

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
21 JANUARY 2016**

Members Present: Paul Osborn (Chairman) Chris Kennedy
Derrick Ashley (Vice Chairman) Heather Johnson
John Bevan Valerie Metcalfe
Ricki Gadsby Alan Searing

In Attendance: David Andrews
Gwyneth Deakins
Malcolm Cowan
Graham McAndrew

Officers Present: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive
Beryl Foster - Director of Corporate Services
Simon Sheldon - Director of Finance & Resources
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager

Part I

704 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Agenda Item No.	Nature of Interest	
John Bevan	5	Trustee of Lee Valley Leisure Trust	<i>Non-pecuniary</i>

705 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2015 be approved and signed.

706 PUBLIC SPEAKING

No requests from the public to speak or present petitions had been received for this meeting.

707 2016/17 REVENUE BUDGET & LEVY

Paper E/434/16

The report was introduced by Simon Sheldon, Director of Finance & Resources.

The Chairman, seconded by the Vice Chairman, proposed a 2% decrease in the levy. Chris Kennedy, seconded by Heather Johnson, proposed an amendment of a 0% decrease in the levy as discussed at the Budget Workshop.

Some Members considered that the Authority should continue year on year levy decreases in response to the continuing financial pressures faced by contributing authorities and that the proposed savings provided an achievable budgetary position to do so.

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Other Members considered that given the past years of levy decreases and stretch targets the current levy should be retained as continual decreases were unsustainable. Retention of the existing levy would enable funding to be included in the budget for various activities such as land purchase, contaminated land, apprenticeship levy, Ice Centre project, EU funding applications and the forthcoming 50th anniversary.

Members discussed the differing views for utilisation of the proposed savings, some supporting passing on savings to the contributing authorities, i.e., a -2% levy decrease, and others supporting using the savings to fund other activities within the budget, i.e., retention of the current levy.

Members voted on a 2016/17 levy: -2% 4 Members; 0% 3 Members; abstention 1 Member.

- (1) a proposed levy reduction of -2% for 2016/17;**
- (2) additional net income and savings as set out in Appendix C to Paper E/434/16, including the proposed introduction of car parking charges covered in more detail in Appendix G to Paper E/434/16;**
- (3) financing for the capital programme and revenue contribution to capital of £1.8m as set out in paragraph 22 of Paper E/434/16;**
- (4) a net revenue budget of £10.837m as set out in paragraph 32 of Paper E/434/16; and**
- (5) a minimum level of reserves of £4m be maintained as set out in paragraph 31 of Paper E/434/16 be recommended to Authority.**

708 LAND & PROPERTY REVIEW WORKING GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE

It was agreed to amend the terms of reference from “business” to “overall” objectives.

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 12.30pm and ended at 12.50pm.