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Chairman's initials.....

MEETING OF THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY'S STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Held on Tuesday 12 July 2011

Caversham Road Fire Station, Caversham Road, Reading
Berkshire RG1 8AA



Those present: Councillor Angus Ross (Member, Fire Authority) (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Prue Bray (Member, Fire Authority)
Councillor Colin Dudley (Chairman, Fire Authority) (*Member Substitute for Councillor Fred Pugh*)
Councillor Adrian Edwards (Member, Fire Authority) (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Edward Plenty (Member, Fire Authority)

In Attendance: Conor Byrne (Senior Accountant)
Jess James (Station Commander)
Lynda Kenyon (Committee Manager)
Caroline Redzikowska (Clerk and Monitoring Officer)
Paul Southern (Assistant Chief Fire Officer)

98. TOUR OF CAVERSHAM ROAD FIRE STATION BY THE ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer and Jess James, Station Commander conducted a tour of Caversham Road Fire Station, and Members were given the opportunity to view the Station facilities.

99. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Christine Bateson (Member, Fire Authority), Councillor Mrs Pauline Helliar-Symons (Member, Fire Authority) and Councillor Fred Pugh (Member, Fire Authority).

100. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no 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.

101. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2011

Resolved:

- a) That the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2011 be Approved for signing by the Chairman, subject to a minor spelling correction of the word "Progress" within the title of Minute Reference 88.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer confirmed that he had approached the Lord Lieutenant's Secretary with a view to enquiring whether a member of the Royal Family might be able to open the new Wokingham Fire Station, but that he had not yet received a response (*Minute reference 89, Draft Annual Report - Strategic Asset Management Committee (SAMC)*).

Action

Committee
Manager

The Chairman noted that all the actions from the last meeting had been discharged.

102. PURCHASE OF LEASED VEHICLES

The Committee's views were sought on renewing 2 fire appliance leases.

In response to the Chairman, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer confirmed that there might be a margin for negotiation relating to the outright purchase price, however, taking into consideration all of the related issues, he did not recommend this as a way forward.

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer advised that the Management Committee would now be considering the Strategic Asset Management Committee's Recommendation at its meeting on 19 September 2011 as its meeting on 24 July 2011 was to be cancelled, and, therefore, due to the expiry date of the primary leases, any decision of the Management Committee would need to be retrospective. She confirmed that the Fire Authority Chairman, having been consulted, had agreed to permit a retrospective decision to be taken by the Management Committee in this instance.

Councillor Mrs Prue Bray **Moved** that Officers must ensure that all future vehicle lease expiry periods be presented to the Committee for consideration in a timely manner. This was **unanimously Agreed**.

Resolved:

- a) That it be Recommended to the Management Committee that the 2 vehicles approaching the end of their primary lease period be leased for a further 2 years; and
- b) That Officers must ensure that all future vehicle lease expiry periods be presented to the Committee for consideration in a timely manner.

**Authority
Treasurer**

103. BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS (BHQ) GATE

The Committee was advised on the Health and Safety issues relating to the main gate at Brigade Headquarters.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer confirmed that all the gate hardware could be utilised at other Brigade sites if the headquarters were to be relocated in the future.

The Chairman supported the action taken by Officers.

Resolved:

- a) That the report be Noted.

104. CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Committee was advised of the progress against the Capital Programme for 2011/12.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO) provided a brief summary of the progress to date, and stated that progress against each Capital Scheme would be included within the next report to the Committee.

ACFO

Councillor Mrs Prue Bray felt that it would be helpful if the capital projects' bids could be circulated to the Committee Members to enable Members, particularly those newly appointed Members onto the Committee, to be better informed. The Assistant Chief Fire Officer agreed to put this in place.

ACFO

In response to a request from Councillor Mrs Prue Bray, which was also supported by the Committee, the Senior Accountant agreed to include within future reports how each Capital Scheme had been profiled over previous, current and expected year end spends, what proportion of carry forward would be expected at year end, and inclusion of when projects were expected to commence and be concluded.

Senior Accountant**Resolved:**

- a) That the report be Noted.

105. PROGRESS REPORT ON WOKINGHAM FIRE STATION

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer provided a pictorial presentation of the progress made since November 2010 on the Wokingham Fire Station new build.

Both the Chairman and Councillor Mrs Prue Bray felt that it would be prudent to promote any environmental awards that had been presented relating to the new build, and that these should be highlighted at the official opening of the new Fire Station.

106. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**Resolved:**

- a) That an Extraordinary Committee meeting to consider a Single Agenda item (Options for the future of Dee Road Fire Station and Headquarters site) be convened in September 2011, to be held in the Strategic Command Centre at Headquarters, and that the Committee Manager confirm the date for the meeting, having sought Members' availability;
- b) That it be Noted that the meeting on 11 October 2011 at 5.30pm be held at Wokingham Fire Station, Denton Road, Wokingham, Berkshire RH40 2DX; and
- c) That the venue for the meeting on the Wednesday 11 January 2012 at 5.30pm be considered that 11 October 2011 meeting.

Committee Manager**Agenda
11.10.12****107. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC****Recommendation:**

To Resolve 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.

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108. PART II MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2011

Resolved:

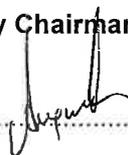
- a) That the Part II Minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

109. OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF DEE ROAD FIRE STATION AND HEADQUARTERS SITE

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer provided an update on the current proposed options.

Minutes signed by Chairman as a correct record:

Signature


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Print Name

Angus J Ross
.....

Date signed

11.10.11
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