

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, 17th November, 2009

Present: Cllr Mrs E M Holland (Chairman), Cllr F R D Chartres (Vice-Chairman), Cllr A W Allison, Cllr J A L Balcombe, Cllr J R H Clements, Cllr G Court, Cllr R W Dalton, Cllr Mrs F A English, Cllr D Keeley, Cllr Mrs S L Luck, Cllr Mrs A S Oakley and Cllr Miss J L Sergison.

Councillors Aikman, Mrs Anderson, Balfour, Coffin, Mrs Kemp, Luker, Thornewell and Worrall were also present pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Homewood.

PART 1 - PUBLIC

**RA
09/001 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CABINET

**RA
09/002 RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD - INTRODUCTION**

Decision Notice D090157MEM

The Chief Executive's report set out the scope of the work to be addressed by the Rural Affairs Advisory Board. Presentations were received from representatives of the Country Landowners Association, the National Farmers Union, Hadlow College and the West Kent Leader Programme to aid consideration of rural economic issues and, in particular, issues affecting the farming and rural community. Each speaker provided their own perspective of the various issues affecting this particular sector.

The report suggested that issues such as rural housing needs, transport issues, countryside recreation, rights of way and access, and biodiversity could be considered at future meetings of the Board with external speakers being invited to present their views as appropriate. An invitation was extended to Members to advise the Corporate Services Manager of any items for possible consideration at future meetings of the Advisory Board.

RECOMMENDED: That the scope of the work of the Advisory Board, as identified in the report, be endorsed.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE

**RA
09/003**

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items considered in private.

The meeting ended at 2118 hours

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION

**Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR
Planning and Transportation**

Decision No: D090157MEM

Date: 17th November 2009

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Rural Affairs Advisory Board - Introduction

(Report of Chief Executive)

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Following consideration by the Rural Affairs Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation resolved that the scope of the work of the Advisory Board, as identified in the report, be endorsed.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Rural Affairs Advisory Board of 17 November 2009.

Signed Cabinet Member for M Balfour
Planning and
Transportation:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 20 November 2009

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.