

AUTHORITY MINUTES: MONDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2011 (9:35 - 11:05 AM)

Present: Councillor S Kelly (Chairman), Councillor I Corbett, Councillor R Crawford, Councillor M Dunn, Councillor G Letchford, Councillor B Tebbutt and Councillor V Tewari

30 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Mick McCarthy (LBBD).

31 Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of Members' interests.

32 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Members confirmed as correct the minutes of the Authority meeting on 26 September 2011. The Finance Director updated on a potential fraud at a member Authority.

33 Representation

The Chairman informed members that the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham had replaced Councillor Vincent as their representative with Councillor Mick McCarthy and, in accordance with the Constitution, members were asked to appoint an interim Vice Chairman. It was proposed Councillor Michelle Dunn should be appointed to this position for the remainder of the year with the opportunity to become Chairperson for the next 2 years subject to Members' votes at the Annual General Meeting.

Members unanimously agreed the appointment.

The Chairman further proposed that because of his longevity with ELWA, Councillor Letchford should become the Section 41 Representative to answer questions from his Council for the remainder of the year.

Members unanimously agreed the appointment.

34 Annual Audit Letter 2010/11 and Notice of Certification of Completion of Audit

The Finance Director provided commentary on his report stating that ELWA had been issued with an unqualified Auditor report and there were no recommendations made by the Auditor to ELWA. There had been a slight delay in signing off the accounts and close down related work by the Auditor but the deadline for the accounts had been met.

Members noted the report.

35 Budgetary Control to 31 October 2011

An update to the Finance Director's regular report and appendix was tabled. This compared actual expenditure for the period with revenue estimates approved in February. The Finance Director advised that the report showed an under spend for the period.

Members noted the report

36 Treasury Management Mid Year Strategy Review 2011/12

The Finance Director presented his report on a mid year review of the Treasury Management Strategy which was on course.

Members noted the report.

37 Review of the ELWA Corporate Risk Register

The Managing Director and Finance Director provided commentary on the report and appendices adding that the Risk Register is an accurate reflection of the risks ELWA might encounter. This was reviewed formally every year.

Members discussed and noted the report.

38 Contract Monitoring to September 2011

Received the Head of Operations report, appendices and covering Contract Performance, Reuse & Recycling Centres Sites Controls and Closed Landfill sites.

In respect of the Reuse & Recycling Centres Sites Controls, the Head of Operations confirmed that the level of charge to non residents as a deterrent had been investigated and compared to other boroughs. The conclusion was that the charges were adequate. Leaflets detailing the new controls would be circulated to ELWA Members and then Councillors from the four boroughs a few days later.

He advised that there was an issue with the gas and third party involvement which was holding up the sale of Aveley to Ingrebourne Valley. The district valuer had been instructed to obtain a valuation of Gerpins Lane. ELWA will look to market Hall Farm and Wennington in the new year. Members discussed the implications of retaining the sites and their future use.

Members noted the report.

39 London Borough of Newham Olympic Tonnage

Members received this report and additional commentary submitted by the Director for Newham. With regard to tonnage level charges, Newham would look to use 2011's calendar year figures to set a benchmark for calculation.

Members asked if it a 5 year period should be used for 2011 base year for the calculation set out in paragraph 3.6. The Newham Director replied that a lot of progress had been made in controlling the waste over the last year and a 5 year period would not reflect this.

Members agreed recommendations a), b), c) and d) as set out in the report.

40 Financial Projection and Budget Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15

The Finance Director recapped his report which set out a proposed Budget Strategy and resultant levy projections. The level of tonnages to ELWA remains a key driver of the levy together with contract and taxation costs. The assumptions and projections would be reviewed as part of the Levy Setting report in February.

Members agreed the recommendation.

41 Programme of Meetings 2012/2013

Members received the office manager's report with proposals to amend two previously approved dates and to agree 2012/13 dates. When asked their preference as to venue, **it was agreed** that future formal meetings should be held at the Civic Centre, Dagenham.

Members agreed the proposed dates for the year 2012/13 and noted the changes for the next two meetings.

42 Date of Next Meeting

Members noted that the next meeting will be held on 6 February 2012.

43 Private Business

Members resolved to exclude the public and press from the remainder of the meeting by reason of the nature of the business to be discussed which included information exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

44 Contract Options - Legal Review

The Managing Director recapped his confidential report explaining that Solicitors had been instructed and carried out a desktop review of the contract.

Members noted the report and agreed that the managing director continues discussions with the contractor to identify contract cost savings.

45 ELWA Ltd Update

Following the managing directors update on the latest activities of ELWA Ltd, Members agreed that they would like to receive the most recent ELWA Ltd

Agenda papers in their pack.

Members noted the report.

One member showed an interest in seeing what other Councils were doing with regard to waste recycling and the Head of Operations **agreed to** put forward a list of potential Boroughs to visit and the benefits of doing so and if Members wished to pursue this then he would arrange the visits.

The Chairman offered seasons greetings and thanked everyone for attending.

Minutes agreed as a true record.

Chair:

Date: