrat Focus | 1877 (E) |
| Ruth HARRIS-SMALL | Labour | 463 |
| David JONES | Liberal Democrat Focus | 1628 (E) |
| Beryl MEAKINS | Conservative | 279 |
| Claire MEAKINS-JELL | Conservative | 799 |
| Robert ROCHE | Labour | 482 |
| Susan SLOUGH | Labour | 456 |
| Peter SWAISLAND | Conservative | 746 |
| Roger TURNER | Labour | 444 |
| Peter WILLIAMS | Liberal Democrat Focus | 1553 (E) |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results

Icknield

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------|
| Peter HATSWELL | Liberal Democrat | 487 |
| Michelle HENDERSON | Labour | 296 |
| Theresa HOWES | Labour | 299 |
| John KANE | Conservative | 913 (E) |
| David McVICAR | Conservative | 1046 (E) |
| Alan WINTER | Liberal Democrat | 405 |

Leighton Linlade

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------|
| John BONE | Labour | 505 |
| David BOWATER | Conservative | 1728 (E) |
| John FREEMAN | Liberal Democrat | 1328 |
| Russell GOODCHILD | Liberal Democrat | 1165 |
| Anne GUESS | Liberal Democrat | 1145 |
| Sara HARRIS | Labour | 517 |
| Roy JOHNSTONE | Conservative | 1747 (E) |
| Stephen OWEN | Liberal Democrat | 1039 |
| Joan RAMPLEY | Labour | 513 |
| Maurice RAMPLEY | Labour | 466 |
| Kenneth SHARER | Conservative | 1769 (E) |
| Brian SPURR | Conservative | 1752 (E) |

Northfields

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Jeannette FREEMAN | Conservative | 618 (E) |
| Michael HEARTY | Labour | 413 |
| Roderick KEYES | Liberal Democrat | 258 |
| Elaine MORGAN | Liberal Democrat | 244 |
| Julian MURRAY | Independent | 755 (E) |
| Shelley ROSE | British National Party | 348 |
| Duncan ROSS | Labour | 480 |
| Nigel WARREN | Conservative | 511 |

Plantation

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------|
| Maurice BLACKMAN | Labour | 279 |
| Anne GRAY | Liberal Democrat | 519 |
| Rosalind MENNIE | Liberal Democrat | 458 |
| Peter RAWCLIFFE | Conservative | 1290 (E) |
| Gerald SANDISON | Labour | 260 |
| Alan SHADBOLT | Conservative | 1204 (E) |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results

Shefford

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Lewis BIRT | Conservative | 1309 (E) |
| Tony BROWN | Conservative | 1234 (E) |
| Carolyn DEVEREUX | Labour | 286 |
| John GOODE | Liberal Democrats | 650 |
| Paul MACKIN | Liberal Democrats | 881 |
| Nigel RUSHBY | Labour | 208 |

South East Bedfordshire

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|----------|
| Ruth GAMMONS | Conservative | 1551 (E) |
| Stephen GOSS | Liberal Democrat | 582 |
| Adrees LATIF | Liberal Democrat | 542 |
| Alyson READ | Labour | 292 |
| John SMITH | Labour | 212 |
| Richard STAY | Conservative | 1720 (E) |

South West Bedfordshire

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----------|
| William AMOS | Labour | 193 |
| Roger CROFT | Labour | 222 |
| Frederick GOODCHILD | Liberal Democrat | 499 |
| Kenneth JANES | Conservative | 1744 (E) |
| Marion MUSTOE | Conservative | 1705 (E) |

Southcott

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Kenneth BARRY | Green | 417 |
| Mark FRIED | Liberal Democrat | 591 |
| David HOPKIN | Conservative | 986 (E) |
| Peter PALFREY | Labour and Co-Operative | 189 |
| John RAYMOND | Labour | 120 |
| George ROLFE | Conservative | 829 |
| Peter SNELLING | Liberal Democrat | 858 (E) |

Toddington

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| Norman COSTIN | Conservative | 1139 (E) |
| Rodney EVANS | Labour | 166 |
| John GILBEY | Independent | 448 |
| Marshall MILLER | Labour | 147 |
| Ray MORGAN | Liberal Democrat | 223 |
| Thomas NICOLS | Conservative | 1188 (E) |
| Ian SHINGLER | Independent | 677 |
| Anthony SWAIN | Liberal Democrat | 203 |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results

Watling

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------|
| Raymond HARRIS | Labour | 285 |
| Peter HOLLICK | Conservative | 1267 (E) |
| Michael ROGERS | Labour | 256 |
| Ann SPARROW | Conservative | 1265 (E) |
| Susan THORNE | Liberal Democrat | 454 |
| Lynda WALMSLEY | Liberal Democrat | 353 |

Woburn and Harlington

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|----------|
| Fiona CHAPMAN | Conservative | 1743 (E) |
| Rachel GARNHAM | Labour | 304 |
| Brian GOLBY | Liberal Democrats | 1332 |
| Robert HALLAM | Liberal Democrats | 1068 |
| Susan MORRIS | Labour | 263 |
| Budge WELLS | Conservative | 1688 (E) |

Silsoe and Shillington

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------|
| Paul BOUCH | Labour | 138 |
| Rita DRINKWATER | Conservative | 1503 (E) |
| Alison GRAHAM | Liberal Democrats | 1226 (E) |
| Myles COLLETT | Liberal Democrats | 1089 |
| Kathy KEEN | Conservative | 1163 |
| Anthony KENT | Labour | 80 |

Ampthill

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------|
| John BINGHAM | Independent | 177 |
| Mark CANT | Labour | 73 |
| Michael COTTIER | Liberal Democrats | 418 |
| Paul DUCKETT | Conservative | 855 (E) |
| Carol GIBSON | Conservative | 633 |
| Chris HAYES | Independent | 417 |
| David HOGAN | Labour | 76 |
| Ghislain PASCAL | Independent | 548 |
| Mark SMITH | Independent | 840 |
| Gary SUMMERFIELD | Liberal Democrats | 971 |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results

Biggleswade

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------|
| Kevin AUSTIN | British National | 709 |
| Bernard BRIARS | Labour | 963 |
| Gregory BURKE | Liberal Democrats | 1060 |
| Neil CLIFF | Liberal Democrats | 850 |
| Dante CONNING | Liberal Democrats | 726 |
| Allister DENNIS | Labour | 714 |
| Sheila GRAYSTON | Labour | 808 |
| Maurice JONES | Conservative | 2091 (E) |
| David LAWRENCE | Conservative | 1989 (E) |
| Jane LAWRENCE | Conservative | 1930 (E) |
| Chris LESLIE | Liberal Democrats | 639 |
| Rex SKINNER | Labour | 951 |
| Peter VICKERS | Conservative | 2157 (E) |

Cranfield

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Alan BASTABLE | Conservative | 857 (E) |
| Sheila BOOTH | Liberal Democrats | 354 |
| Kenneth MATTHEWS | Conservative | 858 (E) |
| Alan MORRIS | Labour | 218 |
| Laurence POLLOCK | Labour | 229 |
| Malcolm SINCLAIR | Liberal Democrats | 305 |

Flitwick East

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Andy AUSDEN | Independent | 320 |
| Gareth ELLIS | Green | 685 |
| Chris FRYER | Green | 496 |
| Sheila GARDNER | Labour | 125 |
| Stephen HUNT | Labour | 108 |
| James JAMIESON | Conservative | 1213 (E) |
| Stephen MITCHELL | Liberal Democrats | 641 |
| Les THOMPSON | Liberal Democrats | 475 |
| Andrew TURNER | Conservative | 1140 (E) |

Flitwick West

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------|
| Dennis GALE | Conservative | 1356 (E) |
| Peter JOYCE | Labour | 197 |
| Richard KENNEDY | Liberal Democrats | 698 |
| Stephen MALE | Conservative | 1361 (E) |
| Iain MATHARU | Labour | 151 |
| Louise WATTON | Liberal Democrats | 760 |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results

Langford and Henlow Village

| | | |
|----------------|------------------------|----------|
| Trevor BARNES | Liberal Democrat Focus | 589 |
| Ann BROWN | Labour | 257 |
| Jon CLARKE | Conservative | 1681 (E) |
| David DEVEREUX | Labour | 295 |
| Tony ROGERS | Conservative | 1783 (E) |
| Tim TROON | Liberal Democrat Focus | 722 |

Marston

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|---------|
| Roy ARDEN | Labour | 130 |
| Roger BAKER | Conservative | 706 (E) |
| Ian BOOTH | Liberal Democrats | 486 |
| Sean CAROLAN | Labour | 116 |
| Iain CLAPHAM | Independent | 553 |
| Michael GIBSON | Conservative | 601 (E) |
| Jo SINCLAIR | Liberal Democrats | 247 |

Maulden & Houghton Conquest

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|----------|
| Saqhib ALI | Green | 341 |
| Roger BAINES | Liberal Democrats | 907 |
| Angela BARKER | Conservative | 1430 (E) |
| George LEGATE | Labour | 135 |
| Howard LOCKEY | Conservative | 1390 (E) |
| Peter WICKS | Labour | 128 |
| Tracy WILBUR | Liberal Democrats | 853 |

Northhill and Blunham

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------|----------|
| James BLACKBURN | Liberal Democrat Focus | 674 |
| Hilary BRODERICK | Labour | 180 |
| Gail DAVIS | Liberal Democrat Focus | 645 |
| Peter DOLAND | Labour | 170 |
| Caroline MAUDLIN | Conservative | 2013 |
| Tricia TURNER | Conservative | 1823 (E) |

Potton

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|----------|
| Richard BAKER | Independent | 731 |
| Rose FORBES | Labour | 298 |
| Doreen GURNEY | Conservative | 1156 (E) |
| Dennis JAMES | Labour | 208 |
| Patrick JONES | Liberal Democrat Focus | 631 |
| Anita LEWIS | Conservative | 1232 (E) |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results

Sandy

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------|
| Nigel ALDIS | Liberal Democrat Focus | 1290 (E) |
| Peter BLAINE | Liberal Democrat Focus | 1383 (E) |
| David HADLEY | Labour | 123 |
| Kate LAYDEN | Green | 266 |
| Ken LYNCH | Green | 748 |
| Cheryl McDONALD | Labour | 135 |
| Dawn McNEIL | Conservative | 689 |
| Steven WATKINS | Conservative | 619 |

Stotfold and Arlesey

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Alan COOPER | Liberal Democrat | 958 |
| Ian DALGARNO | Conservative | 1931 (E) |
| Hugh HARPER | Independent | 1073 |
| Douglas LANDMAN | Labour and Co-Operative | 422 |
| Sandra LUNN | Labour and Co-Operative | 432 |
| Pam MANFIELD | Liberal Democrat | 802 |
| John SAUNDERS | Conservative | 2139 (E) |
| Mike Smith | Labour and Co-Operative | 313 |
| Larry STOTER | Liberal Democrat | 743 |
| John STREET | Conservative | 2131 (E) |
| Christina Turner | Conservative | 1981 (E) |
| Lorraine WARWICK | Labour and Co-Operative | 394 |
| Vic WILLIAMS | Independent | 915 |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results
DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

