

# ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING - PART I

Held on Tuesday 10 October 2006

Meeting Room 3, Brigade Headquarters Dee Road, Tilehurst,  
Reading, Berkshire, RG30 4FS



**Independent Members present:** Mr Albert Gregory  
Mr Peter McGuigan  
Mr John Quinton  
Mr Ron Webb

**Elected Members present:** Councillor Andrew Bradley  
Councillor Peter Jones

**In attendance:** Iain Cox (Chief Fire Officer)  
Lynda Kenyon (Committee Manager)  
Rosemary Lansdowne (Clerk and Monitoring Officer)

## Action

### 01.01.06 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer invited nominations for the position of Chairman of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority's Standards Committee for the ensuing year (2006/2007).

Mr Ron Webb proposed Mr Albert Gregory, and this was seconded by Councillor Andrew Bradley.

There were no further nominations received.

#### The Standards Committee:

- **Resolved** that Mr Albert Gregory be elected Chairman of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority's Standards Committee for the ensuing year (2006/2007) until the Fire Authority's Annual Meeting on 27 June 2007.

#### Mr Albert Gregory in the Chair.

### 01.02.06 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman invited nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority's Standards Committee for the ensuing year (2006/2007).

Councillor Peter Jones proposed Mr Ron Webb, and this was seconded by Mr Peter McGuigan.

There were no further nominations received.

#### The Standards Committee:

- **Resolved** that Mr Ron Webb be elected Vice-Chairman of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority's Standards Committee for the ensuing year (2006/2007) until the Fire Authority's Annual Meeting on 27 June 2007.



### 01.03.06 MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE

#### The Standards Committee:

- **Noted** that the Membership of the Standards Committee was as follows:

Independent Members: Mr Albert Gregory  
Mr Peter McGuigan  
Mr John Quinton  
Mr Ron Webb

Elected Members: Councillor Andrew Bradley  
Councillor Peter Jones  
Councillor James Mole

### 01.04.06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor James Mole.

### 01.05.06 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Having been reminded that in accordance with the Fire Authority's Code of Conduct, Members are required to declare interests which are Personal or Personal and Prejudicial, where appropriate, it was noted that on this occasion there were no such declarations made.

### 01.06.06 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2005

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer reported that Mr Geoffrey Mayes, a former Independent Member of the Standards Committee, had requested that the spelling of "Wittley Wood" be corrected to read "Whitley Wood".

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer stated that Mr Geoffrey Mayes had written to the elected Chairman of the Standards Committee, and it was **Noted** that this letter was given to the Chairman.

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer stated that Mr Peter Harris, the former Chairman of the Standards Committee, had also written to the elected Chairman of the Standards Committee, and it was **Noted** that this letter was given to the Chairman.

Mr Ron Webb stated that the Minutes of the last meeting held on 30 November 2005 were an accurate record, and the Minutes were received and **Approved as a correct record, subject to the above spelling amendment**, for signing by the Chairman.

### 01.07.06 INDUCTION PROGRAMME HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2006

The Chairman, on behalf of the Standards Committee, conveyed his thanks to the Chief Fire Officer for effecting the Induction Programme.

#### The Standards Committee:

- **Noted** that the Induction Programme for Independent and Elected Members of the Standards Committee had taken place on Tuesday 10 October 2006.



**01.08.06 ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES IN ENGLAND / FIFTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE (16/17 OCTOBER 2006)**

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer reminded the Standards Committee of the Fifth Annual Assembly of the Standards Committees which would be taking place on 16/17 October 2006 in Birmingham.

The aims, role and merit of the proposal to establish the Association of Independent Members of Standards Committees (AIMSce) were discussed, and the Standards Committee **Noted** the current position.

**01.09.06 DATE OF NEXT MEETING / FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

Consideration was given to how often the Standards Committee should meet, in addition to any specific requirements to meet, and the Clerk and Monitoring Officer confirmed that there was no statutory requirement to hold a definitive number of meetings.

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer referred to the recommendation by the District Auditors that the Standards Committee consider how it would monitor standards of the Fire Authority, the results of which to be reported, annually, to the Fire Authority. The Chief Fire Officer stated that it might assist the Committee if this was correlated with how other Fire Authorities' Standards Committees monitored their respective standards, and the Committee felt that this would be helpful. The Standards Committee **Acknowledged** the requirement to promote good standards.

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The Standards Committee **Agreed** that it would meet on the following dates, and that it would consider the monitoring of standards at its next meeting, and that the report to the Fire Authority's annual meeting on Wednesday 27 June 2007 would be considered at the subsequent meeting.

- **Tuesday 30 January 2007 at 5pm**
- **Tuesday 15 May 2007 at 5pm**

The above meetings will take place in the Strategic Command Centre (SCC), Brigade Headquarters.

Minutes signed by Chairman as a correct record:

Signature  .....

Print Name ALBERT GREGORY

Date signed: 30 Jan 2007

