

## COUNCIL

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### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8 NOVEMBER 2011 AT SALISBURY CITY HALL.

#### Present:

Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Richard Beattie, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr John Brady, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Rosemary Brown, Cllr Liz Bryant, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Nigel Carter, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Christopher Cochrane, Cllr Peter Colmer, Cllr Linda Conley, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Christine Crisp (Vice-Chair), Cllr Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Tony Deane, Cllr Christopher Devine, Cllr Mary Douglas, Cllr Peggy Dow, Cllr Peter Doyle, Cllr Nick Fogg, Cllr Peter Fuller, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Mollie Groom, Cllr Lionel Grundy OBE, Cllr Brigadier Robert Hall (Chairman), Cllr Russell Hawker, Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr Malcolm Hewson, Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Chris Humphries, Cllr Keith Humphries, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr George Jeans, Cllr David Jenkins, Cllr Julian Johnson, Cllr Simon Killane, Cllr John Knight, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Alan Macrae, Cllr Howard Marshall, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Jemima Milton, Cllr Francis Morland, Cllr Bill Moss, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr John Noeken, Cllr Jeffrey Ody, Cllr Stephen Oldrieve, Cllr Helen Osborn, Cllr Jeff Osborn, Cllr Mark Packard, Cllr Sheila Parker, Cllr Graham Payne, Cllr Nina Phillips, Cllr Leo Randall, Cllr Fleur de Rhe-Philipe, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Judy Rooke, Cllr Jane Scott OBE, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr John Smale, Cllr Carole Soden, Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cllr Julie Swabey, Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Dick Tonge, Cllr Anthony Trotman, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Ian West, Cllr Fred Westmoreland, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Roy While, Cllr Christopher Williams and Cllr Graham Wright

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#### 134. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jane Burton, Rod Eaton, Steve Petty, Mark Griffiths, Tom James, Bill Douglas, Peter Davis, Paul Darby, William Roberts, Paul Sample.

#### 135. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Meeting held on 12 July 2011 were presented.

**Resolved:**

**That the minutes of the last Council meeting held on 12 July 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to one minor amendment at minute no. 119, which is to include the name of Cllr Julie Swabey in the list of those who tendered an apology.**

136. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Jonathan Seed declared a personal interest in Item no.17 – Parliamentary Boundary Review [Minute no.150], as he was a parliamentary agent.

137. **Announcements by the Chairman**

**Charter Status for Councillor Development**

The Chairman expressed his delight that Wiltshire Council had been awarded Charter Status for Councillor Development. The award recognised that the Council has achieved best practice in the way it provided learning and development opportunities for its councillors and was independently evaluated by South West Councils on behalf of the region. The accreditation lasts for three years.

On behalf of Council, the Chairman congratulated and thanked the five members of the Councillor Development group - Cllrs Allison Bucknell, Tony Deane, Rosemary Brown, Nigel Carter and Russell Hawker for their contributions. He also extended his congratulations to the officers working on Councillor Development – Marie Todd, Lynda Williams, Marie Gondlach and Rita Sanders. Councillors were reminded that the achievement would not be possible without those councillors who participated in the development programme and who recognised the importance of life-long learning.

Bryony Houlden, Chief Executive of South West Councils, formally presented the award to Cllr Allison Bucknell, representing the Council as Chairman of the Councillor Development Group.

**Royal Wootton Bassett**

The Chairman reported that he had been privileged to be a guest at the ceremony held in Wootton Bassett the previous month to mark the presentation of Letters Patent to the Town. Wootton Bassett was only the third Town in the Country to receive this prestigious award.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal made the presentation on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen and over 10,000 people were in the High Street to witness this historic event. The ceremony was also attended by the Prime Minister,

David Cameron, the new Secretary of State for Defence, Phil Hammond, and General Sir Peter Wall, Chief of the General Staff and professional Head of the Army. Royal British Legion and regimental standards were also displayed.

The Chairman gave a brief overview of the events that took place to mark such a historic day. On behalf of all Councillors the Chairman stated his belief that Royal Wootton Bassett richly deserved the recognition and admiration of the county and the nation.

In recognition of the award of Letters Patent, the Chairman proposed that the name of Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board be changed to Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board and this was agreed by Council.

### **Royal opening of Wellington Academy, Tidworth**

Councillors were updated on the opening of the Wellington Academy in Tidworth where His Royal Highness the Duke of York was in attendance in recognition of a royal link between Wellington College, the academy's sponsor, and the royal family stretching back to 1851.

His Royal Highness viewed the Sixth Form Centre, visited the art and food & nutrition departments, the sports hall and watched a short dance performance and musical solo in the theatre, engaging with students throughout. He concluded his visit by unveiling a commemorative plaque in the reception area where the whole school were assembled. He then presented 'the Duke of York award for outstanding achievement' to year 12 student, Claire Stevens.

### **Olympic Torch Relay Route**

Councillors were reminded that the Olympic Torch would be visiting Wiltshire next May and July in the lead up to the London Olympic Games. Sixteen Wiltshire towns and villages would be visited and the County would also host a lunchtime stop at Clarendon College in Trowbridge and an evening event at Hudson's Field in Salisbury.

Wiltshire residents, nominated for making a difference in their communities, would be the torch bearers carrying the flame. The Chairman welcomed the major, once in a lifetime opportunity to showcase what makes Wiltshire so special and unique to the worldwide media who would be covering the great event.

The Olympic Torch would visit Southwick, Trowbridge, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Calne, Marlborough, Wootton Bassett, Ludgershall, Tidworth, Amesbury, The Winterbournes, Salisbury, Wilton, Barford St Martin, Fovant and Ludwell.

## **'Jerusalem'**

Councillors were made aware of the great transatlantic success of a play based on the story of a Wiltshire man. The play 'Jerusalem' written by Jez Butterworth was originally performed at the Apollo theatre on Shaftesbury Avenue in London and stars Mark Rylance as Rooster Bryon. The character is based upon a Wiltshire man called 'Mickey Lay' who lived on the edge of Pewsey in a caravan. The meeting was told the news that Councillor Jerry Kunkler had made his stage appearance in a showing of the play in New York during a woodland scene and had also 'coached' some of the actors in the art of speaking 'Wiltshire'.

