

AYRSHIRE VALUATION JOINT BOARD

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 24th January 2006 at 10.30 a.m. within Greenholm Street, Kilmarnock.

Item 1 - Sederunt.

Present:

East Ayrshire Councillors: Robert McDill and Brian Reeves.

North Ayrshire Councillors: Jack Carson, John Moffat and Alan Munro.

South Ayrshire: Councillors: Alan Murray (Chair) and Pam Paterson

In Attendance: William Sommerville, Assessor; Angus McLarty, Depute Assessor; William Brown, Principal Administrative Officer; Eileen Howat, Treasurer; Kirstin Nichols, East Ayrshire Council; William Pollock, Administration Manager, South Ayrshire Council (for Clerk); and Avril Gerrish, Committee Administrative Officer, South Ayrshire Council.

Apologies: Councillor Eric Jackson, East Ayrshire Council;
Councillor John Knapp, East Ayrshire Council;
Councillor William Menzies, East Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Gordon Allison, North Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Jane Gorman, North Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Gordon Clarkson, North Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Ian Cavana, South Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Bill McIntosh, South Ayrshire Council; and
Councillor Tony Lewis, South Ayrshire Council.

Item 2 – Minutes of Meeting held on 22nd November 2005.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Board held on 22nd November 2005 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

Item 3 – Revenue Monitoring Report Period to 31st December 2005.

There was submitted (circulated) a report dated 17th January 2006 by the Treasurer

- (1) advising that the Revenue Estimates for 2005/06 had been approved by the Board on 11th January 2005; and
- (2) detailing the income and expenditure for the period to 31st December 2005 compared to the approved Revenue Estimates and outlining an underspend of £12,635.

Decided:

- (a) to approve the contents of the report; and
- (b) to instruct the Treasurer to provide updated figures to the next meeting.

Item 4 – Non-Domestic Rating.

There was submitted (circulated) a report dated January 2006 by the Assessor outlining the current position with reference to Non-Domestic Rating.

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

Item 5 – Council Tax.

There was submitted (circulated) a report dated January 2006 by the Assessor

- (1) advising that the survey and banding of new houses was continuing with a view to achieving or improving on the performance targets; and
- (2) outlining the current position on clearing appeals as detailed in the report.

Decided: to note the position.

Item 6 – Electoral Registration.

There was submitted (circulated) a report dated January 2006 by the Assessor

- (1) detailing the statistical returns for the 2005 Canvass and Edited Register;
- (2) reporting that the total return for the 2005 Canvass had decreased by 0.5% compared to last year's figures and Electors requesting not to have their names shown on the Edited Register had increased from 28.5% last year to 30.1% for this year's return;
- (3) intimating that staff were checking records of two consecutive years non-return canvass forms to Council Tax payers lists and that where no match had been found, the persons listed at these addresses would have their names deleted from the Register;
- (4) outlining the progress of the Electoral Administration Bill which was expected to gain Royal Assent by June 2006.

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

Item 7 – Staffing/Training.

There was submitted (circulated) a report dated January 2006 by the Depute Assessor

- (1) advising that management had completed a review of staff required to assist in the effective and economic delivery of services which had resulted in the following:-
 - (a) non-filling of a Valuer Post following a resignation;
 - (b) non-filling of a Clerical Assistant Post which would shortly become vacant due to internal promotions; and
 - (c) creation of a part-time post (maximum of 17½ hours per week);

- (2) intimating
 - (a) that discussions had taken place with both Human Resources and Unison; and
 - (b) that savings had already been included in the 2006/07 budget, approved by the Board on 22nd November 2005; and
- (3) reporting that a Valuer/Senior Valuer's post had been re-designated to Valuer/Senior Valuer with Information Technology responsibility with no change to the grading of the post.

Decided: to approve the new part-time post as outlined at (1)(c) above and otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting ended at 10.50 a.m.