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Minutes of a meeting of the Constitution Committee held at County Hall, Glenfield on Thursday, 8 May 2003.

PRESENT

Mr. H. Barber CC (in the Chair)

Mr. B. Chapman AE, CC
Mr. Mike Jones CC

Mr. S. J. Galton CC
Prof. M. E. Preston CC

16. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2003

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 13 March 2003, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

17. Question Time

The Chief Executive reported that no questions had been received under Standing Order 36.

18. Questions Asked under Standing Order 7(3) and (5)

The Chief Executive reported that no questions had been received under Standing Order 7(3) and (5).

19. To Advise of any other Items which the Chairman has Decided to take as Urgent

There were no urgent items for consideration.

20. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

21. Periodic Electoral Review of Leicestershire County Council

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive outlining the arrangements for the Review of the Council's electoral arrangements. A copy of the report marked 'B' is filed with these minutes.

With regard to the first page of Appendix B of the report, members were advised that the projected electorate 2007 in respect of two areas required amendment to read as follows:-

Winstanley (No. 4)	5434
Millfield (No. 6)	2120

The Committee suggested that members should be asked to have regard to the following advice in commenting on the draft proposals:-

- (a) it would be helpful if members sought help and advice from the appropriate officers before putting forward alternative proposals;
- (b) the Committee will be unlikely to be able to respond positively to any alternative proposal which fails to address the effects on adjoining electoral divisions;
- (c) proposals should be submitted either via or following consultation with the relevant Group Leader or Group Whip.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be noted;
- (b) That the consultants referred to in paragraph 19 of the report be appointed to assist with the review;
- (c) That approval be given to the initial draft proposals, prepared by officers and set out in Appendix B to this report, as a basis for consultations with all interested parties;
- (d) That it be agreed that a meeting of the Committee be held on 18th June, 2003 to consider results of consultation and to determine the final scheme to be recommended to the County Council.

22. Briefing Note on the Allowances for Members of Local Authorities

The Committee considered a briefing note from the Chief Executive on changes to allowances for members of local authorities. A copy of the report marked 'C' is filed with these minutes.

The effect of the proposals was that the County Council would need to approve a new scheme by the end of September, having first received appropriate advice from the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

8 May 2003
2.30 p.m. - 3.45 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