## **The late John Irving**

Cllr Jeff Osborn drew Council's attention to the recent and sad passing of former Wiltshire County Councillor, Mr John Irving who served local government and particularly the West Wiltshire area with distinction.

Tributes were made by a number of Councillors including the Leader of the Council, and councillors Ricky Rogers, Julian Johnson, Jeff Osborn and Christopher Newbury. Tributes focused on his gentle and thoughtful nature outside of politics and skills and eloquence in the political area, and also his advocacy and support for Trowbridge's Moroccan community.

There followed a minute's silence, as a mark of respect.

## 138. **Petitions Update**

The Chairman reported that nine petitions excluding those on regulatory matters, had been received since the last Council meeting, details of which were presented. The Chairman referred Council to three further petitions which had been received since publication of the agenda as follows:

- Street parking – Bower Gardens, Shady Bower, Salisbury - request for Double yellow Lines
- Objection to land North East of Roundway Park being approved for Development
- Objection to removal of disabled parking bays - Guildhall and Market Place Salisbury

Mrs Helen Farmer addressed Council on the petition concerning removal of disabled parking bays. She considered that removal of the bays would indirectly discriminate those who whilst having mobility issues did not have or wanted a blue badge which would make parking easier.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Chairman of Salisbury Area Board explained that a working group was looking at this particular issue at its meeting on 16 November 2011. Its findings would be reported to the Area Board for further consideration with a view to reaching a solution.

**Resolved:**

**That Council notes the petitions received and the actions taken as set out in the report and additional information presented.**

139. **Petitions Received**

(a) **Council Tax Payments via Paypoint**

With the Chairman's permission, Cllr Jon Hubbard presented a petition with 105 signatories from his constituents which called upon the Council to enable them to be able to pay their council tax by Pay Point at any shop with this facility. The petition stated that, at present, people were only able to pay at a pay zone point which only existed at the Post Office which they complained involved queues and delays and added journey.

To assist Council in its consideration of the petition, an officer's report was presented which gave helpful background to this issue. The report suggested that a complete review of payment methods be made which would take into account transaction costs, suitability, convenience and efficiencies. Cllr Hubbard welcomed this approach.

**Resolved:**

(a) **That the petition be received and noted.**

(b) **That the Cabinet member for Resources be requested to undertake a review of all aspects of payment to the Council.**

(b) **Felling of Trees, Salisbury**

With the Chairman's permission, Mrs Laura Bell presented a petition with a reported 11,485 signatories objecting to the felling of trees in Salisbury Market Place. Mrs Gruzelier member of West Dean Parish Council also voiced her support for the petition.

It was noted that the petition had previously been considered by Salisbury Area Board at its meeting on 15 September 2011 and again at an extraordinary meeting of the Area Board on 10 October 2011. The Area Board agreed to oversee the delivery of improving the Market Place while

the Salisbury Vision would focus on larger projects. The Area Board established a community working group comprising interested parties which would examine all the issues and help draw up proposals for the future of the Market Place.

Cllr Clewer, Chairman of Salisbury Area Board updated Council and explained that the Area Board was taking the views of petitioners very seriously and would be considering the matter further at its next meeting.

**Resolved:**

**Given that this matter was being adequately dealt with by Salisbury Area Board, the petition be received and noted and the action being taken by the Area Board also be noted.**

140. **Public Participation**

The Chairman acknowledged requests for public participation which would be dealt with under the respective items.

141. **Notices of Motion**

(a) **Notice of Motion No. 21 - Community Speedwatch**

The Chairman reported receipt of the following notice of motion from Cllrs Peter Colmer and Howard Marshall:

**“That Wiltshire Council support the extension of the Community Speed watch criteria that is currently restricted to 30 mph and 40 mph areas to include 20 mph speed limits and zones and will press the police authority to embrace this recommendation”.**

A report by the Service Director for Strategic Services was presented to assist Council in its consideration of this motion.

Once moved and seconded, Cllr Peter Colmer was invited to speak to the motion. Cllr Tonge, as Cabinet member for Highways and Transport on being invited to respond to the motion supported it. The Chairman moved that the motion be debated and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman and on being put to the vote, it was

**Resolved:**

**That notice of motion no. 21 be debated.**  
Following debate, it was

**Resolved:**

**That motion no. 21 be adopted as submitted as follows:**

**That Wiltshire Council support the extension of the Community Speed watch criteria that is currently restricted to 30 mph and 40 mph areas to include 20 mph speed limits and zones and will press the police authority to embrace this recommendation.**

(b) **Notice of Motion No. 22 - South Wiltshire Core Strategy - Old Sarum Airfield Core Policy 9 (1)**

Public Participation

Mr Ron Champion, Chairman of Laverstock and Ford Parish Council addressed Council on this motion voicing his support for it.

The Chairman reported receipt of the following notice of motion from Cllrs Ian McLennan and Ricky Rogers:

**“Members note that the Inspector has removed our amendment from Annex 1, in which we sought to remove the proposed development site at the southern end of the Airfield, in close proximity to Ford. We also note the Inspector’s comment, *“If the Council were to decide that development in this area was acceptable then it would do so under the terms of Core Policy 9”*. We wish to reaffirm our democratic decision that development of the southern site is unacceptable.”**

On being moved and seconded, Cllr McLennan spoke on his motion. At the Chairman’s invitation, Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philipe, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Strategic Planning responded to the motion. She explained that whilst she understood the sentiment behind the motion, the South Wiltshire Core Strategy had to be considered in its entirety and it would be risky to try and introduce minor amendments to it at this stage.

The Chairman moved that the motion be debated and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman. On being put to the vote, it was

**Resolved:**

**That notice of motion no.22 be debated.**

A debate ensued on the motion and the South Wiltshire Core Strategy in general during which Cllr McLennan voiced his concerns over the impact the Core Strategy would have on the Laverstock and Ford areas in particular.

Attention was drawn by several Councillors to the length of the process that

led to the South Wiltshire Core Strategy and possibility that the adoption of the motion would place the South Wiltshire Core Strategy in jeopardy, leading to a planning policy vacuum in South Wiltshire.