Manshead Ward

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------|
| Wendy BATER | Labour | 277 |
| Jeannette FREEMAN | Conservative | 578 (E) |
| Paul FREEMAN | Conservative | 553 (E) |
| Lesley GATES | Liberal Democrat | 362 |
| Izaan KENDRICK | Conservative | 593 (E) |
| James O'Neill | Labour | 261 |
| Sally POINTER | Liberal Democrat | 310 |
| Joy SHAW | Labour | 244 |

Dunstable Central

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|---------|
| Anthony GREEN | Conservative | 681 (E) |
| David KING | Labour | 224 |
| Robert ROCHE | Labour | 152 |
| Duncan ROSS | Labour | 213 |
| Patricia RUSSELL | Conservative | 640 (E) |
| Lilian STAPLES | Conservative | 654 (E) |
| Susan THORNE | Liberal Democrat | 339 |

Icknield

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------|
| Terence COLBOURNE | Conservative | 1091 (E) |
| Peter HATSWELL | Liberal Democrat | 530 |
| Michelle HENDERSON | Labour | 348 |
| Theresa HOWES | Labour | 341 |
| Gloria MARTIN | Conservative | 977 (E) |
| Susan SLOUGH | Labour | 302 |
| Terence STOCK | Conservative | 1032 (E) |
| Roger TURNER | Labour | 266 |
| Nigel WARREN | Conservative | 896 (E) |

Northfields

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|---------|
| John CHATTERLEY | Conservative | 648 (E) |
| Denise GREEN | Conservative | 704 (E) |
| Julie HARNETT | Conservative | 745 (E) |
| Michael HEARTY | Labour | 467 |
| Maria JONES | Labour | 499 |
| Anthony KENT | Labour | 425 |
| Roderick KEYES | Liberal Democrat | 391 |
| Beryl MEAKINS | Conservative | 568 |
| Marshall MILLER | Labour | 378 |
| Elaine MORGAN | Liberal Democrat | 363 |
| Julian MURRAY | Independent | 870 (E) |

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
2009 Election Results
DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

Chiltern

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------|
| Ratan ANKLESARIA | Conservative | 846 (E) |
| Mark CANT | Labour | 195 |
| Ruth HARRIS-SMALL | Labour | 165 |
| Elizabeth JONES | Conservative | 896 (E) |
| David LARKMAN | Liberal Democrat | 367 |
| Iain MATHARU | Labour | 147 |
| Sally NEWTON | Conservative | 920 (E) |
| Ian WITHERICK | Liberal Democrat | 379 |

Watling

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----------|
| Raymond HARRIS | Labour | 315 |
| David HOGAN | Labour | 269 |
| Peter HOLLICK | Conservative | 1279 (E) |
| Richard HUNT | Liberal Democrat | 451 |
| Claire MEAKINS-JELL | Conservative | 1162 (E) |
| Theresa MILLER | Labour | 267 |
| Ray MORGAN | Liberal Democrat | 406 |
| Michael MULLANY | Conservative | 1244 (E) |
| Michael ROGERS | Labour | 266 |
| Ann SPARROW | Conservative | 1255 (E) |

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Agenda Item: 11

Meeting: Council

Date: 18 June 2009

Subject: **Appointment of Members, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to Committees and Other Council Bodies 2009/10**

Report of: Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic

Summary: The report outlines the requirements for member appointments to committees and other Council bodies, including political proportionality. Nominations from group leaders will be circulated separately.

Contact Officer: Rob Mills, Committee Services Manager

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Council confirms for the municipal year 2009/10:
 - (a) the structure, size and terms of reference of the committees, sub-committees and joint committees set out in sections D1, E2 and J2 of the Council's constitution; and
 - (b) the allocation of seats and substitutes to these and other bodies, as listed in Appendix A to this report, in accordance with the political balance rules where they apply.
2. That the appointment of individual Members and substitutes to committees and other bodies be approved in accordance with nominations to be submitted by the political groups (Appendix B to follow).
3. That the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of committees for the municipal year 2009/10 be approved in accordance with nominations to be submitted by the political groups (Appendix C to follow).
4. That the following persons be appointed to the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee as co-opted members with voting rights on education matters for the period to 31 March 2013:
 - (a) Mr Ben Sear, parent governor representative;
 - (b) Mrs Frances Image, Roman Catholic Diocesan representative; and

(c) **Mr Jon Reynolds, Church of England Diocesan representative.**

5. **That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to appoint for the same period the two additional parent governor representatives who have been duly nominated and elected by parent governors, following completion of the statutory election process.**

Political Balance

1. The Council must allocate seats on committees and other prescribed bodies so as to give effect to the political balance rules in Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. These require the Council to determine the allocation of seats on its 'ordinary' committees and sub-committees, and on certain other prescribed bodies, in proportion to the representation of different political groups on the Council.
2. The principles in the Act, in relation to bodies that are required to be proportional, are:
 - (a) that not all the seats on the body are allocated to the same political group;
 - (b) that the majority of seats is allocated to the majority group (see note);
 - (c) that, subject to (a) and (b), the **total number of seats** on all 'ordinary' committees is proportional to the overall balance of political groups on the Council;
 - (d) that, subject to (a), (b) and (c), the allocation of seats on **individual bodies** also reflects the overall balance of political groups on the Council.

Note: seats reserved for education co-opted members (see paragraphs 19-23 below) are to be taken into account for the purpose of determining how many seats constitute a majority.

3. In the context of the Act, 'ordinary' committees includes only committees that have delegated powers to discharge the Council's statutory functions, and does not include informal bodies that are not committees.
4. A 'political group' is constituted when two or more Members sign a written notice, delivered to the Proper Officer, declaring their wish to be treated as a political group and giving the name of the group and of the group's leader.
5. Where there are Members who do not belong to any political group, a proportionate number of the available seats will not be allocated to any political group; and the Council is required to appoint to those seats from among the Members who do not belong to any political group, according to its discretion. Thus a single Independent Member cannot constitute a political group but should be taken into account for the purposes of the overall allocation of available seats.

Appointment of Councillors to Committees, etc.

6. Following the first election of Members to the new 66-Member Central Bedfordshire Council on 4 June 2009 it is necessary to appoint Members to serve on the various committees, joint committees and other Member forums listed in Appendix A for the municipal year ending 22 April 2010. Also shown are the legal and/or constitutional requirements relating to each committee, etc., including the agreed constitutional requirements for some joint bodies.
7. Appendix A furthermore shows the post-election calculations for each of the 'ordinary' committees, joint committees and other Council bodies where the political balance rules apply, as listed under section 'A. Proportional Bodies'.
8. These calculations are based on the overall balance of political groups on the Council which is as follows:

| | Conservative | Liberal Democrat | Independent | Total |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|
| No. and % of councillors | 54 (81.82%) | 11 (16.67%) | 1 (1.52%) | 66 (100%) |
| Allocation of all proportional seats | 82.64 (83) | 16.83 (17) | 1.53 (1) | 101 |

9. Applying a simple proportional basis to each proportional body individually (without reference to overall balance) would produce an allocation of seats on each body as follows:

| Number of Seats | Conservative | Liberal Democrat | Independent |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| 20 | 16.36 | 3.33 | 0.30 |
| 19 | 15.55 | 3.17 | 0.29 |
| 18 | 14.73 | 3.00 | 0.27 |
| 17 | 13.91 | 2.83 | 0.26 |
| 16 | 13.09 | 2.67 | 0.24 |
| 15 | 12.27 | 2.50 | 0.23 |
| 14 | 11.45 | 2.33 | 0.21 |
| 13 | 10.64 | 2.17 | 0.20 |
| 12 | 9.82 | 2.00 | 0.18 |
| 11 | 9.00 | 1.83 | 0.17 |
| 10 | 8.18 | 1.67 | 0.15 |
| 9 | 7.36 | 1.50 | 0.14 |
| 8 | 6.55 | 1.33 | 0.12 |
| 7 | 5.73 | 1.17 | 0.11 |
| 6 | 4.91 | 1.00 | 0.09 |
| 5 | 4.09 | 0.83 | 0.08 |
| 4 | 3.27 | 0.67 | 0.06 |
| 3 | 2.45 | 0.50 | 0.05 |

10. Appendix A shows how individual committee memberships would be constituted on this basis. This would however give the Liberal Democrat Group a total of 19 seats, two more than required to meet the rules on overall balance. As the primary calculation is for proportionality in the **overall** number of seats (i.e. proportionality on individual committees/bodies is a secondary factor, to be achieved as far as practicable), the figures shown in Appendix A will need amending to achieve the correct balance. The Liberal Democrat Group should therefore have two fewer seats than shown and the Conservative Group and the Independent Member should each have one more. Group Leaders have arranged to meet to discuss this further and an amended Appendix A may be submitted prior to the annual meeting. It will then be for the Council to determine how best to achieve the correct overall balance.
11. The number of substitutes is shown in brackets, where they may be appointed. Under the constitution, these will be half the number of seats that each political group holds on the particular committee, being a minimum of one and rounded up in the case of odd numbers. Each independent member not belonging to a political group within the Council is entitled to nominate a substitute to attend in his/her place.
12. Non-proportional bodies are listed in section B of Appendix A.
13. The Appointments Panel, from which individual Appointments Sub-Committees will be selected, will need to be appointed at a special meeting of the General Purposes Committee following the Council meeting. Each Sub-Committee will appoint its own Chairman for the meeting.
14. The Employee Partnership Committee and the Joint Consultative and Negotiating Committee for Primary and Secondary Education will also need to be appointed at the special meeting of the General Purposes Committee.
15. The Licensing Sub-Committee will need to be appointed at a special meeting of the Licensing Committee following the Council meeting.
16. The Standards Committee, which is non-proportional, comprises 5 Central Bedfordshire councillors, plus 5 co-opted town or parish councillors and 5 co-opted independent (i.e. non-council) members. As co-opted members were appointed by Shadow Council on 26 February 2009 for the period from 1 April 2009 until the elections to be held in 2011, only the Central Bedfordshire councillors need to be appointed at this meeting.
17. There is a separate report on the agenda regarding the appointment by the Leader of the Executive, which is also non-proportional.

Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

18. The Council is also requested to appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Council's 'ordinary' committees, nominations for which are submitted in Appendix C (to follow). In the event of more than one nomination being received for the chairmanship or vice-chairmanship of a committee, each nomination in respect of that office will need to be put to the vote.

