

**SIGNED COPY****MEETING OF THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY'S  
STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE****Held on Tuesday 11 October 2011****Wokingham Fire Station, Denton Road, Wokingham, Berkshire  
RG40 2DX**

**Those present:** Councillor Angus Ross (Member, Fire Authority) (*Chairman*)  
 Councillor Mrs Christine Bateson (Member, Fire Authority)  
 Councillor Adrian Edwards (Member, Fire Authority) (*Vice-Chairman*)  
 Councillor Mrs Pauline Helliard-Symons (Member, Fire Authority)  
 Councillor Fred Pugh (Member, Fire Authority).

**In Attendance:** Pat Arthur (Procurement and Facilities Manager)  
 Mark Deacon (Operations Manager, HUB Professional Services)  
 Fayth Rowe (Committee Officer)  
 Paul Southern (Assistant Chief Fire Officer)  
 Andrew Vallance (Authority Treasurer)

**Action****118. TOUR OF WOKINGHAM FIRE STATION**

The Procurement and Facilities Manager conducted a tour of Wokingham Fire Station, and Members were given the opportunity to view the newly built Station facilities.

The Committee were advised of the following new features installed in the Fire Station:

- Installation of photovoltaic panels which supplies electricity to the station. Any surplus electricity would be sold back to the electricity company
- Installation of solar panels, providing hot water
- Grey water, collects rain water and recycles it for flushing toilets and other non drinking water use
- PIR (passive infrared sensor) motion sensor light switches
- Building received a BRE Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) standard of 'very good'
- Installation of sprinklers throughout the building
- Main meeting room would also be used as a community room for the benefit of the local community.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer advised the Key Ceremony was held on 30 September 2011. He reported that the Official opening of Wokingham Fire Station would be held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012 and advised the Committee that further details would be published near the time.

**119. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Edward Plenty (Member, Fire Authority).

## 120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) Councillor Mrs Christine Bateson declared a Personal non Prejudicial Interest as Royal Borough Windsor and Maidenhead Councillor in respect to Agenda Item 12 (Maidenhead Car Park Safe Escape Route).

There were no further Declarations of Interest from Councillors relating to items to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the provisions of the Fire Authority's Local Code of Conduct. There were no Declarations of Interest received from Officers.

## 121. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2011

### Resolved:

- a) That the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2011 be Approved for signing by the Chairman.

## 122. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2011

### Resolved:

- a) That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2011 be Approved for signing by the Chairman.

## 123. CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Committee were informed of the progress against the Capital Programme 2011/12 with the salient points being;

**Drainage Works** – essential environmental protection work in partnership with the Environmental Agency. High risk potential pollution areas have been identified at Lambourn Fire Station (where Fire Station activities could potentially pollute the source of river Lambourn) and a slope at Bracknell Fire Station ran into open water.

**Wokingham Fire Station** – Rebuild of the Fire Station complete. HUB Professional Services were still liaising with the construction company. The costs had increased due to ground contamination (an open Well and old Petrol Station was once used adjacent to the site). The Assistant Chief Fire Officer reported that he would present the final bill at a future Strategic Asset Management Committee meeting.

**Access Control System Upgrade** – The Committee were advised of the commencement of the access control system update that would be rolled out across Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue premises. The Assistant Chief Fire Officer reported that a review would be held on access permission relating to the security of the sites.

The Committee were advised to keep their swipe cards until the end of December 2011 when the system upgrade was complete.

**Security Fencing and Gates** – Brigade headquarters was complete and other minor upgrades were made to Caversham Road and Whitley Wood Fire Stations. In response to a question on why there was not a security gate and fence around the premises of Wokingham Fire Station, the Committee were informed that the security of some Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue sites were more sensitive than others.

**Water Tenders** – 1<sup>st</sup> 4x4 Water tenders in operation by this winter. The Assistant Chief Fire Officer advised the Committee that Royal Berkshire Fire

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and Rescue Service were part of a South East Region Light Vehicle Consortium along with neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services and Police. He reported that Ford had won the contract.

In response to a question, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer advised light vehicles that came towards the end of their 7 year life were sold at auctions. The sale from the auction went towards the Capital receipt. He reported that the Windsor Fire engine would be considered as a light vehicle and advised that this would be replaced after 10 / 12 years as it is considered a special appliance.

**Resolved:**

- a) That the report be Noted.

**124. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved:**

- a) That it be Noted that the meeting on Wednesday 11 January 2012 at 5.30 pm be held at Maidenhead Fire Station, Bridge Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 8PG, subject to confirmation from the Assistant Chief Fire Officer whether a previous meeting was held at this venue.
- b) That it be Noted that the meeting on Tuesday 17 April 2012 at 5.30 pm be held at Lambourn Fire Station, Newbury Street, Lambourn, Berkshire RG17 8YT.

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**125. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**Resolved:**

- a) That that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public be excluded from the meeting for the following Agenda Items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the said Act indicated and is exempt information if, and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**126. PART II MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2011**

**Resolved:**

- a) That the Part II Minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2011 be Approved for signing by the Chairman.

**127. PART II MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2011**

**Resolved:**

- a) That the Part II Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2011 be Approved for signing by the Chairman.

**128. BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS OPTIONS**

An update was made by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer to enable the Committee to assess the costs and negotiations for new premises.

**On being put to the vote, the Committee unanimously agreed that Officers progress to due-diligence measures and the recommendations set out below be made to the Management Committee and Fire Authority for approval, when an agreed sale price has been achieved.**

**Resolved:**

- a) That the following Recommendation be made to the Management Committee and Fire Authority for approval, **when an agreed sale price has been achieved**;
  - i) That Officers be authorised to progress on to due-diligence measures;
  - ii) That advice be sought from lawyers on the suitability of a bond or exclusivity contract;
- b) That the establishment of a Commissioning Board be developed with Members of the Strategic Asset Management Committee, Assistant Chief Fire Officer and HUB Property Services; and Subject to the approval of a) and b) by the Management Committee;
- c) That the Commissioning Board become a Standing Agenda Item of the Strategic Asset Management Committee; and
- d) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Strategic Asset Management Committee be authorised to attend urgent meetings of the Commissioning Board.

**Standing  
Agenda Item  
/ Forward  
Plan**

**129. MAIDENHEAD CAR PARK SAFE ESCAPE ROUTE**

The Committee was informed of the planning submission received, affecting the car park at Maidenhead Fire Station.

**Resolved:**

- a) That the report be Noted;
- b) That Officers be authorised to dispose of the car parking spaces required by Shanly Homes to achieve the safe escape for the community; and
- c) That Officers be authorised to negotiate the best possible contract with Shanly Homes.

**Minutes signed by Chairman as a correct record:**

Signature *A. J. Ross*

Print Name A. J. Ross

Date signed 10.1.2012