Before taking any action on any of these minutes, officers must satisfy themselves that they are not subject to the call-in procedure.

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the EXECUTIVE
held on 13 January 2005
at The Guildhall, Westgate, Canterbury

Present: Councillor Perkins (Leader of the Council)
Councillors Ashmore-Fish, Eden-Green, Halfpenny, Matthews, Pepper and Seath.
Councillors Austin, Cragg, Mrs Doyle, Gilbey, Nee and Whitemore also attended the meeting as Non-Executive Members.

E160 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor MacCaul.

E161 MEMBERS’ QUESTIONS

Councillor Whitemore asked the Leader of the Council if he and the Executive agreed that the recommendation set out in the item on the Agenda for this meeting regarding Fair Trade should be extended to include all the Council’s partner organisations.

The Leader of the Council replied that he fully supported this proposal and asked the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to comment on the legal aspects.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services stated that as this was a recommendation without compulsion for other bodies he could foresee no problems of a legal nature.

It was agreed that this proposal be dealt with under the specific item on the Agenda.

Members were pleased to see Councillor Whitemore back in the Chamber after his recent illness.

E162 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

In accordance with the Members’ Code of Conduct, the following Members declared personal interests in the agenda items described below.

Councillor Seath: Whitstable Castle item as one of the Council’s representatives on the Castle Centre Association.

Councillor Eden-Green: Victory Wood item as a member of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Chief Executive also declared an interest in the item relating to Victory Wood as a member of the Woodland Trust.
E163  MINUTES

The Leader of the Council signed as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 9 December 2004.

E164  TRAVEL PLAN FOR CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Councillor Parkinson sent his apologies for being unable to attend this meeting to present his report.

The Executive received a report from Councillor Parkinson, who had chaired the Scrutiny Review Panel to oversee the development of a travel plan for the Council. The Review Panel had considered various issues affecting staff travel, investigated approaches by other Authorities and had consulted widely on a draft travel plan. The travel plan had now been finalised and had been considered by the Scrutiny Management and Review Sub-Committee and the Executive were asked to consider the Sub-Committee’s comments.

RECOMMENDED (TO FULL COUNCIL) - That the Council adopt the travel plan as Council policy.

E165  FAIR TRADE

(Minute No E72 (2004/05) refers)

The Head of Policy and Improvement reminded members that at the meeting held on 2 September 2004 the executive resolved to apply to become a Fair Trade Town, City or zone. He submitted a report which updated members on the current position regarding the work required to achieve this and the costs involved.

RESOLVED -

(a) That the Council support Fair Trade and local produce, and, subject to agreement with the canteen operator, agrees to serve Fair Trade coffee and tea at its meetings and its offices and canteen and agrees to suggest to partner organisations that they also consider Fair Trade status.

(b) That a suitable article be published in District Life to publicise the Council’s support for Fair Trade.

(c) That the Council support Fair Trade and local produce using the statutory powers of the Local Government Act 2000 to help improve the well-being of people within and beyond the Canterbury District.

E166  VICTORY WOOD, BLEAN REGIONAL PARK

The Executive members had before them a report of the Head of Regeneration and Economic Development, which stated that the Woodland Trust were creating a major new woodland at Lamberhurst Farm, Dargate and which set out ways in which the Council could support the project.
RESOLVED -

(a) That the Council congratulate the Woodland Trust on this initiative and contribute £5,000 from this year’s revenue budget.

(b) That the Corporate Investment Funding Team consider a contribution of a further £20,000 from the Capital Budget for this project.

(In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillor Eden-Green declared an interest in this item as a member of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds)

E167 WHITSTABLE CASTLE – LOTTERY BID TO IMPROVE THE CASTLE AND GARDENS

This item was withdrawn without discussion at the meeting on the advice of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in order that it might proceed as a key-decision.

E168 KINGSMEAD REDEVELOPMENT – DISPOSAL STRATEGY

The Head of Property Services reported that following the Council’s adoption of the development brief, consultants Donaldsons had worked with officers to prepare a strategy for the disposal of the property owned by the Council as part of the Kingsmead redevelopment project. He submitted a report which outlined the strategy and highlighted the main issues that needed to be considered before marketing the first phase of the project.

RESOLVED -That the implementation and marketing strategy for the Kingsmead redevelopment, together with the recommendations of the Kingsmead Member Working Group as set out in the report now submitted, be approved.

E169 ISSUE ARISING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE – 7 DECEMBER 2004 – IT FACILITIES WITHIN THE GUILDHALL

The Development Control Committee had requested that the Executive give high priority to the allocation of resources to improve IT facilities within the Guildhall.

RESOLVED -That the Executive supports the recommendation of the Development Control Committee (set out at minute number 330 (b) 2004/05) subject to the provision of £10,000 from the budget for unforeseen events but if more funding be required this be subject to consultation between the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council.

E170 FORTHCOMING DECISION LIST – 1 JANUARY – 30 APRIL 2005

The Executive noted the forthcoming decision list, which had been published for the above period.

E171 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE ON 10 FEBRUARY 2005

The Chief Executive reported that the Agenda for the next meeting could include the following items:-
Annual review of the Off-Street Parking Places Order and the on-street parking arrangements.
Sales of land to Registered Social Landlords.
Tenterden Drive, Canterbury.
Beaney Institute – submission of lottery bid.
Play Strategy.
District Auditor’s Management letter.
Whitstable Castle – Lottery Bid.
Active Life.

E172 EXTRA ITEM OF BUSINESS – ARCHAEOLOGICAL ITEMS STORED AT KINGSMEAD

The Chief Executive reported that urgent attention needed to be given to addressing the future of the above items which would be affected by the Kingsmead Redevelopment and that this could be achieved through the Beaney Member Advisory Group.

RESOLVED - that the Beaney Member Advisory Group consisting of Councillors, Cragg, Mrs Doyle, Parkinson, Pepper and Perkins add to its overview of the Museums and Galleries Service the archaeological items currently stored at Kingsmead Depot.

E173 KENT HIGHWAYS PARTNERSHIP

The Director of Community and Environment Services updated members on the latest situation regarding the transfer of the Council’s highways function to Kent County Council on 31 March 2005, following the termination of the Kent Highways Partnership agreement.