Appointment of Co-opted Members (re Education Matters)

19. The Local Government Act and regulations made under it require certain representatives to be co-opted onto any overview and scrutiny committee whose functions relate wholly or partly to any education functions which are the responsibility of the authority's executive. That committee was until June 2009 the Scrutiny Committee, but from now on will be the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The co-opted members have a vote on education matters only.
20. The statutory co-optees are:
 - (a) between two and five parent governor representatives who must be appointed following an election among parent governors of schools maintained by the local education authority and may serve for up to four years; the Central Bedfordshire constitution requires three such parent governors; and
 - (b) two church representatives, to be nominated respectively by the Church of England Diocesan Board and the Roman Catholic Diocesan Bishop for the area.
21. Shadow Council on 26 February 2009 appointed one parent governor representative (following a single nomination received) and two church representatives (nominated by the respective church authorities) to serve on the Scrutiny Committee for the period April to June 2009, with the intention that they would be re-appointed to the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee from the date of this annual meeting.
22. Nominations were sought for a further two parent governor representatives from among the parent governors of all maintained schools in the Central Bedfordshire area, in response to which seven nominations have been received, requiring a statutory election process to be conducted among all parent governors. The closing date for the election is 24 June, which will enable all three parent governors to be in place before the first meeting of the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14 July. The council is asked to delegate the formal appointment to the Monitoring Officer.
23. The term of office of all five co-opted members will be until 31 March 2013 or until such time as they either cease to be eligible under the regulations or resign, if earlier.

| |
|---|
| CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS |
| Council Priorities: The appointment of members to committees, etc. in accordance with legal and constitutional requirements is essential to the good governance of the Council. |
| Financial: None. |

Legal:

The appointment of elected members must comply with the proportionality requirements in sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

The appointment of co-opted members to the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee must comply with paragraphs 7 and 9, Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2000 and The Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/478).

Risk Management:

None.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None.

Equalities/Human Rights:

None.

Community Safety:

None.

Sustainability:

None.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Member Appointments Required by Annual Council

Appendix B – Nominations for Membership of Committees, etc. 2009/10.

Appendix C – Nominations for Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship of Committees 2009/10.

Background Papers: N/A

MEMBER APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED BY ANNUAL COUNCIL ON 18 JUNE 2009

| Committee, Sub-Committee, Panel, etc. | Total No. of Councillors (substitutes in brackets) | Conservative | Liberal Democrat | Independent |
|--|--|----------------|------------------|-------------|
| A. PROPORTIONAL BODIES | | | | |
| A1. 'Ordinary' Committees (proportional) | | | | |
| Note: A simple proportional allocation to each committee would produce the following political balance, but would not achieve the required overall balance of Conservative 83, Liberal Democrat 17 and Independent 1 (see paragraph 10 of the covering report). | | | | |
| Business Transformation OSC | 9 (5) | 7 (4) | 2 (1) | 0 |
| Children, Families & Learning OSC | 9 (5) | 7 (4) | 2 (1) | 0 |
| Corporate Resources OSC | 9 (5) | 7 (4) | 2 (1) | 0 |
| Social Care, Health & Housing OSC | 9 (5) | 7 (4) | 2 (1) | 0 |
| Sustainable Communities OSC | 9 (5) | 7 (4) | 2 (1) | 0 |
| Audit | 7 (4) | 6 (3) | 1 (1) | 0 |
| Development Management | 18 (10) | 15 (8) | 3 (2) | 0 |
| General Purposes | 7 (4) | 6 (3) | 1 (1) | 0 |
| Licensing | 12 (6) | 10 (5) | 2 (1) | 0 |
| Regulation | 12 (6) | 10 (5) | 2 (1) | 0 |
| Total | 101 (55) | 82 (44) | 19 (11) | 0 |

Notes:

1. Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSCs) **must not** include in their membership (a) any members of the Executive; or (b) any member who is appointed to assist a Portfolio Holder if the particular OSC's terms of reference cover any portfolio with which he/she assists.
2. Unless the Council were to decide otherwise, with no Member voting against, the Conservative group will require a majority of all the seats, including co-opted member seats, on the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee (see paragraph 2 of the covering report).
3. Council will also need to confirm the appointment to the Children, Families and Learning OSC of the one parent governor representative and two church representatives who were appointed to the Scrutiny Committee by Shadow Council on 26 February 2009. Nominations have been sought for an additional two parent governor representatives and any nominees will be reported to the Council for formal appointment.
4. The Audit Committee membership **may not** include (a) any member of the Executive; or (b) more than one member of an overview and scrutiny committee other than the Corporate Resources OSC.
5. The General Purposes Committee **must** include at least one Executive member.
6. The membership of the Licensing and Regulation Committees **must** be the same.

A2. Joint Committee (proportional but not part of the overall seat allocation)

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| Wixams Joint Development Control | 9 (5) | 7 (4) | 2 (1) | 0 |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---|

Note: Appointments to the Wixams Joint Development Control Committee are, as far as practicable, to reflect political balance within the Council.

A3. Other Council Bodies (proportional but not part of the overall seat allocation)

| | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|---|
| Appeals Panel | 9 (5) | 7 (4) | 2 (1) | 0 |
| Appointments Panel (appointed by General Purposes Committee) | 5 (3) | 4 (2) | 1 (1) | 0 |
| Corporate Parenting Panel | 8 (0) | 7 (0) | 1 (0) | 0 |
| Employee Partnership Committee (appointed by General Purposes Committee) | 7 (4) | 6 (3) | 1 (1) | 0 |
| JCNC for Primary and Secondary Education (appointed by General Purposes Committee) | 7 (4) | 6 (3) | 1 (1) | 0 |
| Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) | 5 (0) | 4 (0) | 1 (0) | 0 |

Notes:

1. Members of the Appeals Panel will be appointed as required to individual Appeals Committees, each comprising 3-5 councillors appointed in accordance with political balance.
2. Members of the Appointments Panel will be appointed as required to individual Appointments Sub-Committees, which will normally comprise 3 Panel Members (2 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat), with the addition of the relevant Portfolio Holder for the appointment to be made. A Sub-Committee must include at least one Executive Member.
3. The membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel **must** include the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Learning **and** a member of the Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee. As reported to the Shadow Executive on 17 March 2009, the Panel will be accountable to the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
4. The Employee Partnership Committee **must** include at least one Executive member.

5. The Joint Consultative and Negotiating Committee (JCNC) for Primary and Secondary Education **must** include at least one Executive member.
6. Members appointed to the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) should have an interest in collective worship and religious education, as required by its constitution.

B. NON-PROPORTIONAL BODIES

B1. Other Committees and Sub-Committees (non-proportional)

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Executive | 3-10 (0) |
| Standards | 5 (0) |
| Licensing Sub-Committee (appointed by Licensing Committee) | 3 (subs: see note 3) |

Notes:

1. The Executive does not have to comply with political balance rules. It will comprise the Leader of the Council and other members appointed by the Leader.
2. Member appointments to the Standards Committee (and its sub-committees) do not have to comply with political balance rules, but have included a minority party member in all three predecessor authorities. Appointments of 5 Independent and 5 Town/Parish Council members have already been made until the elections to be held in 2011.
3. Whilst political balance is not required for the Licensing Sub-Committee, where practicable the members should be drawn from more than one political group. Any named member of the Licensing Committee may substitute.

B2. Joint Committees (non-proportional)

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Dunstable Town Centre Management | 5 (0) |
|----------------------------------|-------|

| | |
|--|-------|
| Houghton Regis Town Centre Management | 4 (0) |
| Leighton-Linslade Town Centre Management | 5 (0) |
| Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint (Section 29) (see note 5) | 6 (6) |
| Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint (Section 101) | 3 (3) |

Notes:

1. Dunstable Town Centre Management Committee (TCMC) **must** comprise **either** (a) Executive members or (b) members for a Dunstable ward. Under the regulations for joint committees whose role covers less than two-fifths of the Council's total area or population, political balance rules do not apply.
2. Houghton Regis TCMC members **must** comprise **either** (a) Executive members or (b) members for a Houghton Regis ward. Likewise, political balance rules do not apply.
3. Leighton-Linslade TCMC members **must** comprise **either** (a) Executive members or (b) members for a Leighton-Linslade ward. Likewise, political balance rules do not apply.
4. The Luton and South Bedfordshire Joint Committee (Section 29 Committee) **must** include (a) at least 4 Executive members; and (b) up to 2 non-executive members, who will normally include the Chairman of Development Management Committee. The membership is non-proportional as it includes no more than 2 non-executive members (otherwise political balance rules would apply to the non-executive membership).
5. The Luton and South Bedfordshire Joint Committee (Section 101 Committee) **must** comprise three of the Executive members appointed to the Section 29 Committee and is therefore non-proportional.

B3. Other Panels and Informal Bodies requiring Council Appointments (non-proportional)

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Joint Adoption Panel | 1 (0) |
| Fostering Panel | 1 (0) |
| Fostering Permanence Panel | 1 (0) |
| Constitution Advisory Group | 4 () |
| Member Development Champions | 7 () |

Notes:

1. One member of the Corporate Parenting Panel **must** be appointed to **each** of the Joint Adoption Panel, the Fostering Panel and the Fostering Permanence Panel (the latter otherwise referred to as the Permanence Panel).
2. The Constitution Advisory Group currently comprises 4 members (3 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat) and one substitute (Conservative).
3. The Member Development Champions currently comprise Group Leaders, the Deputy Leader of the Council, the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Cllr R Stay.

B.4 Other Committees & Sub-Committees to be appointed ad hoc as required (for information only)

Standards Sub-Committees (to be appointed by the Monitoring Officer (MO) as required from the membership of the Standards Committee):

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Initial Assessment | 1 |
| Review | 1 |
| Hearings | 1 |

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees are to be appointed by MO as required from the membership of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in consultation with the Chairman & Vice-Chairman of that Committee. Appointments are subject to (a) the political balance rules if more than 2 members are appointed; and (b) subsequent report to Council for information in any event.

In accordance with the requirement for subsequent report to Council, Members are asked to note that a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, comprising four members from each of Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council, was appointed in April 2009 to scrutinise the draft NHS Bedfordshire Strategy. Its current members are Councillors Alan Carter, Mike Gibson, Mrs Susan Goodchild and Steve Male.

B5. Other Bodies (for information only)

The Central Bedfordshire Shadow Executive has already approved the appointment of the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Learning to the following bodies:

- Admissions Forum
- Schools Forum (non-voting)
- Children's Trust Board.

Under proposed new government guidance, the Portfolio Holder should also be appointed to the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Appointments of local authority school governors do not have to be proportional, but it has been customary for them to be made by the political groups so as broadly to reflect (a) the overall strength of each group on the (former County) Council and (b) wherever possible, the political representation in particular wards. The post-election political balance, would imply appointments by the two main political groups to the 324 available school governor places in the proportion of roughly Conservative 269 (83%), Liberal Democrat 55 (17%).

Member appointments to outside bodies more generally are dealt with in a separate report.

