

Michael Doody

Chairman of the Council

Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of the Warwick District Council will be held at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa on Wednesday, 3 September 2003 at 6.00 pm.

Declarations of Interest

Declarations should be entered on the form to be circulated with the attendance sheet. However, the existence and nature of any interest that subsequently becomes apparent during the course of the meeting must be disclosed immediately. In the event of an interest being prejudicial, members are reminded that they must withdraw from the room or chamber whenever it becomes apparent that the matter is being considered, unless a dispensation has been obtained from Standards Committee. **If members are unsure about whether or not they have an interest, or about its nature, they are strongly advised to seek advice from officers prior to the meeting.**

Agenda

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Minutes**

To confirm the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 9 July 2003 as set out on pages 148 to 159.

3. **Communication and Announcements**

4. **Memorials and Petitions**

5. **Questions Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 7(2)**

(A) From Councillor E B MacKay to the Leader of the Executive:

“The financial summary in the Statement of Accounts 2002/2003 shows that within General Fund Net Service Expenditure Planning and Development Services *actual* expenditure was £800K [21%] lower than the original estimate, despite being under-resourced in Development Control.

In view of the significant benefit this underspend has provided, how does he justify allocating “additional income [Development/Building Control] £142800” to the General Fund [Briefing note to Audit and Resources 15/7/03] given that this sum is entirely attributable to the 14% increase in planning fees

implemented by the Government with effect from 1 April 2002 “ to raise approximately an extra £20m nationally for planning” [ODPM] because the “study, Planning Fees, published in December 2001, found that fees had fallen behind inflation since they had last been raised in 1997”[ODPM]?

In the light of the following paragraph in the ODPM’s letter of 29/1/03:
“Ministers are, however, receiving anecdotal evidence that in many authorities the increase in fees has not led to a commensurate increase in planning resources and its additional revenues have been diverted into other local authority services. If this is true, it is damaging to the argument that local authorities need additional resources to undertake their planning functions at a time when they are under great pressure to deliver better planning services and to compete effectively in the recruitment market against the private planning sector” will he accept accountability [as leader of the Executive in 2002/03] for 1) flouting the Government’s intended application of the fee increase, 2) any adverse criticism from the Audit Commission (which is aware of the Council’s actions), 3) any past and future constraints on this Council’s ability to “improve planning performance” which is so closely linked to the scale of Planning Delivery Grants in 2004/05 and 2005/06, 4) the continued under-resourcing of Planning the full growth allocation of which (£114K) would have been self-financing had the fee increase not been diverted?”

6. Reports of Committees

To receive and consider the reports of the following Committees:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Pages</u>
Audit and Resources Scrutiny Committee	15 July 2003	167-170
Community Scrutiny Committee	15 July 2003	171-174
Environment Scrutiny Committee	15 July 2003	175-178
Executive	21 July 2003	179-198
Members'/Trade Unions Joint Consultation and Safety Panel	28 July 2003	199-202
Regulatory Committee	30 July 2003	215-217
Economic Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12 August 2003	218-222
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12 August 2003	223-225
Social Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12 August 2003	226-229
Audit and Resources Scrutiny Committee	13 August 2003	230-234
Executive	18 August 2003	235-256

Regulatory	21 August 2003	265-267
Planning Committee (including Appendix A)	8 July 2003	160-166
Planning Committee (including Appendix B & C)	28 July 2003	203-214
Planning Committee (including Appendix D & E)	19 August 2003	257-264

7. **Notices of Motion**

(A) Councillor. R. C. H. Copping (Health Advocate) to move:-

Each year c240 citizens in our Warwick District Council area die prematurely because of tobacco related diseases. Smoking is a key issue in the Health Divide, and results in health inequalities & reduced life expectancy.

I propose that:

- 1) smoking and the sale of tobacco related products be banned in all Council premises; and
- 2) that all stakeholders receiving grants and concessionary Council Tax relief be required to submit a smoking policy which, at least restricts smoking, and ideally moves towards a no smoking policy.

Warwick District Council is a key player in promoting a healthier local community and narrowing health inequalities between disadvantaged groups and the rest of the population. We need to be more proactive in encouraging smoking cessation as part of our health commitment to the Community Plan. We must also endeavour to prevent passive smoking – related diseases from affecting our employees, non-smokers, pregnant mothers, babies and children.”

8. **Common Seal**

To authorise the affixing of the Common Seal of the Council to such deeds and documents as may be required for implementing decisions of the Council arrived at this day.

Chief Executive