Cllr McLennan re-iterated his view that a vote in support of the motion would re-affirm the Council's democratic will on the site.

On being put to the vote, the motion was LOST and it was

**Resolved:**

**That notice of motion no. 22 be not adopted.**

The above decision was the subject of a recorded vote and recorded as follows:

For the notice of motion (25)

Cllrs Desna Allen, Rosemary Brown, Trevor Carbin, Chris Caswill, Ernie Clark, Peter Colmer, Brian Dalton, Peggy Dow, John Fogg, Malcolm Hewson, Jon Hubbard, George Jeans, David Jenkins, Simon Killane, John Knight, Howard Marshall, Ian McLennan, Steve Oldrieve, Helen Osborn, Jeff Osborn, Mark Packard, Ricky Rogers, Judy Rooke, Ian West and Graham Wright.

Against the notice of motion (49)

Cllrs Richard Beattie, Chuck Berry, John Brady, Liz Bryant, Allison Bucknell, Nigel Carter, Richard Clewer, Linda Conley, Mark Connolly, Christine Crisp, Mike Cuthbert-Murray, Andrew Davis, Fleur de Rhe-Philippe, Tony Deane, Peter Doyle, Peter Fuller, Richard Gamble, Howard Greenman, Mollie Groom, Lionel Grundy, Robert Hall, Russell Hawker, Mike Hewitt, Alan Hill, Charles Howard, Chris Humphries, Keith Humphries, Peter Hutton, Julian Johnson, Jerry Kunkler, Jacqui Lay, Alan Macrae, Laura Mayes, Jemima Milton, Sheila Parker, Graham Payne, Jane Scott, Jonathon Seed, John Smale, Carole Soden, Toby Sturgis, Julie Swabey, John Thomson, Dick Tonge, Bridget Wayman, Fred Westmoreland, Stuart Wheeler, Roy While and Chris Williams.

Abstentions (14)

Cllrs Richard Britton, Christopher Cochrane, Chris Devine, Mary Douglas, Jose Green, Bill Moss, Francis Morland, Christopher Newbury, John Noeken, Jeff Ody, Nina Philips, Leo Randall, Pip Ridout, and Tony Trotman.

(c) **Notice of Motion No. 23 - South Wiltshire Core Strategy - Old Sarum**



## **Airfield - Core Policy 9 (2)**

### **Public Participation**

Mr Ron Champion, Chairman of Laverstock and Ford Parish Council addressed Council on this motion expressing the views of the Parish Council.

The Chairman reported receipt of the following notice of motion from Cllrs Ian McLennan and Ricky Rogers:

**“Members note the suggestion by the Inspector, that the historic WW1 runway could be re-sited in conjunction with other development proposals. However, after 100 years of aviation, we choose to leave the existing runway in place.”**

Having been moved and seconded, the Chairman invited Cllr McLennan to speak to his motion.

The Chairman moved that the motion be debated and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman and on being put to the vote, it was

#### **Resolved:**

**That notice of motion no.23 be debated.**

Councillors agreed with the view that the airfield given its history, should be protected. The Leader suggested that officers could be requested to explore the possibility of having the airfield listed to ensure its protection rather than trying to do this through the South Wiltshire Core Strategy and this approach was supported by other Councillors.

Cllrs McLennan and Rogers withdrew the motion in light of such a suggestion.

The Leader moved her suggestion as a formal process and having been seconded and put to the vote, it was

#### **Resolved:**

- (a) To note withdrawal of motion no. 23.**
- (b) At the Leader’s request and noting Councillors’ concerns, to ask officers as a matter of urgency, to investigate how the Council can seek to protect Sarum Airfield by having it listed.**

(d) **Notice of Motion No. 24 - South Wiltshire Core Strategy - Proposed extension at Hampton Park, Laverstock & Ford Parish**

Public Participation

Mr Ron Champion, Chairman of Laverstock and Ford Parish Council addressed Council on this motion voicing his support for it.

The Chairman reported receipt of the following notice of motion from Cllrs Ian McLennan and Ricky Rogers:

**“Members note the Inspectors deletion of Con/45, our requirement to retain a significant strategic gap between Ford and Hampton Park and the setting up of a community forum. We reaffirm the democratic vote of this council to impose Con/45 and restate our intention to establish a significant strategic gap and to set up the local community forum, as stated.”**

Having been moved and seconded, Councillor McLennan was invited to speak to his motion. Cllr McLennan maintained it was vitally important to reinstate this section of the South Wiltshire Core Strategy in accordance with the decision made by this Council.

The Chairman moved that the motion be debated and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman and on being put to the vote, it was

**Resolved:**

**That notice of motion no.24 be debated.**

The Chairman called on Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philipe, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Strategic Planning to open the debate before inviting Group Leaders to contribute and thereafter opening the debate to other Councillors.

Cllr de Rhé-Philipe responded to the motion.

On being put to the vote, the motion was LOST and it was therefore

**Resolved:**

**That motion no. 24 be NOT adopted.**

(e) **Notice of Motion No. 25 - The Future of Local Planning**

The Chairman reported receipt of the following notice of motion from Cllrs Chris Caswill and Simon Killane:

**“Council welcomes implications for Wiltshire residents of the stated objectives of the proposed changes to local planning, as set out in the Localism Bill, the draft National Policy planning Framework (NPPF) and the proposals for neighbourhood planning. In particular Wiltshire will benefit from greater involvement of local communities in shaping the future of their places where they live. However Council has concerns about aspects of the proposals which would affect Wiltshire residents and resolves to express these to government, Wiltshire MPs and relevant legislative bodies.**