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NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES 2009/10

| A. PROPORTIONAL BODIES | |
|--|--------------------|
| A1. 'Ordinary' Committees | Councillors |
| Business Transformation Overview & Scrutiny (9 members + substitutes) | |
| Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny (9 members + substitutes) | |
| Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny (9 members + substitutes) | |
| Social Care, Health & Housing Overview & Scrutiny (9 members + substitutes) | |
| Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny (9 members + substitutes) | |
| Audit (7 members + substitutes) | |
| Development Management (18 members + substitutes) | |
| General Purposes (7 members + substitutes) | |
| Licensing (12 members + substitutes) | |
| Regulation (12 members + substitutes) | |
| A2. Joint Committee | |
| Wixams Joint Development Control (9 members + substitutes) | |

| | |
|---|--|
| A3. Other Council Bodies | |
| Appeals Panel (9 Members + substitutes) | |
| <i>Appointments Panel (5 members appointed by General Purposes Committee)</i> | |
| Corporate Parenting Panel (8 members) | |
| Employee Partnership (7 members + substitutes) | |
| JCNC for Primary and Secondary Education (7 members + substitutes) | |
| Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) (5 members) | |
| B. NON-PROPORTIONAL BODIES | |
| B1. Other Committees and Sub- Committees | |
| Standards (5 members) | |
| <i>Licensing Sub-Committee (3 members appointed by Licensing Committee)</i> | |
| B2. Joint Committees | |
| Dunstable Town Centre Management (5 members) | |
| Houghton Regis Town Centre Management (4 members) | |
| Leighton-Linslade Town Centre Management (5 members) | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint (Section 29) (6 members + 6 substitutes) | |
| Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint (Section 101) (3 members + 3 substitutes) | |
| B3. Other Panels and Informal Bodies | |
| Joint Adoption Panel (1 member) | |
| Fostering Panel (1 member) | |
| Fostering Permanence Panel (1 member) | |
| Constitution Advisory Group (4 members + substitutes or as required) | |
| Member Development Champions (7 members + substitutes or as required) | |

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Appendix C

**NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRMANSHIP/ VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF
STANDING COMMITTEES 2009/10**

| Committee | Chairman | Vice-Chairman |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|
| Business Transformation Overview & Scrutiny | | |
| Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny | | |
| Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny | | |
| Social Care, Health & Housing Overview & Scrutiny | | |
| Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny | | |
| Audit | | |
| Development Management | | |
| General Purposes | | |
| Licensing | | |
| Regulation | | |

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Agenda Item: 13

Meeting: CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Date: 18 June 2009

Subject: Local Development Framework (Rural Area): Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document Examination

Report of: Portfolio Holder Sustainable Development

Summary: The report proposes that Council delegates authority to the Director of Sustainable Communities in consultation with the Sustainable Development Portfolio Holder to make minor changes to the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document.

Contact Officer: Sally Chapman; LDF Projects and Process Manager

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: (all in the former Mid Bedfordshire Area)

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That the Director of Sustainable Communities in consultation with the Sustainable Development Portfolio Holder is authorised to make minor amendments to the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document during Examination.**

Background

1. The Local Development Framework (LDF) is a series of documents which collectively deliver the spatial planning strategy for Central Bedfordshire. The LDF (Growth Area) is prepared jointly with Luton Borough under the Joint Committee and the LDF (Rural Area) covers the former Mid Bedfordshire Area. The system differs from the Local Plan Process in that the Core Strategy, which is the key plan within the LDF has a wider remit than purely land use planning with a strong link to the Sustainable Communities Plan and an emphasis on delivery.

2. Development Plan Documents (DPD), a component part of the LDF, make up the Statutory Development Plan, together with the East of England Plan. The statutory process of preparing a DPD is set out in the Planning Regulations and comprises many stages and types of consultation which have been to date considered by the LDF Members Task Force, in some instances direct Councillor Briefings, Executive and Council. Under the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations, the submission of the DPD to the Secretary of State and adoption of the DPD are functions of the Council.
3. Councils are under pressure from the Government to complete their LDFs and financial incentives are given through the Housing and Planning Delivery Grant for successful completion of DPDs.

The Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD.

4. This document is part of the LDF (Rural Area) and commenced in mid 2005. It contains the strategy to direct development and infrastructure across the area. It also contains more specific policies for the determination of planning applications. In September 2008, Mid Bedfordshire District Council agreed the Submission to the Secretary of State of the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD. Following a period of consultation the document was submitted in February 2009 and the Examination of the DPD is currently underway by the Planning Inspectorate. Statements responding to matters raised by the Inspector have been submitted by officers of the Council and interested parties. Formal Hearings will commence on the 23rd June for a 3 week period with the Inspector chairing sessions with Council Officers and representors. This is the final stage of the DPD and following the Inspectors Report expected in September, Council will be asked to adopt the DPD in the Autumn.
5. During the examination process, some minor, relatively inconsequential changes to the submitted DPD will be advisable, many of them in relation to changing circumstances, or arising from the examination process or simply to make the text clearer. It is important to note that any 'suggested changes' must be minor in nature and not affect the direction of the Plan. The Council is able to suggest minor changes which the Inspector, in his report, is able to agree. The Inspector is also able to recommend minor changes which will be discussed at the hearings. It is possible, despite the minor nature of the changes, for the Inspector to consider the DPD unsound either in part or as a whole unless certain changes are proposed. This is mostly due to the complex requirements of the LDF system.
6. Changes that would alter the thrust of a policy, extend the range of development a policy would apply to, delete a policy or introduce a new policy would not fall into this category. Therefore changes which 'go to the heart of the Plan' would have to be consulted upon and subject to the process of Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment. Members will of course be fully involved in these more strategic decisions.

7. A Table of Suggested Changes has been prepared and will be updated regularly throughout the Examination. In order to facilitate the Examination process, it is necessary for these suggested changes to be proposed by officers and agreed by the Director and Portfolio Holder of Sustainable Development for the Inspector to consider. The table will be placed on the website alongside all documentation relating to the Examination.

Conclusion and Next Steps

8. It is recommended, therefore, that the Director of Sustainable Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder is authorised to make the minor changes and amendments set out above to the Core Strategy and Development Management DPD.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The LDF expresses many of the Council's policy aims and objectives and will bring them to implementation.

Financial:

None beyond existing budgets.

Legal:

It is a statutory requirement to produce an LDF under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The LDF process is regulated by the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 and subsequent amendments. The determination and consideration of Development Plan Documents is a function of Council under the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations.

Risk Management:

Not relevant

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

Existing

Equalities/Human Rights:

None

Community Safety:

None

Sustainability:

The LDF is a key component of the planning and delivery of sustainable communities

Appendices: N/A

Background Papers: N/A

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Agenda Item: 15

Meeting: Council

Date: 18 June 2009

Subject: **Appointments to the Joint Selection Committee (for Bedfordshire Police Authority) and the Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority 2009/10**

Report of: Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic

Summary: The report outlines the requirements for member appointments to these two bodies, as previously agreed. Nominations from group leaders will be circulated separately.

Contact Officer: Rob Mills, Committee Services Manager

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Council:

- (a) appoints five members to serve upon the Joint Selection Committee which will be responsible for appointing members of Bedfordshire Police Authority; and**
- (b) nominates four members whom the Joint Selection Committee may wish to consider for appointment to the Bedfordshire Police Authority, reflecting the requirement so far as practicable for political balance across all three constituent Councils as a whole (Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Luton Borough).**

2. That the Council appoints five members to serve upon the Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority, reflecting political balance within Central Bedfordshire Council.

Bedfordshire Police Authority and the Joint Selection Committee

1. Bedfordshire Police Authority (BPA) has a strategic policy and monitoring role over the police service across the areas of Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Luton Borough. It comprises 17 members, of whom 9 are to be members of the three relevant councils and 8 are to be independent members.

2. Regulations made under the Police Act 1996 require appointments to be made in Bedfordshire's case by a joint selection committee consisting of members appointed by the three relevant councils. The number of members on the joint committee, and the number that each council appoints to it, should be agreed locally, although the Secretary of State can arbitrate in the absence of an agreement between the relevant councils.
3. In making its appointments to BPA, the joint committee must ensure, so far as practicable, that the membership reflects the balance of the political parties across all three constituent Councils as a whole (Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Luton Borough). Since, prior to 1 April 2009, it had been custom and practice in Bedfordshire for the members of the joint committee also to be appointed as the members of the BPA, it was expected that the joint committee would similarly reflect the overall political balance across the three authorities.
4. The three authorities agreed in March 2009, after consultation with the Home Office Minister, that:
 - (a) the Joint Selection Committee would comprise 11 members, being 3 from Bedford Borough Council (at the time 2 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat), 5 from Central Bedfordshire Council (at the time 4 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat) and 3 from Luton Borough Council (2 Labour and 1 Liberal Democrat);
 - (b) the composition of the Joint Selection Committee would be reviewed every two years and adjusted as necessary to reflect any changes in population (population being the key factor in determining the split between the three authorities, in the view of the Home Office Minister);
 - (c) the Joint Selection Committee should allocate the 9 local authority seats on the BPA on the basis of population as follows (also reflecting the overall political balance at that time):

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Bedford Borough Council | 2 seats (2 Conservative) |
| Central Bedfordshire Council | 4 seats (3 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat) |
| Luton Borough Council | 3 seats (2 Labour and 1 Liberal Democrat). |
5. Luton Borough Council's 3 BPA members were already appointed until May 2009 and so were appointed unchanged to the Joint Selection Committee. Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Councils then appointed 3 and 5 members respectively to the Joint Selection Committee for the period until the election in June 2009. It was recognised that the overall political balance and its impact on the allocation of seats between the political parties would need to be reviewed after the June 2009 elections for the two new unitary authorities, and adjusted if necessary for the period until 2011.

6. The Joint Selection Committee met in April 2009 and appointed members to BPA, in line with the agreed allocation method, until 25 June 2009 or until 8 June if particular members did not stand for re-election or were not re-elected.
7. The Joint Selection Committee will therefore need to meet again as soon as possible after the election to appoint members to BPA in accordance with the post-election balance of political parties across the three authorities, as shown below:

| Authority: | Conservative | Independent | Labour | Liberal Democrat | No Party | Totals |
|--|---------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Bedford | 9 | 6 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 36 |
| Central Beds | 54 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 66 |
| Luton | 5 | 0 | 26 | 17 | 0 | 48 |
| Totals | 68 | 6 | 33 | 41 | 2 | 150 |
| % of total seats | 45.33% | 4.00% | 22.00% | 27.33% | 1.33% | 100.00% |
| no. of JSC seats (rounded in brackets) | 4.99 (5) | 0.44 (1) | 2.42 (2) | 3.01 (3) | 0.15 (0) | 11 |
| no. of BPA seats (rounded in brackets) | 4.08 (4) | 0.36 (0) | 1.98 (2) | 2.46 (3) | 0.12 (0) | 9 |

8. Appointments to the Joint Selection Committee are now required on the above basis. While (as stated above) the making of appointments to the BPA itself is a matter for the Joint Selection Committee, this Council may also wish as before to nominate four members to be considered for membership of the BPA, similarly reflecting the overall political balance requirements.

Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority

9. Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority provides fire and rescue services across the areas of Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Luton Borough and comprises up to 25 members, of whom 12 are to be members of the relevant councils.
10. The 1996 Order establishing the Authority (as amended to reflect local government reorganisation in April 2009) requires that appointments should be made by each of the three councils in proportion to its electorate, resulting in the following allocation:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Bedford Borough Council | 3 seats |
| Central Bedfordshire Council | 5 seats |
| Luton Borough Council | 4 seats. |

11. In this case appointments are, as far as practicable, to reflect political balance within each appointing council. Central Bedfordshire Council appointed its 5 members (4 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat) on this basis for the period until the election in June 2009.
12. Appointment of five members to the Combined Fire Authority is now required, reflecting the post-election political balance within Central Bedfordshire Council, which is:

| | Conservative | Liberal Democrat | Independent | Total |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| No. and % of councillors | 54 (81.82%) | 11 (16.67%) | 1 (1.52%) | 66 (100%) |
| Allocation of seats | 4.09 (4) | 0.83 (1) | 0.08 (0) | 5 |

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The appointments are required as part of the Council's statutory responsibilities.

Financial:

None.

Legal:

Appointments to the Joint Selection Committee and Bedfordshire Police Authority are governed by the Police Act 1996 (as amended by S.I. 2009/119) and The Police Authority Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/630).

Appointments to the Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority are governed by The Bedfordshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1996 (S.I. 1996/2918) as amended by S.I 2009/119.

Risk Management:

None.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None.

Equalities/Human Rights:

None.

Community Safety:

None.

Sustainability:

None.

Appendices:

None.

Background Papers:

None.

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Agenda Item: 16

Meeting: Council

Date: 18 June 2009

Subject: Appointments to Outside Bodies

Report of: Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic

Summary: The report outlines the expectation for fresh appointments to be made to up to 88 outside bodies, and as the next ordinary meeting of full Council is not until 24 September 2009, suggests delegating the functions approving a final schedule of bodies and making the actual appointments to the Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic, in consultation with Group Leaders.

Contact Officer: Rob Mills, Committee Services Manager

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That the schedule of outside bodies to which Council appointments may be made, as attached to this report, be noted pending further consultations with Group Leaders.**
- 2. That the Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic be authorised, in consultation with Group Leaders, to approve the final schedule of outside bodies, to make the necessary appointments and to inform the Members and organisations concerned.**
- 3. That existing temporary appointments be extended until 31 August 2009 or until fresh appointments are made, whichever is the earlier, where the representatives appointed in March 2009 continue to be Central Bedfordshire Council Members.**

1. Under the Council's constitution (B6 Local Choice Functions, paragraph 18) appointments to outside bodies are a Council function, to be exercised initially after a new Council is elected, with authority thereafter for the Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic, in consultation with Group Leaders, to make new appointments, fill vacancies, approve variations to existing appointments and delete organisations from the approved list.

2. In March 2009 temporary Member appointments were made under the shadow constitution to 82 out of 88 outside bodies of various descriptions, as listed in the attached schedule. In view of the impending reduction from 124 Members to 66 Members, the appointments were to run from 1 April until 8 June 2009, when the representation would be reviewed again. Appointments to another 6 bodies were deferred until after the election (one of these requiring nomination in 2011).
3. These appointments followed a review of nearly 200 outside bodies to which one or more of the three legacy authorities had previously made appointments. This review included a survey of the bodies themselves and consultation with former Member representatives to assess the value of continuing such representation in Central Bedfordshire. As a result, a number of bodies were removed from the schedule either because local government reorganisation had made them redundant, because the bodies had changed their membership requirements, because they were dormant or could not be traced, or because Members had questioned the value of continued representation. The revised schedule also removed some duplication where two or more of the legacy authorities had previously made appointments and the organisation was asked to suggest how many Central Bedfordshire Members it wished to be appointed. A few bodies were added where required by the reorganisation process.
4. In the light of the shortage of time between the election and the annual meeting, it was expected that political groups would wish to have some time to consider both the extent of representation required from the new 66-Member Council and whether it should be continued as before or further streamlined, and the nominations themselves. This is therefore a holding report asking the Council to authorise the Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic, in consultation with Group Leaders, to approve the final schedule of outside bodies to which appointments will be made; and meanwhile to extend the appointments of continuing Members until those appointments are made, assuming this will be not later than 31 August 2009.
5. It is appreciated that this may mean a few gaps in representation where former Members are no longer serving Central Bedfordshire councillors, but it is hoped that the more strategic bodies might continue to have sufficient representation, should they have meetings arranged in the period between the Council's annual meeting and the end of August.
6. Given the constitutional requirement in paragraph 1 above for full Council itself to make appointments to outside bodies only after an election, it is suggested that fresh appointments now be made for a term until the Council election in 2011, unless otherwise required by the outside bodies' own governing instruments.

| |
|-------------------------------|
| CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS |
|-------------------------------|

| |
|----------------------------|
| Council Priorities: |
|----------------------------|

| |
|--|
| The schedule lists a wide variety of organisations, ranging from statutory bodies to grant-making charities and from local government assemblies/joint bodies to very local community-based projects. As such, Member participation will in some cases be crucial to Council priorities, in others will foster community engagement at ward level and/or help raise Central Bedfordshire's profile in the community. |
|--|

Financial:

Under the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2009/10, attendance at outside bodies as the Council's duly appointed representative is an approved duty for the purpose of paying travelling and subsistence allowances, subject to no such allowances being claimed by the Member from the outside body concerned.

Legal:

Membership requirements may be governed by various statutory, constitutional or informal provisions, of which further details are available on request.

Risk Management:

Members will no doubt wish to keep the extent of representation under review to ensure it is of clear benefit to the Council and/or the population of Central Bedfordshire, and avoid placing excessive demands on Members' time.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None.

Equalities/Human Rights:

None.

Community Safety:

None (other than appointment to the Community Safety Partnership).

Sustainability:

Several of the bodies have an important role in the wider sustainability agenda.

Appendices:

Schedule of Outside Bodies.

Background Papers:

None.

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| Organisation | Anglian (Central) Region Flood Defence Committee | Aragon Housing Association | Arlesey Landfill Liaison Group | Ashtons School Foundation | Barnfield College Governing Body |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| Function/role | Considers matters relating to environmental, resources and conservation functions. | Policy approval and monitoring of housing management standards for Aragon property in area. | Liaison group including residents, Environment Agency and Arlesey Landfill site owners. Considers issues relating to the operation of the landfill site. | To support through grants children in their education eg uniform, books etc. Grants awarded to residents within 6 mile radius of St Peter's Priory Church and according to parental income. | Responsible for educational character and mission of College; activities; quality strategy; annual estimates; appointment, grading, suspension, dismissal and pay/conditions of senior staff; safeguard assets. |
| Status | Non departmental Government organisation | Not for Profit Industrial and Provident Society, registered as a social landlord with the Housing Association | Public body | Registered charity | Further education corporation by Order under Further and Higher Education Act 1992 |
| Strategic, General or Ward | S | S | W | W | G |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D | D | N |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | V | V | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | None | None | Members for Arlesey (1), Stotfold (1) and Shillington & Henlow (1) to be appointed | None | No provision for direct LA representation under new Instrument. 12 'external' members now appointed based on skills audit, but Board would be interested in future nominations from CBC. |
| Frequency of meetings | 4 per year | 6 per year | Every 6 months | 2 | 6 approx |
| Usual day, time and venue | Thurs 10am Brampton Agency Office | Tues 6.30pm Ampthill | Tues 5pm Arlesey VH | Mon pm Grove House Dunstable | No set day or time |
| No. of CBC cls (subs) required | 1(1) | 2(0) | 3 | 2(0) | New nominations not required until 2011. |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr K Matthews (Portfolio holder) - no subs | Clrs P Blaine & Mrs C Turner | Clrs I Dalgarno, H Harper & T Rogers | Clrs Mrs J Fairbairn & P Hollick | None required until 2011 |

| Organisation | Barton-le-Clay Educational Trust | Bedford & Milton K'ynes Waterways P'ship Board | Bedford Borough Council Pensions Committee | Bedford Hospital Council of Governors |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| Function/role | Promoting the education of persons under the age of 25 within the ecclesiastical parishes of Barton-le-Clay, Higham Gobion and Pulloxhill. | To create a linked chain of waterway parks between the River Great Ouse in Bedford and the Grand Union Canal in Milton Keynes. | To discharge functions of Bedford Borough Council as LGPS Administering Authority on behalf of its 3 member authorities (BBC, CBC & LBC) and other admitted bodies. | Consult on development plans, significant changes in hospital services. Represent members' views in developing forward plans. Receive financial accounts, annual reports and appoint auditors. Ensure a public perspective on hospital performance. |
| Status | Registered charity | Registered charity | Public Body | Public benefit organisation |
| Strategic, General or Ward | W | S | S | S |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | V | one V, one NV | V |
| Conditions or Comments | Historically the appointed councillor has been ward member for Barton-le-Clay | LA representation not a requirement but LA involvement essential part of partnership process | Must be elected Members. Proportionality does not apply where only 2 Members are appointed. | People in north of area are more likely to use to Bedford and people in south Luton or Aylesbury. Trust seeking to become NHS Foundation Trust requiring a Council of Governors to be established. |
| Frequency of meetings | 2 (Dec (AGM) and Feb) | 3 per year | 2 formal meetings + annual meeting + min. 8 Pensions Fund Panel meetings per year | Quarterly |
| Usual day, time and venue | Thurs 5.30pm Barton Church Hall | W'days 10-noon County Hall Bedford or Cent Milton K'ynes | Main meetings 4pm Bedford. 4 Panel meetings per year 10.30am in London. | To be arranged |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 1 | 1 (1) | 2 (only one with voting rights) | 1 (0) |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr I Shingler | Clr K Matthews | Clrs R Stay (voting), D Ross (non-voting) | Clr P Aldis |

