

COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4 FEBRUARY 2014 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE BA14 8JN.

Present:

Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Glenis Ansell, Cllr Pat Aves, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Nick Blakemore, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Rosemary Brown, Cllr Liz Bryant, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Mary Champion, Cllr Terry Chivers, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Christine Crisp (Chairman), Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Tony Deane, Cllr Christopher Devine, Cllr Stewart Dobson, Cllr Dennis Drewett, Cllr Peter Edge, Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Sue Evans, Cllr Nick Fogg, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Howard Greenman, Cllr Mollie Groom, Cllr Russell Hawker, Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Keith Humphries, Cllr Chris Hurst, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr George Jeans, Cllr David Jenkins, Cllr Julian Johnson, Cllr Bob Jones MBE, Cllr Simon Killane, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr John Knight, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Magnus Macdonald, Cllr Alan MacRae, Cllr Howard Marshall, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Helena McKeown, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Bill Moss, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr John Noeken, Cllr Paul Oatway, Cllr Stephen Oldrieve, Cllr Helen Osborn, Cllr Jeff Osborn, Cllr Linda Packard, Cllr Mark Packard, Cllr Sheila Parker, Cllr Graham Payne, Cllr Nina Phillips, Cllr David Pollitt, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Leo Randall, Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philipe, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Jane Scott OBE, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Ian Thorn, Cllr Ian Tomes, Cllr Dick Tonge, Cllr Anthony Trotman, Cllr John Walsh, Cllr Nick Watts, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Ian West, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Roy While, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Christopher Williams and Cllr Graham Wright

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chris Caswill, Bill Douglas, Mary Douglas, John Smale, Jemima Milton, Phil Whalley and Fred Westmoreland.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 12 November 2013 were presented.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the last Council meeting held on 12 November 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Toby Sturgis declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the item on the Drainage Byelaws (minute no. 11 refers) as the Bristol Avon River flowed through his land and took no part in the discussion or voting on the item.

4 Announcements by the Chairman

(a) Recent Royal Visits

The Chairman announced that in November, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales visited Sherston at the invitation of the Prince's Countryside Fund.

His Royal Highness visited business units – Compass Graphic Design Ltd., - Pulse Business Software/Electric Octopus Ltd., - Balcony House Cellars and Sherston Post Office and Stores where he spoke with employers and staff about their respective products.

(b) County of Wiltshire Carol Service

The Chairman explained that at the last meeting in November, she had reminded members of the carol services being held, both the Wiltshire Carol Service on 10 December and the staff carol services held at the hubs.

The Chairman thanked all members who had supported these services.

(c) New Year Honours List – Wiltshire Recipients

The Chairman was delighted to to announce that a number of Wiltshire residents had received national recognition in the recent New Year Honours list.

A CBE was awarded to

Professor Van Jonathan Gore of Salisbury for services to higher education

An OBE was awarded to

Professor Nigel Leslie Brown, FRSE of Chapmanslade for services to science

Mr. Robin Clark of Calne for charitable services through the Underwood Trust

MBE's had been awarded to:

Mrs. Susan Veronica Eliot-Cohen, DI of Marlborough for services to charity and to the community in Ramsbury, Wiltshire

Wiltshire Councillor John Nicholas Fogg of Marlborough for services to the Marlborough International Jazz Festival and to the community in Marlborough, Wiltshire

Mrs. **Lesley Gaynor Frazer** of Chippenham for services to law and order and criminal justice

British Empire Medals were awarded to:

Mr. Michael John Henry Beck of Salisbury for services in fundraising in Salisbury, Wiltshire

Mrs. Diane Patricia Bell of Chippenham for services to the community in Nettleton, Wiltshire

Mrs. Clare Victoria Cliverd of Chippenham for services to the community in Seagry, North Wiltshire and to young people in Bath, Bristol And Great Somerford

Miss. Florence Anne Devine of Devizes for pastoral services to armed forces personnel

Mrs. Elspeth Ann Gibb of Marlborough for services to the community and to charity in Great Bedwyn, Wiltshire

Council joined with the Chairman in congratulating them all on receiving national recognition, noting in particular that an MBE had been awarded to the Council's own Cllr Nick Fogg.