- 1. As a planning authority, Council asks that the Localism Bill be amended to remove the clause which would make payments offered by prospective developers a material consideration in planning decisions. Clarification is also needed in the Bill and the other proposals that the aim is ‘*sustainable development*’, (to include specifically environmental and social criteria), and not only ‘*sustainable economic growth*’.**
- 2. Council shares the widely expressed concerns about the presumption in favour of development which is currently highlighted in the Localism Bill and the NPPF, and the simplistic assertion that in future the answer to development proposals is ‘yes’. It believes this will not provide the necessary protection to local people and the Wiltshire countryside, and will ask that this is amended in the legislation and regulations to provide a more balanced planning framework, consistent with the aim of giving communities a genuinely enhanced say in planning decisions.**
- 3. Given the timing of Wiltshire planning policy development, Council is particularly concerned that any presumption of development generally being allowed where plans are “*absent, silent, indeterminate or ... out of date*” should not apply immediately on approval of the NPPF, but be phased in over time. A managed transition phase is essential.**
- 4. Whilst Council welcomes the objective of enhanced community involvement through neighbourhood plans, and the flexibility proposed in the draft regulations, the proposals need to be amended to allow some opportunities for communities to reshape or in some circumstances reject proposals for new development, alongside the ‘Community Right to Build’ and ability to decide on details. Without this power, Wiltshire communities will be understandably skeptical about the opportunities for local involvement.**

5. **Council is also concerned about the absence of any definition of the ‘qualifying bodies’ who can initiate neighbourhood plans, and about the proposals for ‘Community Right to Build’ orders, which together appear to allow developers and organizations other than Wiltshire residents, town and parish councils opportunities to determine local planning outcomes. Council will respond accordingly to the current consultation on these issues.**
6. **Looking to the future, and in the interests of transparency, Council takes this opportunity to state its intention that decisions on neighbourhood plans in Wiltshire will be taken in full Council, to give members and the public the maximum opportunity for understanding and engagement.”**

Having been moved and seconded, the Chairman invited Cllr Caswill to speak to his motion. He explained that the motion sought to identify a number of issues where the Council needed to give a statement of its position. At the Chairman’s invitation, Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philippe responded to the motion. She explained that it would be difficult for the Council to commit itself at the moment given much of the localism legislation concerning planning was subject to impending regulations. She also explained that as previously agreed by Council, the Focus Group on the Review of the Constitution would review the constitution in light of the localism legislation.

The Chairman moved that the motion be debated and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman and on being put to the vote, it was

**Resolved:**

**That notice of motion no.25 be debated.**

The Leader emphasised the need for the Council to have strong and robust strategies in place to protect the County from unwanted development. Following debate, the motion was put to the vote and LOST and it was therefore

**Resolved:**

**That motion no. 25 be NOT adopted**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**At this point, the meeting adjourned for lunch at 1.20pm and then reconvened at 2.05pm.**

- (f) **Notice of Motion No. 26 - Empty Homes in Wiltshire**

The Chairman reported receipt of the following notice of motion from Cllrs Howard Marshall and Brian Dalton as follows:

1. "That this Council recognises the acute demand for housing in Wiltshire, given the 16,245 persons on the waiting list for social housing, as well as the need for growth and development.
2. Council recognises that of the 16,245 applicants seeking social housing in Wiltshire, 4,022 are currently identified as Gold or Platinum banding applicants, who are in urgent need of housing or re-housing due to threats of violence, urgent medical needs, severe overcrowding, and other similar problems.
3. Council further acknowledges that the cost of providing emergency accommodation can be disproportionate to the cost of providing good-quality social housing. (FOI request has been submitted, more info on costs soon).
4. Council regrets that there are currently in excess of 5,000 empty homes in Wiltshire, of which 1,751 are long term empty homes, and calls on the executive to prioritise the appointment of an empty homes officer. Council recognises the cost of making an empty home habitable is usually significantly less than building a new home from scratch.
5. Council recognises that neighbouring local authorities have had success with Empty Homes Officers, including Bristol City Council, which has brought over 250 long term empty homes back to the market in the last 6 months, compared to Wiltshire's 79 homes brought back to market in the last year.
6. Council therefore calls for the immediate appointment of an Empty Homes Officer, for which funding has already been allocated, to ensure that unused houses are brought back into the market as soon as possible."

Having been moved and seconded, Councillor Marshall was invited to speak to his motion.

The Chairman moved that the motion be debated and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman and on being put to the vote, it was

**Resolved:**

**That notice of motion no.26 be debated**

At the Chairman's invitation, Cllr John Thomson, Cabinet member for

Adult Care, Communities and Housing responded to the motion during which he proposed an alternative motion as an amendment, details of which were displayed on screen at the meeting. Having considered the amendment, Cllrs Marshall and Dalton, movers of the original motion, agreed to accept the amendment. A discussion then ensued on the motion as amended. Following debate, the amended motion was put to the vote and CARRIED and it was therefore

**Resolved:**

**That motion no.26 be adopted as amended as follows:**

- 1. That this Council along with most councils recognises that there is high demand for housing in Wiltshire and that is why this is a priority in the Council's Business Plan and why it maintains a housing register on which there are currently 16,445 applicants of which 9145 are regarded and classified as being in housing need.**
- 2. Council recognises that of the 16,445 applicants seeking social housing in Wiltshire, 4,022 are currently identified as Gold or Platinum banding applicants, the largest banding of which is Gold that includes people with insecurity of tenure (people under notice from current landlord), people of no fixed abode, people with high support needs and people lacking two or more bedrooms.**
- 3. Council acknowledges that the cost of providing emergency accommodation can be disproportionate to the cost of providing good-quality social housing. The Council recognises that it has an excellent record in reducing costs having effectively eliminated the use of Bed and Breakfast for homelessness since May 2009, greatly reduced the use of private sector temporary housing and cut the homelessness hostel accommodation by half over the last two years. This has been achieved through the effective use of other housing options to avoid homelessness including the key tool of the "Wilts let" rental bond scheme that provides for homeless households to access private sector lets that in some cases will bring empty homes back into use.**
- 4. Council acknowledges that there are currently a total of 5,446 empty homes in Wiltshire, which is a reduction from the previous year and equates to around 2.7% of our total stock which is significantly better than the national average of 4.1%. However the Council recognises that the overwhelming majority of these homes are short term empty homes that**

could be empty for as little as a couple of days, and therefore the main focus is on long term empty homes that are empty for 6 months plus. The Council therefore endorses the current approach to empty homes which includes the channelling of funding into the setting up of a lettings agency that will have a very practical and direct impact on the number of long term empty homes and a review of the need for recruitment to the post of Empty Homes Officer.

