

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM  
FIRE AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES**

of the Meeting of the Authority held on **14 DECEMBER 2001** at the  
Council House, Nottingham from 11.00 am to 12.21 pm.

**Membership**

	Councillor Jackson	(Chairman)
	Councillor Scott	(Vice-Chairman)
	Councillor Afsar	
	Councillor Bennett	
	Councillor Bosnjak	
	Councillor Cottee	
^	Councillor Davison	
^	Councillor Freeman	
	Councillor Griggs	
	Councillor Hempsall	
^	Councillor Markin	
^	Councillor O'Toole	
	Councillor Pepper	
	Councillor Pulk	
	Councillor Smith	
	Councillor Spencer	
	Councillor Tsimbirdis	
	Councillor Wood	

Members absent are marked ^

**198 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Davison, Freeman, Markin and O'Toole.

## **199 MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 26 October 2001, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

## **200 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

## **201 SALE OF FIREWORKS**

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, it was RESOLVED as follows:-

The Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority notes with concern the abuse of fireworks in Nottinghamshire in the weeks leading up to 5 November which, in being increasingly irresponsible and frequently dangerous, becomes a drain on both the time and resources of the Fire Service and the Police Force.

This Authority calls on the Government to urgently review current legislation regarding the sale of fireworks giving consideration to issues like the:-

- continuing sale of fireworks to under 18s
- suitability of certain types of fireworks for sale
- discharge of fireworks in the street
- possibility of restricting fireworks to properly supervised or licensed displays

and to offer the opportunity for wide consultation over the period of the review.

## **202 PROBABLE OUTTURN 2000/2001 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2002/2003 to 2004/2005 AND INDICATIVE BUDGET 2002/2003**

Consideration was given to a joint report of the Chief Fire Officer and Treasurer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the indicative capital and revenue budgets, as set out in the report, be approved.

## **203 VARIATIONS TO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the West Bridgford scheme and the capital programme be varied as set out in the report.

## **204 EXTERNAL AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT LETTER**

Consideration was given to a report of the Treasurer, copies of which had been circulated.

The Chairman welcomed the external auditors, Mr Craig Jones and Mr Mark Jones of PriceWaterhouseCoopers. Mr C Jones gave a short presentation on the external auditors' management letter.

RESOLVED

- (1) that Mr C Jones be thanked for his presentation;
- (2) that the contents of the external auditors' management letter and the Brigade's response to the auditors' recommendations, as set out in the report be noted.

#### **205 WRITTEN SAFETY POLICY - STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the draft revised Statement of Intent, as set out in the report, be endorsed.

#### **206 QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the activities of Safety Services during July to September 2001 be noted.

#### **207 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (LGA) ANNUAL FIRE CONFERENCE 2002**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that two members from the majority group and one from the minority group be authorised to attend the LGA Annual Fire Conference to be held at the Spa Complex, Scarborough from 5 to 7 March 2002.

#### **208 NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INLAND WATER SAFETY AND RESCUE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the report regarding the National Conference on Inland Water Safety and Rescue held at Holme Pierrepont in Nottingham on 18 and 19 September 2001 be noted.

#### **209 AD-HOC MEMBERS GROUP ON EQUALITIES**

RESOLVED that the report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated together with the minutes of the meeting of the Ad-hoc Members Group on Equalities held on 20 November 2001 be noted.

## **210 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the progress on all performance indicators published within the Brigade's Best Value Performance Plan, be noted.

## **211 ANNUAL SERVICE PLAN INCORPORATING THE BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, together with the Brigade's draft Best Value Performance Plan, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Brigade's draft Best Value Performance Plan be noted;
- (2) that members submit any observations on the plan to the Chief Fire Officer by 31 December 2001.

## **212 BEST VALUE REVIEW BOARD**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the report regarding the Best Value Review Board and minutes of the Best Value Review Board dated 24 November 2001 be noted.

## **213 ABANDONED VEHICLES AND DELIBERATE VEHICLE FIRES**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

Mr D Williams, the Community Safety Officer gave a brief presentation on work undertaken to date to reduce the number of abandoned vehicles and deliberate vehicle fires.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Chairman stresses the Fire Authority's views on the issue of abandoned vehicles and deliberate vehicle fires through the Local Government Association's response to the Departments for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Transport, Local Government and the Regions consultation;
- (2) that the Chairman and the Chief Fire Officer be authorised to provide a direct and detailed response to the consultation process;
- (3) that members consider what actions they could take in their work within and outside the Authority to promote a holistic and inclusive response to vehicle abandonment

and deliberate burning, associated problems and perceived solutions through inclusive partnerships;

- (4) that the role and legitimacy of the Brigade and Fire Authority's involvements in such partnerships be championed by members and officers of this Authority.

#### **214 PROPERTY STRATEGY GROUP**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the property strategy group's immediate term programme, as set out in the report, be endorsed.

#### **215 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining items as they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 7 and 9 of part 1 of schedule 12A to the Act.

#### **216 CARDIFF CHECKS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that the recommendations in the report agreed with the Chief Fire Officer be implemented without delay.

#### **217 UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED that, subject to a precedent not being established, approval be given to the request for unpaid leave of absence as set out in the report.

#### **218 DEVELOPING NEW WORLD SITUATION**

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation updating members on the developing new world situation.

RESOLVED that the Deputy Chief Fire Officer be thanked for his presentation.