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THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd May 2006 at the Council Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:

Chairman.....Councillor C. Crisp

Councillors D.B. Allen, P.G. Allnatt, A.R. Baines, H.R. Barton, T.A.P. Briggs, N.S. Bryant, A.M. Bucknell, C. R. Coleman, S.R. Coy, D. Darby, A.L. Davis, P.R. Davis, H.M. Dixon, K.A. Dixon, S.K. Doubell, D.J.E. Evans, P.J. Goldstone, P.G. Green, V.H. Greenman, G.R. Greenaway, M.E.M. Groom, M.P. Hatton, I.J. Henderson, R.J. Henning, J.R. Ireland, A.S.R. Jackson, H.T. Jones, R.B. MacGregor, N.T. Maidment, S.D. Meadows, D.M. Moore, T.J.A. Northey, C. O’Gorman, G. Offord, N.M. Phillips, J.M. Read, C. Reid, P.S. Roberts, J.H. Rooke, M. Rousell, J.A. Scott, S. L. Scruton , T.R. Sturgis, J.P.S.S. Thomson, R.L. Tonge, A.J. Trotman, S.R. Walls, C. Wannell, J. Webb, M.J. West and J.M. Wood.

Officers Present: D. Burbidge (Chief Executive), P. Jeremiah (Team Leader Legal Services), W. Oulton (Policy & Democratic Services Officer).

C1. Election of Chairman

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor C. O’Gorman proposed and Councillor J.M. Wood seconded that Councillor P.R. Davis be appointed Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor T.R. Sturgis proposed and Councillor R.L. Tonge seconded that Councillor P.G. Green be appointed Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Resolved that having been put to the vote that Councillor P.R. Davis be elected Chairman of the Council

Councillor P.R. Davis (Chairman) in the Chair.

C2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman

Councillor P.R. Davis made his declaration of acceptance of office.



C3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor A.S.R. Jackson proposed and Councillor C.R. Coleman seconded that Councillor M.P. Hatton be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor T.R. Sturgis proposed and Councillor N.S. Bryant seconded that Councillor P.G. Green be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Resolved that having been put to the vote that Councillor M.P. Hatton be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council

C4. Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Vice-Chairman

Councillor M.P.Hatton made his declaration of acceptance of office.

C5. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor O.J. Thomas.

C6. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

C7. Minutes

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 25th April 2006 were considered.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 25th April 2006 be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the amendment to minute C104 to include the written motion circulated at the meeting.

Admin Note: The Minute Book would be referred to the June Council meeting to enable Members to ask questions relating to it.

C8. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman announced that the Proper Officer had received written notification of the resignation of Councillor T.A.P. Briggs from the Liberal Democrat Political Group.

The Chairman announced that the Proper Officer had received written notification of the formation of a new Political Group to be called the Independent Group with the Membership of Councillor P.G. Allnatt as Leader and T.A.P. Briggs as Deputy Leader

C9. Public Question Time/Receipt of Petitions

There were no public questions or petitions received.

C10. Appointment of Leader of the Council

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Leader of the Council.

Councillor A.L. Davis proposed and Councillor H.M. Dixon seconded that Councillor C. O’Gorman be appointed Leader of the Council.

Councillor R.L. Tonge proposed and Councillor M. Rousell seconded that Councillor T.R. Sturgis be appointed Leader of the Council.

Resolved that having been put to the vote that Councillor C. O’Gorman be elected Leader of the Council

The Leader Councillor C. O’Gorman announced the members of her Executive as follows: Councillors G. Offord, D.J.E. Evans, S.K. Doubell, H.M. Dixon, O.J. Thomas, A.L. Davis, R.J. Henning, D.M. Moore.

C11. Appointment of Committees

(A) Committees – nature and size

Consideration was given to Report No. 11 (a) (circulated with the Agenda) which detailed the current Committees of the Council, their Terms of Reference and their size. The Council was asked to agree the nature and size of the Committees for the forthcoming municipal year.

Resolved

- 1) that for the forthcoming municipal year the Council’s Committees be constituted and the number of seats on them be approved as follows:-
 - (a). Overview and Scrutiny Committee = 11
 - (b). Standards Committee = 4 District Council Members, 2 Independent Members and 2 Parish/Town Council Members
 - (c). Development Control Committee = 15
 - (d). Personnel, Licensing and Administration Committee = 8
 - (e). Appeals Committee = 6
 - (f). Appointments Committee = 6
 - (g). Final Accounts & Audit Committee = 4
 - (h). Licensing Committee = 15
 - (i). Malmesbury Area Committee = 8
 - (j). Cricklade & Wootton Bassett Area Committee = 14
 - (k). Chippenham Area Committee = 17

- (l) Corsham Area Committee = 8
- (m) Calne Area Committee = 8
- 2) That a report be prepared for a future meeting of Council on the work of each Area Committee and their relationship to the Local Community Area Partnerships and that the Area Committees continue in their current form pending any future decision.
- 3) That the Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee not be a member of the same Political Group as the Leader of the Council.
- 4) That a member of the Executive shall not be Chairman or Vice-Chairman of any of the Council's Committees with the exception of Area Committees.
- 5) That the amended Terms of Reference appended to the Report be approved.
- 6) That the Council's Constitution be amended accordingly.

(B) Local Government and Housing Act 1989 – Allocation of Seats

Consideration was given to Report No. 11 (b) (circulated with the Agenda) which advised the Council regarding the allocation of seats to political groups.

Resolved that the allocation of seats to political groups be as follows:

Committee	Liberal Democrat	Conservative	Labour	Independent	<i>Total</i>
Appeals	3	3			6
Appointments	3	3			6
Development Control	7	7		1	15
Final Accounts & Audit	2	2			4
Overview & Scrutiny	5	5	1		11
Personnel, Licensing & Administration	4	4			8
TOTAL	24	24	1	1	50

C12. Appointments to the Council's Committees

(A) Appeals Committee

Resolved that the Appeals Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors A.R. Baines, P.R. Davis, I.J. Henderson, R.J. Henning, M. Rousell and J.M. Wood.

(B) Appointments Committee

Resolved that the Appointments Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors H.R. Barton, C. Crisp, D.J.E. Evans, D.M. Moore, C. O'Gorman and R.L. Tonge.

(C) Development Control Committee

Resolved that the Development Control Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors D.B. Allen, H.R. Barton, T.A.P. Briggs, C. Crisp, P.R. Davis, H.M. Dixon, P.J. Goldstone, G.R. Greenaway, M.P. Hatton, H.T. Jones, R.B. MacGregor, T.R. Sturgis, A.J. Trotman, S.R. Walls and C. Wannell.

(D) Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Resolved that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors J.R. Ireland, A.S.R. Jackson, S.R. Meadows, C. Reid, J.H. Rooke, T.R. Sturgis, J.P.S.S. Thomson, R.L. Tonge, S.R. Walls, J. Webb and J.M. Wood.

(E) Personnel Licensing and Administration Committee

Resolved that the Personnel, Licensing and Administration Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors D.B. Allen, A.M. Bucknell, V.H. Greenman, M.E.M. Groom, J.R. Ireland, A.S.R. Jackson, J. Webb and J.M. Wood.

(F) Standards Committee

Resolved that the District Councillors on the Standards Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year be Councillors P.J. Goldstone, G. Offord, C. Reid and J.R. Ireland.

(G) Final Accounts & Audit Committee

Resolved that the Final Accounts & Audit Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors A.L. Davis, V.H. Greenman, R.L. Tonge and M.J. West.

(H) Licensing Committee

Resolved that the Licensing Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors D.B. Allen, H.R. Barton, A.M. Bucknell, P.J. Goldstone, P.G. Green, M.E.M. Groom, I.J. Henderson, J.R. Ireland, A.S.R. Jackson, D.M. Moore, M. Rousell, O.J. Thomas, S.R. Walls, J. Webb and J.M. Wood.

