



Minutes

Members

Mr A I Hardman, (Chairman), Mr K Taylor (Vice-Chairman),
Mrs P Andrews, Mr T Bean, Mr J Cairns, Mr J Champion,
Mr S Clee, Mr J Goodwin, Mrs L Hodgson, Brigadier P Jones CBE,
Mr D Taylor, Mr R Udall and Mr G Yarranton.

No Item

1. Apologies for Absence

Mrs M Bunker and Mrs J Potter

2. Named Substitutes

None

3. Declaration of Interests (if any)

The Chairman invited Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests against any of the Agenda items; no such interests were declared.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 8 December 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Urgent Decision No. 01/10

The Meeting heard that the Chief Fire Officer had made use of the Urgent Decisions process to commence a tendering procedure for new Control Centre equipment.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

6. 2011/12 Budget Preparation

The Committee reviewed the current position in relation to budgets for 2011/12 and beyond. The Treasurer said that the draft presented was based on the Settlement to date and that the Council tax position was not yet finalised.

The meeting noted that while the Settlement announced for 2011/12 was not as bad as had been feared that nevertheless there was no room for complacency and the Chief Fire Officer replied that the Service was reviewing all expenditures and planning to deal with the difficult outlook in years 3 and 4 of the Spending Review.

The meeting heard that there was potentially a greater risk of death by fire in socially deprived areas and the CFO replied that it was an objective to target those areas through the Community Fire Safety programme.

The Committee heard that the level of reserves held by the Authority, £1.2m carried forward (3.8% of budget) was low in relation to other Authorities but it was agreed that cover was needed for exceptional risks, such as fire on the Malvern Hills or widespread flooding.

RESOLVED that the Committee recommends that the Authority approve the budget requirement and consequential precept as presented, subject to confirmation of the grant figure and appropriate adjustments for the final tax base figures.

The meeting concluded at 10.55 am.

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____