| Organisation | Bedford Race Equality Council | Bedfordshire & Luton County Sports Partnership | Bedfordshire & Luton Joint Access Forum | Bedfordshire & Luton Local Government Association |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| Function/role | Provides advice and support to groups and individuals in matters of racial discrimination / harassment and on best practice. | County Sport Partnership responsible for the strategic coordination of sport across the county. | Independent advisory group and statutory consultee on countryside access and recreation under Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. | To draw attention to local govt issues in Beds; exchange views; promote public participation; commission research; influence the LGA; promote the county's interests; coordinate community planning; promote the sub-region's well-being. |
| Status | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Registered charity | Statutory independent advisory group | Unincorporated association |
| Strategic, General or Ward | G | S | S | S |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | Observers | V | V | V (1 per authority) |
| Conditions or Comments | LA representation not a requirement but appointees must be over 18 | LA representation is essential; request that the member nominated has a passion/ commitment to sport | | Purpose of the branch to be reviewed. Representation was formerly by Leader & Deputy Leader of legacy authorities + minority group members |
| Frequency of meetings | Quarterly plus AGM | Quarterly | Up to 6 per year | Annually |
| Usual day, time and venue | Thurs 6.30pm | Wed 3pm | Varies - 7.30pm weekdays | AGM March. Location rotates. |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 1 (1) | 1 | 1 | 3(3) |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr D Ross - no sub | Former reps to determine between them (Cllrs P Hollick, Mrs A Lewis, D McVicar) | Clr R King | Defer until after March 2009 meeting of Association |

| Organisation | Bedfordshire & River Ivel Internal Drainage Board | Bedfordshire Authorities Waste Partnership | Bedfordshire Music Partnership Board | Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity | Bedfordshire Rural Transport Partnership (Exec Steering Group) |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Function/role | Exercises a general supervision over all matters relating to the drainage of land within the district, excluding main river. | To oversee waste management within Beds and be a forum for monitoring the delivery of services and performance incl. collection, recycling, composting, treatment and planning. | To provide strategic advice and guidance to Bedfordshire Music and to deliver music education and community music services in Bedfordshire. | To see thriving and sustainable communities across Bedfordshire and Luton. | To improve transport in rural areas in response to needs identified by the community |
| Status | Statutory body | Local Authority non-executive partnership of Bedford Borough, Central Beds & Luton | No legal status - operates in the style of a school governing body | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Unincorporated association |
| Strategic, General or Ward | G | S | G | S | S |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | V but this is non exec body | V | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | Local levying councils have representation according to the value of their land in the drainage district; prefer members with local knowledge and interest in drainage or flood management issues. | All LA reps but with support from officers. Environment Portfolio holders are encouraged to be reps | LA rep a requirement | LA representation not a requirement. Rep is appointed to the organisation not to the Board and only meeting is the AGM | Requirement for LA representation by portfolio holder in transport or related area |
| Frequency of meetings | Full Board meetings bi-annual | 6 per year | 8 per year | AGM only | Every 6 months |
| Usual day, time and venue | Mon pm Elstow playing field hall | Venue to rotate between partner councils | Tues 6pm The Arena Building Cauldwell St Bedford | Varies | Wed pm Chicksands |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 5 | 2 , one to be Waste Services portfolio holder (1 sub) | 2 | 1 | 4 (2) |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs AR Baines, AD Brown & J Lewis, T Nicols & Mr BE Collier | Clrs D McVicar & P Snelling | Clrs P Hollick & R King | Deferred as no AGM during period | Clrs P Aldis, K Matthews, J Scott & Mrs A Barker |

| Organisation | Beecroft Community Assoc. Management Cttee | Broom Quarry Liaison Group | Buckingham & River Ouzel Board | Buzzer Buses (Dial-a-Ride) Ltd | Chew's Foundation |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| Function/role | To provide facilities for social, educational, cultural and recreational development and foster community spirit among residents. | Discuss progress in the working and restoration of the quarry. Company is leading supplier of heavy building materials. | Exercises a general supervision over all matters relating to the drainage of land within the district, excluding main river. | To provide door-to-door transport for elderly and disabled people within a 5 mile radius of Leighton Buzzard. | To financially assist people in education towards clothing and equipment & to enable students to study music & arts. Upkeep of Chew's House. |
| Status | Unincorporated association | Limited Company | Statutory body | Registered charity and Limited Company | Registered charity |
| Strategic, General or Ward | W | G | G | G | W |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | Observers | Observers for liaison | V | Observers | V |
| Conditions or Comments | | LA representation a requirement of the Section 106 Agreement | Local levying councils have representation according to the value of their land in the drainage district; prefer members with local knowledge and interest in drainage or flood management issues. | LA representation not a requirement of the constitution | 1 Member a requirement of the scheme regulating the Foundation |
| Frequency of meetings | Every 6 weeks approx | Twice yearly | Full Board meetings bi-annual | Every 2 months | 2 per year |
| Usual day, time and venue | Tues 8pm Beecroft Centre | On a convenient day 6.30pm Broom Quarry Offices | Tues 2pm Longueville Hall Newton Longueville | 7.30pm at Buzzer Office Leighton Buzzard | Tuesday am Chew's House Dunstable |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 2 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs Mrs J Freeman & M Hearty | Clrs T Rogers, Mrs M Russell & J Scott | Clrs A Brandham, A Fairbairn, H Lockey, T Nicols, G Rolfe & A Shadbolt | Clr M Freeman | Clr Mrs J Fairbairn |

| Organisation | Chilterns AONB Conservation Board | Christian Family Care | Community & Voluntary Service (Mid/N Beds) | Community Safety Partnership (Executive Group) | County Cycling Forum |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Function/role | To conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and to increase the understanding and enjoyment of its special qualities. | Provider of family services in accommodation and community (formerly on behalf of Beds CC and MBDC). | Supporting the local voluntary and community sector. | To enable effective partnership working between public, private and voluntary sectors to reduce crime and provide reassurance to Central Bedfordshire's communities. | Open forum |
| Status | Statutory body | Registered charity | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Public body | N/A |
| Strategic, General or Ward | S | G | G | S | S |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D | D | N |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | Observers | Observers | V | Not a voting group |
| Conditions or Comments | LA representation is a requirement under the AONB Order 2004 | LA representation not a requirement | LA representation not a requirement | Under its constitution, the Member will be the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety | N/A |
| Frequency of meetings | Quarterly + Exec & Planning Committees quarterly | Quarterly | 6-8 per year | At least quarterly | 3 per year |
| Usual day, time and venue | Board & Exec 10.30am no set day, Planning Wed 10.30 am all in Village Centre, Chinnor. | Monday 7.30pm at Chairman's home | Evenings, Bedford | | Rotate between county and district offices |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 (Portfolio holder for Community Safety) | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr R Goodwin | Clr Mrs J Lawrence | Clr L Birt | Clr P Snelling | Clr P Aldis |

| Organisation | Cranfield University Court | Cranfield Village Sports Association | Dunstable Citizens Advice Bureau | Dunstable College Corporation |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Function/role | To advance, disseminate & apply learning & knowledge in the disciplines of the Sciences, Engineering, Technology and Management & apply them to the practices of design, development & manufacture & to the organisation of industry and the public services. | | Provides free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. | Strengthening curriculum design & development; working with local employers; showing Leadership on Diplomas; securing Strategic Alliances |
| Status | Educational charity | | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Corporation |
| Strategic, General or Ward | G | W | G | G |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | Comment from a member that the one meeting a year is purely ceremonial and Member appointed therefore ought to be Chairman of the Council | | LA representation not a requirement | LA representation not a requirement. Clr Golby's appointment expires July 2009. |
| Frequency of meetings | Annual meeting in May | | Quarterly + AGM | 4 Board + 2 Away Days Committees once per term |
| Usual day, time and venue | Wed 6pm Cranfield University | | Thurs 7.30pm Grove House Dunstable | 8.30am College Boardroom |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 1 | | 2 | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr D McVicar | Clrs A Bastable & K Matthews | Clrs D McVicar & Mrs P Staples | Clr B Golby |

| Organisation | East & North Herts NHS Trust | East Anglia Reserve Forces & Cadets Assn | East of England Chairmen of Health O&S Committees' Forum | East of England Regional Assembly | East of England Regional Planning Panel |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| Function/role | Represents community views & interests; influences spending & investment decisions; approves appointment of Trust's Chief Exec; considers annual accounts; ensures Trust operates within its terms of authorisation. | Youth organisation engaging with society, youth/cadets, TA units | Reviews substantial developments or variations in NHS services in the Region being consulted upon by the relevant NHS bodies across the whole or substantial parts of the 10 social services authorities in the area. | To promote the economic, social and environmental well being of the region | To promote the economic, social and environmental well being of the region. EERA is the designated regional planning body |
| Status | Public body | Ministry of Defence | Comprises Health O&S Chairmen in Region | Public body | Public body |
| Strategic, General or Ward | S | S | S | S | S |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | | V | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | Cannot be a member of more than one Foundation Trust; Member would be 1 of 6 local council governors on 38 strong Council of Governors | LA representation not a requirement but considered essential | LA representative to be the Chairman of CBC Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee. | LA representation is a requirement | LA representation is a requirement |
| Frequency of meetings | | 3 per year | No fixed dates - meet as and when to consider region-wide issues referred to it | Quarterly | 5 per year |
| Usual day, time and venue | | TA Centres throughout county | No fixed venue | am Cambridge | |
| No. of CBC cls (subs) required | 1 | 3 | 1 (1) | 1, subject to review | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr J Street | Review at Council AGM (formerly Cllr Mrs Drinkwater) | Clr S Male | Clr Mrs P Turner (Leader) | Cllr Tom Nicols |

| Organisation | Flitwick Leisure Centre Joint Consultative Group | Flitwick Leisure Centre Project Board | Flitwick Town Centre Partnership | Groundwork Trust for South Beds & Luton Advisory Panel | Haynes Green Waste Liaison Group |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Function/role | | Managing and developing leisure opportunities at the site. | Town Centre refurbishment | Supports voluntary, public and private organisations to take action to improve the environment and aims to build sustainable communities through joint environmental action. | |
| Status | Public body | Public Body | Public Body | Charity | Public Body |
| Strategic, General or Ward | | W | W | S | W |
| Nominations or direct appts | | D | D | D | |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | | | Observers | Observers | |
| Conditions or Comments | Reps to include either Portfolio holder or Assistant Portfolio holder, one rep to be local to facility; meetings administered by Mid Beds contractor, Stevenage Leisure Ltd | | | LA representation not a requirement | |
| Frequency of meetings | | | Twice monthly | 6 per year but likely to reduce to 3 or 4 | |
| Usual day, time and venue | | | 1st and 3rd Tues of month (except Aug) | Wed 2pm | |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 2 | ?? | ?? | 1 | |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs D Gale, Mrs A Lewis & S Mitchell | Clrs D Bayntun, D Gale, S Male, S Mitchell & L Thompson | Clrs D Gale & S Mitchell | Clr D McVicar | Clrs Mrs A Barker, R Baines & A Carter |

