

AYRSHIRE VALUATION JOINT BOARD

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 16th January 2007 at 10.30 a.m. within
Cunninghame House, Irvine.

Item 1 - Sederunt.

Present:

East Ayrshire Councillor: Eric Jackson (Chair).
North Ayrshire Councillors: Gordon Allison, Jane Gorman, John Moffat and Alan Munro.
South Ayrshire: Councillors: Tony Lewis and Bill McIntosh.

In Attendance: William Sommerville, Assessor; Alastair Kirkwood, Depute Assessor; Eileen Howat, Treasurer; Colin Hastings, East Ayrshire Council; William Pollock, Administration Manager, South Ayrshire Council (for Clerk); and Avril Gerrish, Committee Administrative Officer, South Ayrshire Council.

Apologies: Councillor John Knapp, East Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Robert McDill, East Ayrshire Council;
Councillor William Menzies, East Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Brian Reeves, East Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Jack Carson, North Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Gordon Clarkson, North Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Ian Cavana, South Ayrshire Council;
Councillor Alan Murray, South Ayrshire Council; and
Councillor Pam Paterson, South Ayrshire Council.

Item 2 – Minutes of Meeting held on 21st November 2006.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Board held on 21st November 2006 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

Item 3 – Revenue Monitoring Report Period to 31st December 2006.

There was submitted (circulated) a report dated 9th January 2007 by the Treasurer

- (1) advising that the Revenue Estimates for 2006/07 had been approved by the Board on 22nd November 2006;
- (2) detailing the income and expenditure for the period to 31st December 2006 compared to the approved Revenue Estimates and outlining an underspend of £32,626; and
- (3) anticipating a year-end underspend of approximately £47,000.

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 2007 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 2007 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 2007 by the Assessor

- (1) detailing the statistical returns for the 2006 Canvass and Edited Register; and
- (2) reporting that the Electoral Administration Act had resulted in an increase of duties being placed on the ERO over and above the changes to the canvass process and that the Assessor would identify these in greater detail once the legislation had been passed.

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

Item 7 – Staffing/Training.

There was submitted (circulated) a report dated January 2007 by the Depute Assessor

- (1) advising that the following policies had recently been updated to bring them in line with current legislation:-
 - (a) Code of Conduct for Employees;
 - (b) Equalities;
 - (c) Disciplinary Procedures;
 - (d) Recruitment and Selection;
 - (e) Employees Applying to Work Beyond 65; and
 - (f) Grievance Procedures; and
- (2) intimating that Mr Darryl Rae would be joining the Valuation Board on the 30th January 2007, following the resignation of a Senior Valuer on 6th October 2006.

Decided: to note the contents of the report.

Item 8 - Disability Equality Scheme 2006.

There was submitted (circulated) a report dated January 2007 by the Assessor

- (1) intimating that the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 required the Board to prepare and publish a Disability Equality Scheme; and
- (2) seeking approval of the Disability Equality Scheme as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

Decided: to approve the Disability Equality Scheme, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

The meeting ended at 10.50 a.m.