5. Council recognises that neighbouring local authorities may have had success with Empty Homes Officers, including Bristol City Council but notes that Wiltshire contains the second highest number of homes of any council in the South West, 198,963 (ONS Mar 2009) and this is followed by Bristol with 183,843 (ONS Mar 2009). The Council notes that Wiltshire has fewer long term empty homes than Bristol, 0.85% as compared to Bristol's 1.03% and that past work on empty homes has put Wiltshire in a slightly better position than Bristol.
6. Council therefore welcomes the action being taken to minimise the numbers of empty homes and notes that these compare well with the national and regional averages and performance with other large authorities but asks the Deputy Leader to investigate all options for ensuring that unused houses continue to be brought back into the market as soon as possible, by utilising the funding already allocated including:
  - i. Developing a lettings agency that can bring private sector homes back into use by making them available to homeless people and others from Homes 4 Wiltshire
  - ii. Exploring the financial incentives that can be made available to landlords who are prepared to bring back into use a home that can be committed to a housing applicant for a specified number of years
  - iii. Conducting a review of the priorities for the post of Empty Homes Officer and an appointment will be made by the end of November 2011.

(g) **Notice of Motion No. 27 - Rail Franchise**

Public Participation

Mr Nick Watts addressed Council on this motion voicing his support for it.

The Chairman reported receipt of the following notice of motion from Cllrs Jon Hubbard and Howard Marshall:

1. "Council notes that discussions are beginning on a new rail franchise affecting Wiltshire, including a future stakeholder consultation on the exact nature of the franchise, and meetings with short-listed franchise bidders in 2012.
2. Council notes the encouragement of Theresa Villiers MP, Minister of State for Transport, that Wiltshire Council "discuss the potential for a Corsham station and a new Oxford-Bristol service with all bidders for the franchise".
3. Council recognises this as a unique opportunity to promote and improve the rail network in and through Wiltshire.
4. Council encourages the creation of a Rail Task Group to consult on the specific demands Wiltshire should make of this new franchise.

Having been moved and seconded, Councillor Hubbard was invited to speak to his motion. Cllr Hubbard explained the background to the principle of his motion. He further explained that since the submission of the above motion, he had had constructive consultation with Cllr Richard Gamble, Portfolio Holder for Public Transport which had resulted in an amended motion being submitted as presented at the meeting.

The Chairman moved that the motion as amended be debated and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman and on being put to the vote, it was

**Resolved:**

**That the revised notice of motion no.27 be debated**

A debate ensued during which Cllr Richard Gamble updated Council on the position regarding train services in Wiltshire, details of which it was agreed would be circulated to Councillors. On being put to the vote, the motion as amended was CARRIED and it was therefore

**Resolved:**

**That notice of motion no.27 be adopted as follows:**

1. **Council encourages the administration to play a full part in working with all partner organisations to promote the benefits of improved rail services in the county:**
  - **submissions to the rail industry's Initial Industry Plan for 2014-2019**
  - **participation in any consultative exercises for improving passenger and freight services**



2. **Council welcomes the opportunities presented by:**
  - the electrification of the Great Western mainline
  - the re-letting of the Greater Western Franchise
  - the development of a bid to the Government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund to improve Wiltshire's rail offer.
3. **Council recognises the potential for a significantly improved rail offer in Wiltshire. For example:**
  - the Trans Wilts Line
  - an Oxford to Bristol route, giving opportunity for Stations serving Corsham and Royal Wootton Bassett
4. **Council encourages the creation of a Rail Task Group to continue to explore the opportunities of rail transport in the county.**

142. **Councillors' Questions**

The Chairman remarked on the sheer volume of questions received for this meeting which had significantly increased from previous meetings. He questioned if this was a good use of a Council meeting. He reminded Councillors that they could of course arrange to obtain information requested outside of a meeting. The Chairman gave notice that he would be asking the Focus Group on the Review of the Constitution to review this aspect of the Constitution.

The Chairman reported receipt of questions from Councillors Ernie Clark, Nigel Carter, Jeff Osborn, Helen Osborn, Michael Cuthbert-Murray, Brian Dalton, Ian West, Howard Marshall, Jon Hubbard and Trevor Carbin details of which were circulated and attached as an appendix to these minutes together with the responses given.

Questioners agreed to take their questions as read and were given an opportunity to ask a relevant supplementary question to which the relevant Cabinet member responded.

143. **Minutes of Cabinet and Committees**

The Chairman moved that Council receive and note the under mentioned minutes as listed in the separate Minutes Book and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman.

Meeting

Date

Cabinet	26 July, 19 August, 13 September, 6 & 18 October 2011
Cabinet Capital Assets Committee	26 July, 14 September 2011
Overview and Scrutiny Organisation and Resources Select Committee	14 July, 15 September 2011
Children's Services Select Committee	22 July, 27 September 2011
Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee	7 July, 6 October 2011
Environment Select Committee	21 July, 6 September 2011
Licensing Committee	7 September 2011
Northern Area Planning Committee	13 July, 3 August, 5 October 2011
Eastern Area Planning Committee	14 July, 4 & 25 August
Southern Area Planning Committee	7 & 28 July, 18 August, 8 & 29 September, 20 October 2011
Western Area Planning Committee	6 July, 17 August, 7 & 28 September, 19 October 2011
Strategic Planning Committee	31 August, 28 September 2011
Standards Committee	20 July, 21 September 2011
Audit Committee	28 September 2011
Officer Appointment Committee	14 July, 31 October, 1 November 2011
Staffing Policy Committee	20 July, 21 September 2011
Wiltshire Pension Fund	22 July, 29 September 2011

The Chairman then invited questions from Councillors on points of information or clarification on the above mentioned minutes and gave the Chairmen of those meetings the opportunity to make any important announcements on the work of their respective committees.

Organisation and Resource Select Committee – 14 July 2011  
Minute no. 176 – Benefit Service Inspection

Cllr Ricky Rogers asked whether any progress had been made on ensuring a joined up approach between Revenue, Benefits and Housing in order to deal with concerns which had been raised. Cllr Jeff Osborn explained that there was ongoing work in this area particularly with regards the Council's own housing stock and that implementation of new software would assist. He further added that further detailed work was required in this area which was difficult to undertake given that the scrutiny area was currently short staffed.