(d) **Members' briefing on future provision of youth activities: positive leisure proposals**

The Chairman reminded Council that a briefing for all members had been arranged to be held on the rising of this meeting. Cabinet at its meeting on 21 January considered various options for the future provision of youth activities and support and resolved to consult on all four options with local people – young people in particular, staff and other key stakeholders.

As part of this consultation process, members were invited to attend the briefing which would be led by the Cabinet member for Children's Services, Cllr Laura Mayes and would outline the options being considered for future provision. It was hoped that members would be able to stay on for the briefing.

(e) **Wiltshire Olympians**

Council wished to place on record their good wishes to the Wiltshire Olympians due to compete in the forthcoming Winter Olympics.

(f) Update on Notice of Motion – Blacklisting Practices

With the Chairman's consent, the Leader took the opportunity to update Council on the above motion.

At its meeting on 12 November 2013 Council agreed to refer Cllrs' Ricky Rogers and Jeff Osborn's motion on blacklisting practices to the Leader (and Cabinet Member) to consider how best to take forward the objectives of the motion.

Cllr Dick Tonge, Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance, Risk, Procurement and Welfare Reform, had met with Cllrs Rogers and Jeff Osborn, supported by relevant officers, and agreed the following steps in response to the motion:

- To amend the council's pre-qualification questionnaire to require prospective tenderers to provide details of any use of blacklisting, enabling the council to exclude them from consideration in the tender process if a satisfactory response is not provided.
- To amend the Contract Regulations at Part 11 of the Constitution to reflect these requirements.
- To draw this to the attention of existing contractors and seek assurances where appropriate.

5 Petitions

a) Petition Received

The Chairman reported receipt of a petition from Mr Paul Gaunt, a Wiltshire resident. The petition with 2,648 signatories called for the resignation of the Leader and Cabinet of Wiltshire Council.

Mr Alan Shellard and Mr Mike White presented the petition to the Council. The petition had been instigated in response to increases in members' allowances following Council's decision dated 12 November 2013 to accept the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP). The petitioners considered that in the face of the challenging financial situation, job cuts and the financial hardships faced by many residents, the Council should have shown restraint. Reference was also made to the evidence considered by the IRP in arriving at its recommendations. The Council was asked to review its decision on members' allowances.

The Chairman thanked the petitioners for their petition. She explained that the appointment and dismissal of the Leader were matters for the Council to determine and the appointment and dismissal of Cabinet members were

determined by the Leader. This meant that what was being sought from the petition could not be achieved through this means. The Chairman understood this had already been explained to Mr Gaunt.

The Chairman explained that given that the petition was very much linked to the issue of members' allowances which would be debated later in the meeting under item 7 (a) – notice of motion on members' allowances, she did not intend for there to be a debate on the petition. She invited Mr Gaunt and petitioners present to stay for that item and indeed the rest of the meeting. The Chairman therefore moved that the petition be received and noted and this was duly seconded.

Resolved:

That the Petition from Mr Gaunt be received and noted by the Council.

b) **Petitions Update**

A report by the Democratic Governance Manager presented which gave Council details of the 2 petitions received for the period since the last Council meeting, one of which was presented to Council under (a) above.

Resolved:

That Council note the report, the petitions received and the actions being taken in relation to them, as set out in the Appendix to the report.

6 Public Participation

The Chairman reported receipt of a written statement and question from Mr Tom Corbin, details of which were presented together with a response to the question. Mr Corbin took the opportunity of asking a supplementary question to which the Chairman replied.

The Chairman also reported receipt of two questions from Mrs Charmian Spickernell, details of which were presented together with the response to the first question and a verbal response given to the second question. Mrs Spickernell took the opportunity of asking a supplementary question to which Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philippe, Cabinet Member for Economy, Skills and Transport responded.

Details of the statement, questions and responses are attached as an Appendix to these minutes.

