

Runnymede Borough CouncilLICENSING COMMITTEE24 January 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the Committee present: Councillors Mrs P.I. Broadhead (Vice-Chairman), R.J. Edis, Mrs E.Gill, R.N. Jones, C. Knight and D.W. Parr.

Members of the Committee absent: Councillors J.M. Edwards (Chairman) Ms. R.E. Haylor, B.J. Relph and N. Stewert.

In the absence of the Chairman, Councillor Mrs P.I. Broadhead (Vice-Chairman) took the chair.

The Committee expressed its sincere condolences to Cllr J.M. Edwards and extended good wishes to him and his family.

486. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 22 November 2007 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

487. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J.M. Edwards (Chairman), Ms. R.E. Haylor, B.J. Relph and N. Stewert.

488. REVENUE ESTIMATES 2008/09

(Ref: Minutes of the Licensing Committee, January 2007, page 713 para. 494)

The Committee considered the Revenue Estimates 2008/09 for the services under the remit of the Licensing Committee.

Members were pleased this year that Officers had added a 'yield' column in the estimates which showed them where income had been generated.

It was noted that 2007/08 had been a consolidation year where the effects of new legislation (for example Gambling) on staffing levels were beginning to stabilise at the correct level.

The Committee was reassured that the Council's cash managers exercised prudence in their financial dealings and that purely cash investments in banks and building societies were made.

Members queried support services costs and 'Consultants and Fees' and asked whether there was scope for making savings in these areas. Officers confirmed that recharges (not all of which represented new costs) associated with the new civic offices and front of house arrangements had occasioned increases in Information Technology, Office Accommodation and Legal and Admin (where the budget for Customer Services had been placed). Officers agreed to provide a breakdown of the 'Consultants and Fees' figure on page 7 of Appendix 'B'.

The Committee was advised that proposals for additional savings were being considered at Corporate Management Committee shortly, in consultation with Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Service Committees.

Officers were commended for putting the estimates together in such a comprehensive format.

**RESOLVED that –**

- i) the draft Revenue Estimates for 2008/09 be approved as submitted and the Corporate Management Committee be requested to make provision accordingly; and**

- ii) **the proposed increases in fees and charges for 2008/09, as set out in Appendix 'B' to the estimates, be approved to be effective either from the first week of April 2008 or 1 April 2008 as appropriate.**

489. LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE – MINUTES

The Committee received for information the Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 27 November 2007, as attached at Appendix 'A'.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 7.46 p.m.)