Organisation and Resources Select Committee – 15 September 2011  
Minute no. 195 – Task Group Update

Cllr Jeff Osborn, Chairman of the above Committee updated Council on the work of the S.106 Task Group. He explained that a print out of outstanding S.106 commitments for each Area Board area was now available and encouraged local members to provide input to validate the list for their respective areas. This had been achieved following a considerable amount of hard work by the Task Group and said the exercise had been a good example of scrutiny work. Cllr Tony Trotman, Chairman of the Task Group explained that a full report on this would be presented to the next meeting of the relevant Scrutiny Select Committee. Cllr Chris Williams, Portfolio Holder for Communities assured Council that he would raise the matter at the meeting of Area Board chairmen.

Licensing Committee – 7 September 2011  
Minute no. 20.3 – Protocol for informing local members on Licensing Act applications

Cllr Jonathon Seed, Chairman of the Licensing Committee drew Councillors' attention of the above mentioned protocol.

Southern Area Planning Committee

Cllr Fred Westmoreland informed Council that the meeting scheduled for 10 November 2011 had been cancelled.

Western Area Planning Committee

Cllr Jon Hubbard enquired as to whether an application for a swingers' club had gone through the appropriate planning channels. Cllr Peter Fuller, Chairman of Western Area Planning Committee confirmed that he was not aware of any such application.

144. **Countywide Analysis of the Impact of Car Parking Charges**

Public Participation

Mr Mike Williams, Wessex Association of Chambers of Commerce addressed Council with a copy of his statement having been previously circulated.

Council had previously agreed its Car Parking Strategy as part of the Local Transport Plan. Since then, a number of representations had been received suggesting that new parking charges were having a detrimental impact on the retail sector and therefore the economic viability of town centres.

Cllr Tonge, Cabinet member for Highways and Transport presented the report previously considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 18 October 2011. It was noted that the report had been updated for the purposes of this Council meeting to provide further requested information and updated data.

The report provided information to enable Council to consider a Countywide analysis of the economic, social and environmental impacts of the current car parking charges.

The key conclusions of the report were as follows:

- (i) The findings of wider research were that it is what a town or City had to offer that was the primary factor affecting economic health and not parking charges.
- (ii) Parking ticket sales were already in decline before the introduction of the new parking charges in April 2011. Neighbouring local authorities were also reporting a decline in car park usage and/or an income shortfall.
- (iii) A large number of local authorities had either brought in increased parking charges or were considering such a move. A few had reduced their charges with limited and mixed results.
- (iv) National economic evidence showed that Britain was currently suffering from a period of slow growth, low consumer confidence and squeezed household disposable incomes. The rise of out-of-town shopping centres, large chain stores, supermarkets and the internet had also significantly impacted on the UK's high street.
- (v) There were signs that some of Wiltshire's towns were bucking the national trend.
- (vi) Parking charges provided essential Council income to support other services such as local buses and, as a demand management measure, could help the Council and its partners meet CO<sub>2</sub> and air quality targets.

Overall, it was considered that if parking charges were broadly appropriate, then the main factors affecting market towns were:

- wider economic factors (e.g. consumer confidence);
- societal trends (e.g. supermarket and internet shopping); and
- the actual offer a town makes.

The first of these factors was largely international in its origin and scope. The second was largely national. The third was local and is being addressed by the Council in the county's largest towns through the Vision programmes.

The Environment Select Committee had considered the report at its meeting on 1 November 2011 and resolved as follows:

- 1) to thank the Cabinet member for the opportunity to contribute to the Car Parking review;
- 2) to recognise the current economic climate and the challenges it presents the Wiltshire public and its business sector and
- 3) to recognise that due to the legislative process any immediate policy changes on car parking pricing will impact on the 2012/2013 budget; and in response to ask the Cabinet member to inform Council on the service implications of the current (2011/12) shortfall on the Car Parking budget.

Questions provided in advance from Cllr David Jenkins were circulated together with responses from Cllr Tonge.

Cllr Tonge moved a number of proposals which were duly seconded, details of which were displayed at the meeting. A debate ensued during which the following points were made:

- Increase in parking charges had a direct bearing on the viability of traders and therefore town centres
- Parking charges should be reduced given the current economic climate and to show support for struggling retailers
- Parking charges were damaging high streets
- People had changed their shopping habits as a result of increased parking charges
- Impact of increased charges had resulted in empty parking spaces impacting on the Council's revenue position
- Should encourage public to use the County's towns rather than shopping outside the County
- There was increased usage of some non-charging car parks
- Some towns had been affected disproportionately
- Increased bus usage and therefore improvement in air quality
- Footfall in central Salisbury had increased despite increase in car parking charges
- Impact on trade was largely as a result of the economic climate
- Reductions in car parking usage was attributable to increased costs of running a car, eg fuel prices and general increase in cost of living resulting in people shopping more carefully
- Car parks should be renamed to better represent their location

Exception was taken to a section of the report presented which could give the impression that it advocated it was cheaper to buy online. Cllr Tonge explained that reference to 'secure best prices' when referring to internet shopping referred to the ability to shop around and identify where best prices could be secured.

The following amendment was moved by Cllr Desna Allen and seconded by Cllr Howard Marshall:

'That the Band 3 Market Towns have the first half hour free of charge'.

Cllr Tonge responded that he wanted to encourage the public to spend time in towns rather than going into them for very short trips. The Leader also voiced caution over such an amendment and sought clarification on how such a proposal would be funded.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST.