7 Notices of Motion

- a) **Notice of Motion No.6 - Members' Allowances - Cllrs Jeff Osborn, Terry Chivers, John Walsh, Helen Osborn, Ernie Clark, Brian Dalton, Ian West, Ian Tomes, Ricky Rogers, and Trevor Carbin**

Public Participation

Mr Brian Warwick and Mr John Bowley addressed Council on this issue.

The Chairman reported receipt of the above mentioned motion from Cllr Jeff Osborn. As the motion involved a proposal to rescind a decision made within the last six months, the motion was signed by ten Councillors mentioned above as required by the constitution.

Cllr Jeff Osborn moved the following motion which was duly seconded by Cllr Terry Chivers:

'That this Council agree to rescind the decision on Members' Allowances made by Council on 12th November 2013.'

Cllr Jeff Osborn explained that the increase in members' allowances was of great concern to the public and that he, as had other members, been contacted by several constituents over the matter. He considered that the decision on members' allowances had attracted negative media attention for the Council, both locally and nationally and sparked comments from Government ministers. He considered given the challenging financial situation faced by the Council and many of its residents, members should not have taken the increase and urged them to now rescind the decisions on members' allowances. Cllr Osborn did acknowledge that the Leader had decided to forgo her increase.

Given that the issue of members' allowances was a matter reserved for 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 the motion be debated.

Debate

The Leader explained that her decision to forgo the increase was her personal decision, which was also open to any other member. She noted that some members who had voted against the increase were taking the increase, whereas some members who had voted for it, were not. She did

however agree with the decisions made by Council in November and would therefore not be supporting the motion. The Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) had acknowledged that the allowances set in 2009 had in hindsight not been set at the right level given that time had shown that the duties and time commitment required for the various roles on the Council had been significantly under estimated.

She explained that the attention being given to her own allowances in particular had been detracting from the real work of the Council with the pressing priority being emergency planning and responding swiftly to the developing flooding crisis. The Leader also pointed out that the decision to become a unitary authority had also generated significant savings on allowances as a result of having far fewer members across the County. She also emphasised that the decisions on allowances taken by Council in November had been made democratically and having regard to the recommendations of the IRP.

Cllr Jon Hubbard explained that he had voted against the increase at the November meeting. However, he accepted that the decision was taken democratically and considered that a decision should only be rescinded in cases where the basis of the original decision was unsound. He did not believe this to be the case and would therefore not be supporting the motion.

Cllr Hubbard accepted that he was a net beneficiary of the increase as a result of being Chairman of an Area Board and a Select Committee and being a group leader. He pointed out that these roles commanded a considerable amount of his time in addition to being a division member which included Council representation on other bodies. The amount of time involved had necessitated him in giving up his full time employment. In this connection, he considered that allowances should be set appropriately to attract people to the role of Councillor which in some cases can become a full time commitment.

Cllr Ernie Clark congratulated the Leader on giving up her increase. He urged members to have regard to the principles as laid down in the Council's Code of Conduct which included selflessness and accountability when it came to voting on the motion.

Cllr Ricky Rogers advised that the amount of interest and concern generated by the allowances issue in his division had been unprecedented. He accepted that the right balance needed to be made between pay and public office but on balance supported the motion to rescind the decisions.

Having heard from Group Leaders, the Chairman opened up the motion to general debate. A number of comments were made summarised as follows:

- The November decisions were properly and thoroughly debated and

that no new factual information had emerged to warrant rescinding the decisions

- The report of the IRP was comprehensive based on reasoned arguments and evidence
- The motivation for the motion was simply an opportunity to again debate the issue of allowances and in so doing, attract publicity
- Allowances should be set at an appropriate level to make the position of Councillor a viable proposition and attract membership from a cross section of the County to match its diversity
- The levels of SRA's recognised the roles and workloads involved
- There was strong public feeling on this issue
- Compared the increase in allowance with Council being advised that it could not afford to implement living wage proposals (previously referred by Council to the Staffing Policy Committee)
- Compared the increases with town and parish councillors who did not receive any allowances yet worked hard for their communities
- The motion was concerned with fairness and leadership
- Comparisons drawn with staff who had been subjected to a pay freeze for several years with a 1% increase this year
- That there should be a flat 1% increase for allowances in line with the staff increase
- Too low an allowance would bar those without independent financial means from standing for election
- Prospective councillors had been made aware of the rate of allowances and time commitment required for the role
- An acknowledgement was made of the significant work undertaken by members which included attendance at several town and parish councils and other bodies
- Members of the public were finding it difficult to reconcile significant increases in allowances with recent staff redundancies
- That any increase should be phased in over a number of years
- A reduction in the number of Cabinet members and the consequential saving on allowances was noted

