

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

Held on Tuesday 13 July 2010

Slough Fire Station, Tuns Lane, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 2XA



Those present: Councillor Mrs Pauline Helliard-Symons (Member, Fire Authority) (*Chairman*)
Councillor Mrs Christine Bateson (Member, Fire Authority)
Councillor Mrs Prue Bray (Member, Fire Authority)
Councillor Adrian Edwards (Member, Fire Authority)
Councillor Paul Gittings (Member, Fire Authority)
Councillor Fred Pugh (Member, Fire Authority)

In Attendance: Councillor Dr Paul Bryant (Chairman, Fire Authority)
Councillor Colin Dudley (Vice-Chairman, Fire Authority)
Lynda Kenyon (Committee Manager)
Caroline Redzikowska (Clerk and Monitoring Officer)
Paul Southern (Assistant Chief Fire Officer)

Action

42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Owen Jeffery (Member, Fire Authority). Apologies for absence were also received from Andrew Vallance (Authority Treasurer).

43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Adrian Edwards declared a Personal non Prejudicial interest in respect to Agenda Item 10 (Wokingham Fire Station progress report) as his son works for Babcock Infrastructure Services. There were no further Declarations of Interest made by Members or Officers.

44. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 APRIL 2010

Resolved:

- a) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Asset Management Committee held on 29 April 2010 be Approved for signing by the Chairman.

The Chairman noted that all the actions had been discharged.

45. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 JUNE 2010

Resolved:

- a) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Asset Management Committee held on 30 June 2010 be Approved for signing by the Chairman.

46. CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Committee was advised of the progress against the Capital Programme 2010/11.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer was pleased to report that, through improved planning, tendering for the 2011/12 capital projects was progressing well, and this was acknowledged by the Chairman.

In response to Members' questions, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer confirmed that consideration could be given to the sharing of IT expertise with other Unitary Authorities and Fire and Rescue Services, especially with regard to the server virtualisation. He agreed to liaise with Jon Ball (Information Systems Manager) to consider whether this could be progressed.

ACFO

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer agreed to include in future reports details of any Capital Programme slippages.

ACFO

General discussion took place regarding Section 106 monies and how these could be re-invested into capital expenditure, and also how the fitting of sprinklers into new builds might impact on future Service strategic resource planning scenarios. In response to the Chairman, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer stated that the fitting of sprinklers could also be progressed through Local Strategic Partnerships.

Resolved:

- a) That the report be Noted.
- b) That, in relation to the Wokingham Fire Station new build, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer should make an approach to Wokingham Borough Council regarding Section 106 monies and community payments, and should also pursue any similar type payments available through Parish Councils.

ACFO**47. LEASED FIRE APPLIANCES**

The Committee was advised on the procedure to be followed with regard to the purchase, or continued rental, of leased fire appliances.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer agreed to inform the Authority Treasurer to ensure, within future reports, that the data provided within the column entitled 'Asset Value' was clearer in terms of its asset interpretation.

**ACFO /
AT**

Councillor Adrian Edwards believed that, based on the presented figures, it would be better to purchase fire appliances rather than to lease them.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer reported that the Authority Treasurer was hoping to present a report to the next meeting which would inform Members of the study undertaken to ascertain the viability of keeping fire appliances for longer periods, for example a further year.

Agenda
12.10.10**Resolved:**

- a) That the report be Noted.

48. LAND AND PROPERTY VALUATION REPORT

The Committee was informed of the land and property valuations as carried out by Babcock at 31 March 2010.

Resolved:

- a) That the report be Noted.

49. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 12 October 2010 at 5.30pm in the Commercial Room, Training Centre, Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Whitley Wood, Whitley Wood Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 8FS.

Resolved:

- a) That the meeting on 12 January 2011 at 5.30pm be held at Ascot Fire Station.

**Committee
Manager**

50. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Resolved:

- a) 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 Paragraphs 1 and 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.

Note - the full Part II Minutes, once approved, will be indexed at pages 21-23 inclusive.

51. WOKINGHAM FIRE STATION PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee was provided with an update on the progress toward the Wokingham Fire Station Project.

The Committee also considered the merits of Fire Authority Members being involved in the tendering process particularly in respect to the opening of tenders, and it was **Agreed** that it would be good practice if a Fire Authority Member was present at all openings of submitted tenders.

Resolved:

- a) That the report be Noted.

52. MOBILE TELEPHONE MAST AGREEMENTS AND INCOME

The Committee was provided with an overview of the leases for mobile telecommunications providers across the Fire Authority's Estate.

Resolved:

- a) That the report be Noted.

53. PREMISES DEEDS

The Committee received a verbal update from the Assistant Chief Fire Officer and the Clerk and Monitoring Officer in respect to the property deeds for Slough Fire Station and Newbury Fire Station.

54. PREMISES UPDATE, REFERENCE THE INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer advised of the need to align the work of the Fire Authority's Committees in respect to the Integrated Risk Management Plan which would scope how the Strategic Asset Management Committee's future premises and asset planning options, and risk, were managed.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer advised that a Retained Duty System Project Briefing Note had been drafted which would be circulated to all Fire Authority Members shortly.

ACFO

SIGNED COPY

Chairman's Initials ..P.E.H.S.

55. LAND AND PROPERTY VALUATION REPORT

The Committee received the Exempt Appendix to Agenda Item 7 (Land and Property Valuation Report).

Resolved:

- a) That the Exempt Appendix to Agenda Item 7 (Land and Property Valuation Report) be Noted.
- b) That the Assistant Chief Fire Officer develop a Land and Building Asset Management Plan to be presented to the Committee for discussion, and to the Management Committee for discussion and agreement.

ACFO

Minutes signed by Chairman as a correct record:

Signature P.E. Helliar-Simons.....

Print Name P. HELLIAR-SIMONS.....

Date signed: ...12/10/10.....