Following debate, the original motion with a further slight amendment was put to the vote and CARRIED and it was therefore

**Resolved:**

- a) **That there are no increases to on and off street parking charges until 2014 at the earliest.**
- b) **That the one hour charge in Salisbury be reduced by 10p except in the Market Place. That the one hour charge in Chippenham and Trowbridge be reduced by 10p.**
- c) **That the prices of standard season tickets and off street residents' permits be reduced in the order of 20% and that a marketing plan is implemented to promote sales. That the details of the prices are agreed by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport by way of the delegated decision following consultation with the appropriate Corporate Director. That liftshare is marketed to encourage less car usage.**
- d) **That no changes are made to the Salisbury Sunday charge and that officers investigate further with the ticket machine supplier to establish if there is a way to change bank holiday charges in a cost effective way.**
- e) **That in response to the other proposals made by the Salisbury Trade Associations no further changes are made to car parking prices in Salisbury and that officers work closely with the City to market Salisbury, particularly Park and Ride.**

- f) **That the previously approved Car Parking Strategy as included in the LTP 2011-26 adopted by Council on 22 February 2011 be amended to reflect the above changes together with other changes that have been made by Cabinet and Council since it was approved.**

145. **Capital Programme**

Cllr John Brady, Cabinet member for Finance, Performance and Risk presented Cabinet's recommendation dated 18 October 2011 to approve changes to the previously approved Capital Programme. The report previously considered by Cabinet was presented as background information.

**Resolved:**

**That Council approves changes to the 2011/12 Capital Programme as follows:**

- (a) **Approval of an additional £8.295m to the Transformation Programme;**
- (b) **Cabinet Capital Assets Committee's (CCAC) decision to redevelop Middlefields/Hungerdown lane site for a new care home and extra care housing: The capital receipt that was factored into the capital programme be recouped from the sale of a section of the Middlefields/Hungerdown site, Seymour House, Chippenham and the sale of the Paddocks, Trowbridge and Coombe End Court, Marlborough sites as agreed by CCAC at its meeting on 14 September 2011 and**
- (c) **Approve the provision of up to £0.375 million of capital funding in respect of the Wiltshire Incubation Environment Network.**

146. **Annual Report on Treasury Management 2010-11**

Cllr John Brady, Cabinet member for Finance, Performance and Risk presented the Annual Report on Treasury Management for the period 2010/11 for Council's consideration and approval.

Cllr Brady confirmed that following the successful outcome of the test case in the Supreme Court, it was hopeful that the Council would retrieve approximately 98% of its original investment. Cllr Brady undertook to provide information on the Icelandic banking judgement to include information on exactly how much would be returned, the timescale for it being returned and the work undertaken to secure it.

**Resolved:**

**That Council notes:**

- a) **the actual cash position at the end of 2010/11 against the original forecast for the year;**
- b) **Prls, Trls and other treasury management strategies set for 2010/11 against actual positions resulting from actions within the year as detailed in Appendix A of the report presented; and**
- c) **Investments during the year in the context of the Annual Investment Strategy as detailed in Appendix B of the report presented.**

147. **Consent Street Trading Scheme**

Cllr Jonathon Seed, Chairman of the Licensing Committee presented a report which recommended that the Council adopts Schedule 4 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, allowing it to control street trading within the Council's area. The report also recommended Council to authorise the commencement of the process for designating all streets in the Wiltshire Council area as Consent Streets and to adopt the revised Consent Street Trading Scheme, details of which were presented.

Cllr Seed explained the Consent Street Trading Scheme being presented followed detailed work by the Licensing Committee. He paid tribute to the careful work undertaken by both members and officers of the Licensing Committee and cited it as a good example of cross party working.

**Resolved:**

- a) **That Schedule 4 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 shall apply to the whole of the Council's area with immediate effect;**
- b) **To authorise the commencement of the process to designate all streets within the Wiltshire Council area as Consent Streets by giving notice of its intention to pass a resolution to that effect and**
- c) **To adopt the revised Street Trading Scheme as presented.**

148. **Wiltshire Police Authority**



The report and minutes of the Wiltshire Police Authority meetings held on 16 June and 22 September 2011 were received and noted. No questions had been received on these documents from Councillors.

149. **Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority**

The minutes of the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority meeting held on 22 September 2011 were received and noted. No questions had been received from Councillors on these minutes.

150. **Parliamentary Boundary Review**

Declaration of interest

Cllr Jonathon Seed declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of his being a parliamentary agent.

Cllr Tony Deane, Chairman of the Working Party on the Parliamentary Boundary Review presented a report on such a review. The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) had published its initial proposals for new Parliamentary constituencies and was consulting on the proposals until 5 December 2011. Accordingly, Council's views were sought on the proposals being put forward for the Council's administrative area.

Council at its meeting on 17 May 2011 established a Working Party to consider the initial proposals and to prepare a response for consideration by Council. The Working Party had since met on three occasions, the notes from which were presented as background information.

The Working Party at its meeting on 18 October 2011 agreed to recommend a motion to this Council meeting, details of which were presented. All Councillors were given the opportunity to submit any revised proposals for consideration by the Working Party on 24 October 2011 prior to its recommendations to this Council meeting. In response to this, revised proposals were submitted in respect of the Lavingtons and Erlestoke division with the Devizes constituency and for the Till and Wylde division within the Salisbury constituency. However, neither proposal was agreed by the Working Party who also confirmed the draft recommendations now presented and moved by Cllr Deane and duly seconded as follows:

- a) That the Division of Lyneham reverts to the proposed Chippenham Constituency.
- b) That the Council accepts with reluctance the proposals for the Corsham local government Divisions to be split between two Constituencies and the resultant split of both Town Council and Community Area boundaries.
- c) That the following constituencies be re-named:-

- I. the Chippenham Constituency be re-named North Wiltshire; and
- II. the Trowbridge Constituency be re-named West Wiltshire.

During the course of debate, the following amendment was proposed by Cllr Ian West and seconded by Cllr Jon Hubbard:

To add:

- d) 'That the Till and Wylve Valley division move to the Salisbury constituency and the Tisbury division move to the Warminster and Shaftesbury constituency.'

On being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST.

A further amendment was moved by Cllr Jeff Osborn and seconded by Cllr Helen Osborn to delete c) ii from the motion. On being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST.

A further amendment was moved by Cllr Chris Caswill and seconded by Cllr Bill Douglas to amend c) i from the motion to read as follows:

- c) 'the Chippenham Constituency be re-named Chippenham and North Wiltshire'

On being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST.

The Leader thanked the Working Party for all its hard work undertaken in a relatively short space of time.

