

Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee

Friday 31 July 2009

PRESENT:

Councillor Reynolds, Co Chair in the Chair.

Councillor Trubody, Co Chair.

Councillors Austin, Ball, Delbridge, Flashman, Fox, German, Pearn MBE, Riches (Substitute for Councillor Preston), Smith and Wheeler.

Co-opted Representatives: Cdr Crocker and Mr D L Richards.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Mrs Dolan and D Holley and Sir Richard Carew Pole Bt, Mr T Savery and Mrs Spring.

Also in attendance: Cornwall Councillor Hobbs (Observer).

The meeting started at 2pm and finished at 2.45pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

1. WELCOME

The committee extended a welcome to the Cornwall Councillors as new committee members.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Members in accordance with the code of conduct.

3. MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2009 are confirmed as a correct record.

4. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of chair's urgent business.

5. ANNUAL INSPECTION

Members noted that the annual inspection would be undertaken at the conclusion of this meeting.

6. REVENUE AND CAPITAL MONITORING 2009-10

The Director for Community Services and the Director for Corporate Resources submitted an update on the financial position of the joint committee for the financial year 2009-10, which outlined the following issues –

- (i) the joint committee's revenue forecast for 2009-10 was projecting a shortfall of £196,000 which could be attributed to a number of issues including job evaluation, additional staffing, new signage;
- (ii) approval had been previously given by the joint committee for prudential borrowing to be sought from Plymouth City Council for three schemes, which included -
 - replacement windows and heating at Barrow Park flats (£52,400)
 - outbuilding project (£61,600)

- fitting out new facilities (£125,000)

(iii) there was an uncommitted reserve balance of £36,409.

The following responses were provided to questions raised by the joint committee -

- the projected deficit of £13,000 for an inflationary increase in the budgets for 2009-10 would cover the annual pay award, insurance premiums and business rates;
- there was a projected sum of £35,000 for the marketing budget;
- the projected deficit of £7,000 for the increase in insurance premiums would cover all insurance commitments within the park including the reassessment of Barrow Park flats which were previously semi derelict buildings;
- an audit had been undertaken of the existing signage within the park; there was a total of 200 signs that would need to be replaced with the proposed new logo;
- as part of the outcomes from the Objective One funding which had been secured to partly fund the outbuildings project, were the creation of jobs and the generation of income.

Resolved that –

- the report is noted;
- approval is given to prudential borrowing being sought from Plymouth City Council to meet balancing funding required for additional works arising from the capital project totaling £71,125 through annual repayment by the joint committee with effect from 2010-11;
- approval is given to prudential borrowing being sought from Plymouth City Council to meet forecast cost of fitting out new facilities of £53,500 through annual repayment by the joint committee with effect from 2010-11.

7. **REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN 2008-09 INCORPORATING THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2008-09**

The Director for Community Services and the Director for Corporate Resources submitted a report on the Revenue and Capital Outturn 2008-09, which outlined the following issues –

- summarised the –
 - 2008-09 revenue provisional outturn
 - 2008-09 revenue budget
- as at 31 March 2009 there was an uncommitted reserve balance of £36,409 to support upcoming commercial developments and subject to funding demands to the current year deficit;
- as part of the 2008-09 capital project a further contribution of £56,665 was made to the outbuilding project as part of the previously agreed commitment of £152,803;

- (iv) Internal Audit had identified sound operational risk reviews which had been documented within the progress reports.

The following responses were provided to questions raised by the joint committee –

- (a) the provisional outturn of £513,298 for salaries included national insurance contributions;
- (b) the variance of £8,766 for the rent of the land was due to the back dating of rent which had distorted the figures;
- (c) the funds for the Mount Edgcumbe House and Country Park were held in the Co-operative Bank;
- (d) the increase in energy costs was due in the main to higher energy usage during the recent building works.

Resolved that –

- (1) the report is noted;
- (2) the statement of accounts are approved;
- (3) the annual governance statement is approved.

8. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

Resolved that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

9. **CREMYLL FERRY TENDER (E3)**

The joint committee was advised that this report had been withdrawn due to legal reasons.

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