Following a thorough debate, the motion was put to the vote and LOST and a recorded vote having been recorded by the requisite number of members, the voting was recorded as follows:

For the Motion (24)

Cllrs Brian Dalton, Chris Hurst, Dennis Drewett, Dr Helena McKeown, Ernie Clark, George Jeans, Gordon King, Graham Wright, Helen Osborn, Ian McLennan, Ian Thorn, Ian Tomes, Ian West, Jeff Osborn, John Walsh, Nick Blakemore, Nick Fogg MBE, Nick Watts, Peter Edge, Ricky Rogers,

Rosemary Brown, Stephen Oldrieve, Terry Chivers, Trevor Carbin.

Against the motion (60)

Cllrs Alan Hill, Alan MacRae, Allison Bucknell, Andrew Davis, Bill Moss, Bob Jones MBE, Bridget Wayman, Charles Howard, Christine Crisp, Christopher Devine, Christopher Newbury, Christopher Williams, Chuck Berry, David Jenkins, Desna Allen, Fluer de Rhe-Philipe, Glenis Ansell, Graham Payne, Horace Prickett, Howard Greenman, Jacqui lay, James Sheppard, Jane Scott OBE, Jerry kunkler, John knight, John Noeken, John Thomson, Jonathon Seed, Jose Green, Julian Johnson, Keith Humphries, Laura Mayes, Leo Randall, Liz Bryant, Magnus Macdonald, Mark Packard, Mary Champion, Mike Hewitt, Mollie groom, Nina Phillips, Pat Aves, Paul Oatway QPM, Peter Evans, Peter Hutton, Philip Whitehead, Pip Ridout, Richard Britton, Richard Clewer, Richard Gamble, Richard Tonge, Roy While, Russell Hawker, Sheila Parker, Simon Jacobs, Simon Killane, Stuart Wheeler, Sue Evans, Toby Sturgis, Tony Deane, Tony Trotman.

Abstentions (6)

Cllrs David Pollitt, Howard Marshall, Jon Hubbard, Linda Packard, Mark Connolly, Stewart Dobson.

It was therefore

Resolved:

That motion no. 6 – members’ allowances be NOT adopted.

b) Notice of motion No. 7 - Changing Call-in Procedures - Cllrs Jon Hubbard and Gordon King

The Chairman reported receipt of the above mentioned motion from Cllrs Jon Hubbard and Gordon King.

Cllr Hubbard moved the following motion which was duly seconded by Cllr King:

‘Council resolves to amend the provisions on call-in as set out in Part 8 Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules of the constitution to enable a call-in request to be made by any 5 non-executive members of the council or the Chair of the Management Committee.

Specifically to amend Paragraph 34 removing the words "three members of the management committee" and inserting "five non-executive members of

the council". Therefore the new paragraph would now read:

During that period, the designated scrutiny officer shall call-in a decision for scrutiny by the management committee if so requested by the chair or any five non-executive members of the Council, and shall then notify the decision-maker of the call-in. He/she shall call a meeting of the management committee on such date as he/she may determine, where possible after consultation with the chair of the management committee, and in any case within five days of the decision to call-in.

This change to the constitution to take immediate effect.'

Cllr Hubbard considered that the motion should be adopted to correct what he considered to be an anomaly in that it only took 5 members out of 98 to requisition an extraordinary meeting of Council and only 3 members limited to the membership of a 13 strong overview and scrutiny management committee to request a call-in. He considered that the request for call-in should be available to all non-executive members.

As amendments to the constitution were reserved to Council, the Chairman moved that motion be debated and this was duly seconded and on being put to the vote, it was

Resolved:

That the motion be debated.