The original motion was then put to the vote and CARRIED and it was therefore

**Resolved:**

- a) **That the Division of Lyneham reverts to the proposed Chippenham Constituency.**
- b) **That the Council accepts with reluctance the proposals for the Corsham local government Divisions to be split between two Constituencies and the resultant split of both Town Council and Community Area boundaries.**
- c) **That the following constituencies be re-named:-**
  - i. **the Chippenham Constituency be re-named North Wiltshire; and**
  - ii. **the Trowbridge Constituency be re-named West Wiltshire.**

The following Councillors requested that their votes against the above decisions be recorded:

Cllrs Jeff Osborn, Chris Caswill, Ian West, Ricky Rogers, Desna Allen, Steve Oldrieve, John Knight and Helen Osborn.

Cllr Richard Gamble requested his abstention from voting be recorded.

151. **Membership of Committees**

The Chairman gave Group Leaders an opportunity to make any necessary changes to committee membership in accordance with the allocation of seats to political groups previously approved by the Council.

Cllr Jon Hubbard as leader of the Liberal Democrat group requested approval of the following changes:

**Heath & Adult Social Care**

Cllr Jeff Osborn – appointed as full member

Cllr Peter Colmer – removed as full member

Cllr Peter Colmer – appointed as substitute member

Cllr Jeff Osborn – removed as substitute member

**Strategic Planning Committee**

Cllr John Knight – appointed as full member

Cllr Graham Wright – removed as full member

Cllr Trevor Carbin – appointed as substitute member

Cllr John Knight – removed as substitute member

**Officer Appointments Committee**

Cllr Brian Dalton – appointed as substitute member

Cllr Peter Colmer – removed as substitute member

**Western Area Planning Committee**

Cllr Jeff Osborn – appointed as substitute member

Cllr Helen Osborn – removed as substitute member

Cllr Christopher Newbury as leader of the Independent group requested approval of the following change:

**Licensing Committee**

Cllr Ernie Clark – appointed as substitute member

**Resolved:**

**That the above membership changes be approved.**

152. **Date of Council Meeting**

The Chairman advised that Council had previously agreed at its meeting on 12 July 2011 to postpone the date of the Council budget setting meeting from 21 February to 28 February to allow more time for the collection of precept information. Councillors were advised to retain the original date of 21 February in their diaries should it be required for an additional meeting of Council.

An additional meeting of Council would now be required and it was proposed that this should be brought forward from 21 February to 7 February. This would result in one meeting on 7 February to deal with the Wiltshire and South Wiltshire Core Strategies in particular and one meeting on 28 February 2012 to set the Budget.

**Resolved:**

**That an Extraordinary meeting of Council be held on 7 February 2012.**

153. **Senior Management Restructure - Consequential Matters**

Cllr John Noeken, Cabinet member for Resources presented a report which invited Council to consider various consequential matters arising from Cabinet's decision dated 6 October 2011 to make changes to the senior management structure of the Council.

The revised structure as approved by Cabinet involved the deletion of the post of Chief Executive and one of the four Corporate Directors.

The Senior Officers' Employment Sub-Committee which met on 2 November 2011 recommended the dismissal of the Chief Executive, Mr Andrew Kerr on the grounds of redundancy. The minutes of the Sub-Committee were presented to Council. It was noted that a decision to dismiss the Head of Paid Service, namely Mr Kerr, was subject to confirmation by Council.

The Officer Appointments Committee met on 31 October and 1 November 2011 to consider appointments to the three remaining Corporate Director posts which resulted in the appointment of Dr Carlton Brand, Carolyn Godfrey and Sue Redmond. The Senior Officers' Employment Sub-Committee was scheduled to meet on 25 November 2011 (subsequently rescheduled to 2 December 2011) to consider the dismissal of the remaining Corporate Director on the grounds of redundancy. It was noted that Maggie Rae, Joint Director of Public Health and Wellbeing was not affected by these proposals.

The Council had a statutory duty to designate one of its officers as the Head of Paid Service. It was recommended that the Service Director for Human Resources and Organisational Development be designated Head of Paid

Service as his duties were most closely aligned with the duties of Head of Paid Service particularly in relation to the appointment and management of the Council's staff. Cllr Noeken guided Council through the proposals before it.

**Resolved:**

- a) **To confirm the decision of the Senior Officer's Employment Sub-Committee regarding the termination of the Chief Executive's employment on the grounds of redundancy (Mr Andrew Kerr).**

(Cllrs Jon Hubbard and Howard Marshall requested that their votes against the above decision be recorded)

- b) **To designate the statutory function of head of paid service to the Service Director, Human Resources and Organisational Development and to amend the constitution accordingly.**
- c) **To appoint Dr Carlton Brand, Corporate Director to the statutory role of Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer for local authority and local elections from a date to be confirmed.**
- d) **To approve the appointment of the Solicitor to the Council as the Clerk of the Lieutenancy, subject to the agreement of the Lord-Lieutenant.**
- e) **To adopt Part 3B of the Council's constitution as amended in Appendix C with effect from a date to be agreed by the Monitoring Officer.**
- f) **To agree that Dr Carlton Brand, Corporate Director, acts as the liaison officer for the political groups and to amend the constitution accordingly.**
- g) **To request the Standards Committee through its Focus Group on the Review of the Constitution to review the constitution in light of the senior management restructuring and recommend any necessary changes to Council.**

154. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**Resolved:**

**That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting for the business specified in Item Number 155 below because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act and the public**

**interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.**

155. **Senior Management Restructure - Consequential Matters**

Cllr John Noeken, Cabinet member for Resources presented confidential details of the terms of redundancy in relation to the item at minute no. 153 above in respect of Mr Andrew Kerr. This was to allow Council to arrive at a decision on his termination of employment on the grounds of redundancy with full knowledge of the terms that would be applied.

The Solicitor to the Council reported that the Council's external auditors, KPMG, had been consulted and had noted that these were in line with the Council's policy.

**Resolved:**

**That Council accepts the terms of redundancy as presented.**

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 am - 8.20 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic & Members' Services, direct line 01225 718024, e-mail [yamina.rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:yamina.rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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