| Organisation | Henlow Multi-Use Games Area | Henlow School Foundation | Kensworth Quarry Liaison Group | Leighton Buzzard Community Liaison Committee | Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| Function/role | Responsible for decision making/monitoring the multi use games area at Henlow Middle School. The school manage the facility on a day to day basis. | To make modest grants to young people of Henlow to help them prepare for a profession, trade or calling. | Forum for information, consultation and discussion between the council, mineral operating company and community representatives on planning conditions and site operations/activities. | To provide information to elected members, local groups and others on progress of quarry operations by Sibelco UK (formerly WBB Minerals), discuss development plans & any issues arising. | Operation of narrow gauge light railway on the tracks of the former Leighton Buzzard Railway. |
| Status | Public body | Registered charity | Local quarry liaison group | Limited company | Industrial & Provident Friendly Society |
| Strategic, General or Ward | W | W | W | W | W |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | V | N/A | N/A | Observer |
| Conditions or Comments | LA representation not a requirement | LA representation is a requirement under the Charity Commission Scheme | The members represent the electoral division in which the site falls (Eaton Bray) and adjoining divisions (Dunstable Watling and Priory) | LA representation not a requirement but very desirable in order to discuss future development plans with elected members | LA representation not a requirement |
| Frequency of meetings | Termly (3 per year) | Annually | Decided by Group as and when necessary. Last met May 2002 | 2 per year | Monthly |
| Usual day, time and venue | Mon 4pm | By mutual agreement | Midweek early evening | Normally Wed at WWB offices at Heath and Reach | Fri 8pm Pages Park Station |
| No. of CBC cls (subs) required | 1 | 1 | 4 | Depends on ward boundaries ideally to cover LB operations | 1(1) |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr J Clarke | Clr T Rogers (review June 2009) | Clrs A Carter, B Piggott & R Stay (review June 2009) | Clrs R Johnstone & P Rawcliffe | Clr G Rolfe |

| Organisation | Leighton Linslade Access for All Committee | Leighton Linslade Citizens Advice Bureau | Leighton Linslade Combating Crime Working Party | Leighton Linslade Ouzel Valley Park | Leighton Linslade Public Transport Users Committee |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Function/role | To press for improvements in access to premises, goods and services in Leighton Linslade and villages, especially for disabled people; to publish access guides. | Provides free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. | Discussions and issues relating to combating crime in the parish. | Achieve consensus on strategy for Ouzel Valley Park and oversee delivery. | A platform for all issues relating to all aspects of public transport. |
| Status | Voluntary Group | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | N/A | Registered charity (Greensand Trust) | Unincorporated association |
| Strategic, General or Ward | W | G | W | W | W |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | One V, one NV | Observers | Observers | V |
| Conditions or Comments | Representatives are usually ward members in Leighton Linslade and have an interest in disability issues | LA representation not a requirement | LA representation not a requirement | LA representation (BCC, SBDC and LLTC) is a requirement under Terms of Reference; Members should be interested in the area of Ouzel Valley Park. | LA representation not a requirement |
| Frequency of meetings | 3 per year in Feb, June and Oct | 6 per year | 4 per year | At least quarterly | 4 |
| Usual day, time and venue | Tues 7.15pm Vandyke Upper School | Normally Thurs 7.30pm but occasionally lunchtime | Mon-Thurs 7pm White House L Buzzard | Usually Thurs 10am | Midweek 7pm White House, L Buzzard |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 2 or 1 (1) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs K Sharer & B Spurr | Clrs B Spurr & J Taylor | Clrs R Berry & B Spurr | Clrs R Johnstone & B Spurr | Clrs K Sharer & B Spurr |

| Organisation | Local Government Association - General Assembly | Local Government Association - Rural Commission | Local Government Association - Urban Commission | Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Function/role | Voluntary lobbying organisation, acting as the voice of the local government sector, and an authoritative and effective advocate on its behalf. | Forum for rural authorities to discuss matters of common concern, exchange good practice and experience. To help formulate and promote LGA policies and promote role and interests of rural authorities/ communities. | Forum for urban authorities to discuss matters of common concern, exchange good practice and experience. To help formulate and promote LGA policies and promote role and interests of urban authorities/ communities. | Provide vision & strategic leadership to improve quality of life for CB residents & encourage partnership working at a local level. To ensure delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy & that each partner makes an effective contribution. |
| Status | Unincorporated association | Unincorporated association | Unincorporated association | Non statutory multi-agency partnership |
| Strategic, General or Ward | S | S | S | S |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | Nominations | Nominations | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | V - one vote per authority | V - one vote per authority | V |
| Conditions or Comments | Must be an elected member. | 1st representative must be an elected member. 2nd can be a member or officer. Not a requirement to appoint | 1st representative must be an elected member. 2nd can be a member or officer. Not a requirement to appoint | Member will be the Leader of the Council. |
| Frequency of meetings | Annually | 2 per year | 2 per year | 4 times per year (minimum) |
| Usual day, time and venue | In July around the country | Mon-Fri 10am - 4pm. Various locations | Mon-Fri 10am - 4pm. Various locations | To be decided |
| No. of CBC cls (subs) required | up to 4, preferably including a minority group leader. | Up to 2 (2nd can be member or officer). Subs as required. | Up to 2 (2nd can be member or officer). Subs as required. | 1 (Leader) |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Defer (no meetings April - June) | Clrs A Shadbolt (voting) & H Lockey (non-voting) | Clrs T Nicols (voting) & P Blaine (non-voting) | Clr Mrs P Turner (Leader) |

| Organisation | London Luton Airport Consultative Committee | LuDun Industries Trust | Luton and Dunstable Hospital Council of Governors | Luton Gateway (Luton and South Beds Local Delivery Vehicle) |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| Function/role | Advisory body representing the views of communities affected by London Luton Airport and to stimulate interest of local population and business community in the facilities of the airport. | Provides employment training & other facilities to Bedfordshire persons who by reasons of physical or mental disability are temporarily or permanently incapable of obtaining normal employment. | Consult on development plans, significant changes in hospital services. Represent members' views in developing forward plans. Receive financial accounts, annual reports and appoint auditors. Ensure a public perspective on hospital performance. | Drive sustainable development in L&SB (MKSM) area; promote a step change in housing/growth that is infrastructure and jobs-led; stimulate investment to deliver key economic, social and green infrastructure requirements; capture funds from any increase in land values to provide infrastructure or community benefit. |
| Status | Consultative Committee | Registered charity | Public benefit organisation | Company limited by guarantee |
| Strategic, General or Ward | G | G | S | S |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D | Nomination |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | V | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | LA representation (including BCC, MBDC and SBDC) is a requirement under the Constitution | LA representation is a Trust Deed requirement (max. 8 , min.4). 7 trustees formerly appointed by Beds CC + 1 non-elected member | Has 2 LA Governors: 1 CBC, 1 LBC. Cannot be member of CBC's Health Scrutiny Committee. May not hold office for longer than 9 consecutive years; not eligible for re-appointment if already held office for more than 6 consecutive years. | LA representation essential. Substitute nomination delegated to Leader/Chief Exec. |
| Frequency of meetings | Full meeting quarterly, sub meeting quarterly | Minimum of 2 per year | Minimum of 3 per year | Undecided |
| Usual day, time and venue | Monday pm Putteridge Bury Conference Centre | Usually Fri 2pm LuDun premises Dunstable | Wed 6.30pm at Hospital or Vauxhall Centre Luton | |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 2 (2) | 7 | 1 | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs R Berry & P Swaisland | Clrs Mrs J Fairbairn, Mrs S Goodchild, P Hollick, Mrs G Howard, T Rogers, D Ross & P Swaisland | Clr P Hollick | Clr T Nicols |

| Organisation | Luton Law Centre Management Committee | Marston Vale Surface Waters Group | Marston Vale Trust | Mid Beds Citizens Advice Bureau | Mid Beds Link-a-Ride Community Transport Ltd |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Function/role | Provide free, independent legal advice and casework services in social welfare law. | Promotes an integrated approach to surface water issues in the Marston Vale, principally through the Surface Waters Plan. | Environmentally-led regeneration of the Marston Vale and the provision of public recreational facilities in the Marston Vale and surrounding areas. | Provide free, confidential advice on a wide range of topics including debt, benefits, housing, employment, family and personal issues, consumer, immigration and discrimination. | To provide door to door service for those people who are unable to use ordinary transport because of disability. |
| Status | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Non-statutory association of representatives of public and quasi-public bodies and Anglian Water | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Charity (Industrial and Provident Society) |
| Strategic, General or Ward | G | G | G | G | G |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | Nominations | D | Nominations | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V as Charity trustee & Company director | V | V | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | LA representation is provided for in Memorandum & Articles but Committee would not be invalidated if LA chose not to appoint | LA representation is a requirement (to include at least 1 member & 1 officer); members required to provide input on planning, flood risk & drainage. | LA representation not a requirement | LA representation not a requirement; trustees must be members of the company. | LA representation is a requirement under the Rules of the body |
| Frequency of meetings | Monthly except Aug & Dec | 2 per year + Steering Sub-Group if required | 5 per year | 6 per year | Quarterly |
| Usual day, time and venue | 2nd Mon 6pm | Day varies (am). Marston Moretaine or Bedford | Wed 4.30pm | Weekdays 7.30pm Shefford | Tues 7pm |
| No. of CBC cls (subs) required | 1 | Max. 2 members plus substitute | 1 | 2 | Suggest 3 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr D Ross | Clrs M Gibson & K Matthews | Clr Mrs C F Chapman | Clrs Mrs A Graham & T Rogers | Clrs Mrs R Drinkwater, V Lee & M Smith |

| Organisation | Milton Keynes Reference Group | NIRAH Board (National Institute for Research into Aquatic Habitats) | PATROL Adjudication Services Joint Committee | Potton Town Centre Partnership | Raglan Housing Association Area Committee |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| Function/role | Liaison on issues affecting the growth of Milton Keynes across the boundary and into Bedfordshire. | Transformation of disused brick pits near Stewartby into a 40 hectare freshwater aquarium and international research centre. | Provision for adjudication for Councils undertaking civil enforcement of parking and bus lanes. | Town Centre refurbishment | Provides housing, assistance & facilities for people who are poor, aged, disabled or chronically sick. |
| Status | Liaison Group of adjoining authorities | Company limited by guarantee | Joint Committee | Public Body | Charity (Industrial & Provident Society); Registered Social Landlord |
| Strategic, General or Ward | S | S | S | W | G |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | Nominations | D | Nomination subject to Board approval |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | Non voting | Observer | V | Observers | V |
| Conditions or Comments | LA representation is a requirement; portfolio holder to appoint to substitute if necessary. | Observer status only, on behalf of Beds Funding Consortium | LA representation is a requirement under the Deed of Agreement. Representative must be a member not an officer | Have requested 4 councillors from ward or nearby wards. | LA representation not a requirement; desirable for member nominated to be in former Mid Beds area but not essential. |
| Frequency of meetings | | | a. 1 per year for joint c'ttee b. 1 per year for exec sub c'ttee | Twice monthly | Quarterly |
| Usual day, time and venue | | | a. Tues Jan b. Tues end June | 1st and 3rd Tues of month (except Aug) | Thurs 10.30am at hotel in Bedford |
| No. of CBC cls (subs) required | 1 - relevant portfolio holder | 1 observer | 1 (1) | 4 | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clr K Matthews | Clr R Stay | Clr D McVicar | Clrs R Baker, Mrs D Gurney, Mrs A Lewis & J Lewis | Clr M Gibson |