Debate

It was noted that the Standards Committee in considering the proposal at its meeting on 20 January 2014, agreed that the matter could be considered and determined by this Council meeting without referral back to the Committee.

In the debate which ensued, Cllr Roy While proposed an amendment to the effect that a request for call-in be made by any 10 non-executive members and this was accepted by Cllrs Hubbard and King.

Cllr Simon Killane, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee explained that whilst he did not necessarily agree with the motion, it was up to the Council to agree.

Resolved:

a) That motion no 7 – Changing call-in procedures be adopted as amended as follows:

That paragraph 34 of Part 8 of the constitution – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules be amended as follows:

'During that period, the designated scrutiny officer shall call-in a decision for scrutiny by the management committee if so

requested by any ten non-executive members of the Council, and shall then notify the decision-maker of the call-in. He/she shall call a meeting of the management committee on such date as he/she may determine, where possible after consultation with the chair of the management committee, and in any case within five days of the decision to call-in’.

b) That this change to the constitution to take immediate effect.

8 Councillors' Questions

The Chairman reported receipt of questions from Cllrs Terry Chivers, Jeff Osborn, Helen Osborn, Helena McKeown and David Jenkins, details of which were circulated in the agenda supplement with one response tabled at the meeting, copy attached as an Appendix to these minutes.

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. Verbal responses as indicated in the supplement were given where the questioners were still present.

9 Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026: Other Strategies

Cllr John Thomson, Cabinet member for Highways and Streetscene and Broadband presented four sub documents of the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026: Accessibility Strategy, Cycling Strategy, Powered Two-Wheeler Strategy and Smarter Choices for Council’s consideration and adoption. It was noted that further LTP3 theme strategies and area strategies, and implementation plans were planned to be developed.

The documents had been approved for onward recommendation to this Council meeting by Cabinet at its meeting on 21 January, 2014. The report considered by Cabinet was presented as background information. Cllr Thomson guided Council through the key points of the documents and answered members’ questions which included questions on safe cycle routes and electric buggies.

Resolved:

That Council adopt the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026: Accessibility Strategy, Cycling Strategy, Powered Two-Wheeler Strategy and Smarter Choices Strategies.

10 Standards Committee Recommendations on Changes to the Constitution

As requested at the last Council meeting, a briefing session for members was held on 30 January 2014 to go through the detail of the proposed changes as recommended by the Standards Committee. Members thanked Ian Gibbons,

Monitoring Officer for the excellent briefing held and suggested that similar briefings be arranged in respect of future changes.

Cllr Julian Johnson, Chairman of the Standards Committee presented a report which detailed the proposed changes together with the necessary documents from the constitution with tracked changes for ease of reference. Cllr Johnson moved the proposed changes and this was duly seconded by Cllr John Noeken.

Resolved:

- a) **That Council approve the recommended changes to the following documents of the constitution as presented:**

**Protocol 2 - Councillor/ Officer Relations
Protocol 3 - Guidance to Members on Outside Bodies
Protocol 4 - Planning Code of Good Practice
Part 5 - Access to Information Procedure Rules**

- b) **That Council agree:**

- i. **Not to amend the Code of Conduct to impose a requirement to register additional interests over and above the statutory disclosable pecuniary interests, but to rely on the existing provisions of the Code, in particular, paragraph 6, and guidance from the DCLG 'Openness and transparency on personal interests' and to draw this guidance to the attention of parish, town and city councils.**
- ii. **To amend the Council's Constitution to require councillors with a disclosable pecuniary interest to withdraw from a meeting in their capacity as a councillor when business relating to their interest is being considered.**
- iii. **Not to make any changes to the Code of Conduct on gifts and hospitality on the basis that the existing provision is adequate.**

11 Drainage Byelaws

Cllr Toby Sturgis declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in this item as the Bristol Avon River flowed through his land and took no part in the discussion or voting on the item.

Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding was invited by the Chairman to present a report which sought Council's adoption of Land Drainage Byelaws. The making of the Byelaws would help protect communities, especially those who were most vulnerable, from flooding. They would provide scope for the Council

to work with local communities to reduce flood risk, and help empower communities to do more for themselves.