(I) Malmesbury Area Committee

Resolved that the Malmesbury Area (1) Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors A.R. Baines, A.L. Davis, P.J. Goldstone, I.J. Henderson, N.T. Maidment, S.R. Scruton, T.R. Sturgis and J.P.S.S. Thomson.

(J) Cricklade & Wootton Bassett Area Committee

Resolved that the Cricklade & Wootton Bassett Area (2) Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors A.R. Baines, A.M. Bucknell, H.M. Dixon, K.A. Dixon, G.R. Greenaway, M.E.M. Groom, M.P. Hatton, N.T. Maidment, J.M. Read, P.S. Roberts, O.J. Thomas, S.R. Walls, C. Wannell and J. Webb.

(K) Chippenham Area Committee

Resolved that the Chippenham Area (3) Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors D.B. Allen, P.G. Allnatt, H.R. Barton, C.R. Coleman, C. Crisp, S.K. Doubell, P.G. Green, V.H. Greenman, R.J. Henning, R.B. MacGregor, S.M. Meadows, D.M. Moore, T.J.A. Northey, N.M. Phillips, J.H. Rooke, J.A. Scott and J.M. Wood.

(L) Corsham Area Committee

Resolved that the Corsham Area (4) Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors D. Darby, P.R. Davis, A.S.R. Jackson, H.T. Jones, G. Offord, C. Reid, M. Rousell and R.L. Tonge.

(M) Calne Area Committee

Resolved that the Calne Area (5) Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year will comprise Councillors T.A.P. Briggs, N.S. Bryant, S.R. Coy, D.J.E. Evans, J.R. Ireland, C. O’Gorman, A.J. Trotman and M.J. West.

C13. Representatives to Outside Bodies and Charities

Consideration was given to Report No.13 (circulated with the agenda) which advised Council of the Outside Bodies for whom representatives are required.

Resolved

- (1) that the Council delegates the nomination of representatives to Outside bodies to the Committees as detailed in the table appended to Report No. 13 subject to the following amendment that Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Westlea Housing Forum are delegated to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
- (2) that Council nominates Councillor M.E.M. Groom to the South West Regional Assembly, Councillors C. O’Gorman, M.E.M Groom and C.R. Coleman to South West Local Government Association and D.M. Moore to the South West Provincial Council; and
- (3) that if any other appointment is to be made as a matter of urgency the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to

make such an appointment after consultation with the two Political Group Leaders.

Admin Note: That a guidance note be circulated for Members detailing how they can report back on Outside Bodies.

C14. Calendar of Meetings

Consideration was given to Report No. 14 (circulated with the Agenda) which sought approval of the Calendar of Meetings. Amendments were proposed in an Addendum paper circulated at the meeting.

Resolved that Council approves the Calendar of Meetings at Appendix One of Report No. 14 subject to the amendments circulated at the meeting.

C15. Questions from Councillors – Council Procedure Rule 14

(A) Question from Councillor R.L. Tonge regarding the District Boundary Review.

A question was received in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. The question and response were circulated at the meeting in writing.

Councillor R.L. Tonge asked as a supplementary question whether it would be better for members of the Conservative group to be appointed to Chairmanships to save the Liberal Democrats from embarrassing themselves in the future.

The Leader of Council stated that she would respond in writing.

(B) Question from Councillor A.M. Bucknell regarding the District Boundary Review.

A question was received in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. The question and response were circulated at the meeting in writing.

Councillor A.M. Bucknell asked as a supplementary question whether in the light of the resignation from the Liberal Democrat Group announced tonight whether it had made it more difficult to fill the vacancy created through Councillor C. Reid's resignation.

The Leader of Council stated that she would respond in writing.

C16. Notices of Motion – Council Procedure Rule 15

There were no Notices of Motion received.

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm.
There were 20 members of public present.

Signed.....

Date.....