| Organisation | Rail Station Car Parking (Flitwick) | Relate (Bedfordshire & Luton) | Renaissance Bedford (formerly Bedfordshire Growth) | RIGHTS Luton | Sandpit Strategy Steering Group |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| Function/role | To discuss the service provided by the rail operator (First Capital Connect) and Network Rail who manage the car parks associated with the stations. | To provide relationship counselling to couples, individuals, young people and families; also sex therapy, relationship training, education programmes and workshops. | To foster housing and employment growth in the Bedford and Marston Vale Growth Area supported by the necessary infrastructure. | Provides advice and support for the unemployed on benefits and employment. | Advise and guide on minerals developments and restoration in area (Greensand Trust acts as Secretariat for Steering Group). |
| Status | N/A | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Informal partnership | Registered charity and company limited by guarantee | Charity |
| Strategic, General or Ward | W | G | S | G | W |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | Nominations | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | Observers | V | V | Very regularly |
| Conditions or Comments | LA representation not a requirement; Members appointed represent parishes of Flitwick and Harlington. | LA representation not a requirement - optional only | LA representation (an elected member) is a requirement of the Memorandum of Understanding; usually portfolio holder for the environment. | LA representation not a requirement | Geographic restriction to sandpits around Heath & Reach and Leighton Linlade |
| Frequency of meetings | Every 4 months | 6 per year + AGM + sub groups as required | Quarterly | Every 2 months | 2 per year |
| Usual day, time and venue | Tues 10am SBDC offices | Wed 5.30-8.30pm | Thurs in March, June, Sept & Dec 3-5pm Venue varies | First Tues at 15 New Bedford Rd Luton | Mon 2pm LLTown Council |
| No. of CBC clsr (subs) required | Suggest 3. | 1 (1) | 1 (subs at Coucil discretion) | At Council's discretion. Suggest one rep. | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs D Gale, B Golby & S Male | Defer until Council AGM | Clr K Matthews | Clr D Ross | Clr R Goodwin |

| Organisation | Sandy Sports & Community Centre Consultative Group | Saxon Pool & Leisure Centre Joint Consultative Group | Shefford Bloomfield Games Association | Sir John Cotton Educational Foundation | South Beds Dial-a-Ride |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Function/role | Managing and developing leisure opportunities at the site. | Managing and developing leisure opportunities at the site. | To provide and maintain Multi Use Games facility with particular emphasis on youth provision. | Administers grants for the benefit of education of children under 21 within Biggleswade. | To provide door-to-door transport for the disabled and elderly frail of Bedfordshire who are unable to use normal public service transport. |
| Status | Public body | Public body | Unincorporated association | Registered charity | Charity |
| Strategic, General or Ward | | | W | W | G |
| Nominations or direct appts | | | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | | | V | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | Reps to include either Portfolio holder or Assistant Portfolio holder; one rep to be local to Centre. Meetings administered by contractor, Stevenage Leisure Ltd. | Reps to include either Portfolio holder or Assistant Portfolio holder; one rep to be local to Centre. Meetings administered by contractor, Stevenage Leisure Ltd. | LA representation is a requirement. Should be Shefford and district representatives | LA representation is a requirement | LA representation not a requirement |
| Frequency of meetings | | | Quarterly | Annually | 6 per year |
| Usual day, time and venue | | | Wed 6pm Robert Bloomfield Middle School | Day varies 4pm offices of Brignalls Balderston warren 2 London Rd Biggleswade | 7.30pm Totternhoe |
| No. of CBC cls (subs) required | 2 | 2 | Not specified | 2 | 2 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs P Blaine & Mrs A Lewis | Clrs J Lawrence & Mrs A Lewis | Clrs L Birt & A Brown | Clrs D Lawrence & Mrs M Russell | Clrs Mrs J Fairbairn & K Sharer |

| Organisation | Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group (SASIG) | Sundon Landfill Restoration Group | Swiss Gardens Management Advisory Committee | Thameslink 2000 Consortium |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Function/role | To ensure that any national aviation strategy for the UK is implemented through regional planning guidance and other planning processes so as to reconcile economic, social and environment issues in a sustainable way. | Overseeing the management, development and/or restoration of Sundon Landfill site. | To oversee the management and development of the Swiss Garden. | Key strategic transport initiative intended to enhance and expand the existing Thameslink network throughout London, the South East and East of England. |
| Status | Special interest group of the LGA operating as a membership organisation comprising local authorities | Public body. | Joint venture between the Shuttleworth Trust and Beds CC | Consortium of some 140 organisations ranging from local authorities and passenger groups to business organisations |
| Strategic, General or Ward | S | W | G | S |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | LA representation is a requirement but only one member to be designated | Reps to be councillors for the areas bordering Sundon Landfill; arrangements for future meetings to be considered by AD Waste Services.. | LA representation is a requirement but can be reduced to one | |
| Frequency of meetings | 3 per year | Quarterly | Annually | Annually |
| Usual day, time and venue | Fri 11am-1pm LG House, Smith Square | Daytime Sundon Landfill | Sept | Thurs pm Guildhall London |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | 1 (1 if Council wishes but observer status only) | Not yet specified | 1 | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs R Berry & J Scott (observer) | Clrs A Duggan, R Goodwin & I Shingler | Clrs J Scott | Clr S Male |

| Organisation | The Public Transport Consortium | West's Educational Foundation | Woburn Almshouse Charity |
|---|---|---|--|
| Function/role | Forum for promoting public transport issues affecting non metropolitan authorities; advising LGA on public transport issues; exchange of experience and good practice between member authorities. | Considers grant applications, level of grants for 5-25 year olds in Chalgrave and Hockliffe as well as the financial position of the charity. | Apply income from the charity for the benefit of the almspeople of the charity. |
| Status | Special interest group | Registered charity | Registered charity |
| Strategic, General or Ward | S | W | W |
| Nominations or direct appts | D | D | D |
| Voting (V) or non-voting (NV) | V | V | V |
| Conditions or Comments | LA members only (currently 32 authorities). Cross party representation to be reflected. Membership nominates group of 13 to form executive. | LA representation should be councillor for Hockliffe/Chalgrave | LA representation is a requirement under the charity scheme. Appointee may be but need not be a councillor |
| Frequency of meetings | Quarterly | Half yearly | 4 per year (Jan/April/July/Oct) |
| Usual day, time and venue | 3 on Fri 10.30am LGA House Westminster 4th hosted by member auth'ty | 7.30pm Heath Farm Wingfield | Usually Mon 7pm |
| No. of CBC clrs (subs) required | Up to 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Temporary appointments confirmed April to June 2009 | Clrs S Male & B Spurr | Clrs R Goodwin | Clr B Wells |

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Agenda Item: 17

Meeting: Council

Date: 18 June 2009

Subject: **Members' Allowances Scheme 2009/10**

Report of: Director of Corporate Services

Summary: To consider the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance to the 4 former non-portfolio Members of the Executive and an enhanced Special Responsibility Allowance for the Deputy Leader of the Council, who served as Vice Chairman of the Executive without Portfolio, for the second transitional period, that being the period from 1 April 2009 until the fourth day after the ordinary election on 4 June 2009.

Contact Officer: Stephen Cooke, Electoral/Member Services Manager

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Council, having regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, consider whether:

- (a) a Special Responsibility Allowance should be paid, during the second transitional period, that being the period from 1 April 2009 until the 4th day after the ordinary election held on 4 June 2009, to those Members of the Executive without Portfolio, and**
- (b) an enhanced Special Responsibility Allowance should be paid to the Deputy Leader of the Council, who was also Vice-Chairman of the Executive, but without Portfolio, for the second transitional period.**

The Members' Allowances Scheme for the Period of the Shadow Council

1. The Members' Allowances Scheme for the Shadow Period, 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009, provided for the payment of Special Responsibility Allowances for all Members of the Shadow Executive.
2. For the Shadow Period in addition to the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, the Executive consisted of 6 Portfolio Holders, 4 Non-Portfolio Holders. The Special Responsibility Allowances for all positions within the Shadow Executive during that period were as follows:

| Position | Special Responsibility Allowance | % of Leader's Allowance |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Leader of the Council | £18,275 | |
| Deputy Leader of the Council | £13,706 | 75% |
| Executive Member – with Portfolio | £10,965 | 60% |
| Executive Member – Without Portfolio | £7,310 | 40% |

3. When the Independent Remuneration Panel (the Panel) met to consider and make recommendations to Council as to the Scheme of Members' Allowances for the year 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010, it was anticipated that the Executive would consist of the Leader of the Council and those Members with Portfolio responsibilities. As a result the recommendation of the Panel was that the Special Responsibility Allowances for Members of the Executive be limited to Portfolio Holders. For that reason the Special Responsibility Allowance recommended for the Deputy Leader was set at 15% of the Leader's SRA, on the assumption that the Deputy Leader would have Portfolio responsibilities.
4. The Department for Communities and Local Government, in a Statutory Instrument made on 30 March 2009, specified that those persons who, on the coming into force of the Order, were members of the Executive, should continue as members of the Executive during the second transitional period, being the period from 1 April 2009 until the ordinary elections in June. During this period of transition, during which the intended range of Overview and Scrutiny Committees had not been fully developed, the Executive discharged an enhanced range of functions, and all of its Members played a crucial role in the development of the new Council.
5. As a result of the responsibilities placed upon the Executive as a whole, during the second transitional period, the Panel has been consulted with a request that consideration be given to the provision of a Special Responsibility Allowance for non-portfolio members of the Executive and an enhanced allowance for the Deputy Leader of the Council to cover this period of time given the exceptional circumstances that have existed.
6. At the time of preparing this report the members of the Panel are considering this matter and their findings will be reported to the meeting.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The proposed special responsibility allowances recognise the considerable amount of time during which Executive Members were engaged on Council business during this second period of transition.

So as to make sure Central Bedfordshire provides value for money and the Council maintains rigorous standards of transparency and accountability in setting members allowances, an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) reviews and make recommendations on all proposals relating to these allowances and the views of that Panel will be reported to full Council.

Financial:

Financial implications will be limited to the possible payment of Special Responsibility Allowance to the non-portfolio members of the Executive for the period from 1 April 2009 until the ordinary election in June 2009. As not all positions, for which a Special Responsibility Allowance was approved, were filled during the second transitional period, any recommendations of the Panel will be budget neutral.

Legal:

Sections 85 and 86 (1) (c) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Risk Management:

None

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

None

Community Safety:

None

Sustainability:

None

Appendices: N/A

Background Papers: N/A

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