The proposed Byelaws, based on the Defra model, would cover matters such as changes to flows in watercourses, obstructions, vegetation, damage to river banks and other issues which would be of help to the Council in carrying out its duties as Highway and Lead Local Flood Authority.

Council was advised of the various stages in making the Byelaws which had been followed and of responses to the consultation, details of which were presented. The views of the Environment Select Committee which had considered proposals for the Byelaws at its meeting on 10 December 2013 were also reported.

Resolved:

That Council:

- (a) agree to make the Drainage Byelaws as included as Appendix 1 of the report presented and carry out the formal consultations and**
- (b) subject to the outcome of the formal consultations, request the Secretary of State to confirm the Drainage Byelaws.**

12 Pay Policy Statement and the Publication of Senior Staff Pay

Council considered a report which sought Council approval of an updated pay policy statement which applied to all non-schools employees of Wiltshire Council as recommended by the Staffing Policy Committee held on 8 January 2014. Once approved, the pay policy statement would be published in accordance with Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011.

Resolved:

That Council approve:

- (a) the updated Pay Policy Statement set out in Appendix 1 of the report presented and**
- (b) the continued publication of senior staff salaries with a threshold of £58,200, along with job descriptions, budget responsibilities and numbers of staff. Individuals are asked to consent for their names to be included.**

13 Minutes of Cabinet and Committees

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

Cabinet	17, 21 November 2013, 21 January 2014
Cabinet Capital Assets Committee	21 November 2013, 21 January 2014
Cabinet Transformation Committee	17 December 2013
Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee	5 November, 7 January 2014
Children's Select Committee	3 December 2013
Health Select Committee	19 November 2013
Environment Select Committee	29 October 2013, 10 December 2013
Licensing Committee	5 November 2013
Northern Area Planning Committee	23 October, 13 November, 4 December 2013, 8 January 2014
Eastern Area Planning Committee	24 October, 5 December 2013
Southern Area Planning Committee	28 November 2013
Western Area Planning Committee	6 November, 27 November, 18 December 2013
Strategic Planning Committee	11 December 2013
Standards Committee	20 January 2014
Audit Committee	18 December 2013
Staffing Policy Committee	6 November 2013, 8 January 2014
Wiltshire pension Fund Committee	4 December 2013
Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel	5 November, 26 November 2013
Wiltshire health and Wellbeing Board	21 November 2013

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

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Cllr Simon Killane, Chairman of the Committee reminded Council that a special meeting of the Committee would be held on 5 February to consider the proposed 2014/15 budget to which all members were invited.

Children's Select Committee

Cllr Jon Hubbard, Chairman of the Committee explained that the next meeting would be preceded by a training session on the extremely important issue of

childhood sexual exploitation. All members were welcome to attend this and future training sessions.

Western Area Planning Committee

Cllr Roy While, Vice-Chairman of the Committee reminded members that the meeting to be held on 5 February would be preceded by a briefing on the Wiltshire Core Strategy and consideration of the future timing of the Committee.

Standards Committee

Cllr Julian Johnson explained that the Committee would be considering among other things the Council's petitions scheme and members' access to part II reports.

Police and Crime Panel

Cllr Richard Britton, Chairman of the Panel advised that a meeting of the Panel would be held on 6 February when it would be considering the Police and Crime Commissioner's precept proposal for 2014/15.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the above mentioned minutes be received and noted.

14 Membership of Committees

The Chairman invited Group Leaders to present any requests for changes to committee membership in accordance with the allocation of seats to political groups approved by Council.

Cllr Jon Hubbard, Leader of the Liberal Democrat group Sought Council's approval to the following changes in membership:

Staffing Policy Committee

Remove - Cllr Jon Hubbard

Add - Cllr Bob Jones

Substitutes:

Remove - Cllr Rosemary Brown

Add - Cllr Jon Hubbard

Resolved:

That Council approve the above mentioned committee membership changes.

Appendix

Questions and responses

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 am - 3.15 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

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