

Draft Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 May 2007 at the Council Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham.

Present:

Chairman.....Councillor PR Davis

Councillors DB Allen, KA Banks, RMH Berry, CMR Boase, S Bodman, AM Bucknell, CJ Caswill, RH Causer, RL Cinnamond, AC Clements, PCB Coleman, C Crisp, PR Darby, JP Doubell, SK Doubell, PJ Doyle, GR Greenaway, VH Greenman, JL Hall, JM Hartless, MP Hatton, IJ Henderson, JR Henning, AK Hill, PJ Hutton, HT Jones, JC Lay, RB MacGregor, E Marston, SB Meadowcroft, SD Meadows, SG Parker, JA Phillips, N Phillips, A Pier, HR Plenty, CV Ramsey, C Reid, PS Roberts, WF Roberts, RF Sanderson, JA Scott, JR Scragg, ML Singlehurst, SJ Still, TR Sturgis, JPSS Thomson, RL Tonge, VA Vines, AM Wannell, C Wannell, JB Whincup.

Officers Present: L Bell (Deputy Chief Executive), D Burbidge (Chief Executive), P Jeremiah (Team Leader Legal Services), S Pangbourne (Deputy Chief Executive), L Pullin (Policy and Democratic Services Assistant), M Rippon (Community Safety Officer), M Todd (Senior Policy and Democratic Services Officer) and J Whittleton (Policy and Democratic Services Assistant).

C1. Election of Chairman

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

Councillor RL Tonge thanked the outgoing Chairman for his valuable contribution to the work of the Council. He then proposed and Councillor AM Bucknell seconded that Councillor C Crisp be appointed Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year. There were no other nominations.

Resolved that Councillor C Crisp be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor C Crisp (Chairman) in the Chair.

C2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman

Councillor C Crisp made her declaration of acceptance of office.

C3. Appointment of Vice Chairman

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

Councillor J Thomson proposed and Councillor JA Scott seconded that Councillor IJ Henderson be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year. There were no other nominations.

Resolved that Councillor IJ Henderson be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.



C4. Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Vice-Chairman

Councillor IJ Henderson made his declaration of acceptance of office.

C5. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors MEM Groom and AJ Trotman.

C6. Minutes

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 24 April 2007 were considered.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24 April 2007 be approved and signed as a correct record.

C7. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C8. Chairman's Announcements

(a) Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all newly elected and re-elected Members and offered her congratulations on their success in the recent elections held on 3 May 2007. She informed Members that a welcoming reception would be held immediately after the meeting.

(b) Petition

The Chairman received a petition from Mr Ian Storey, President of the Corsham Chamber of Commerce. The petition opposed the recent increases in car parking charges in Corsham and set out an initial proposal of alternative charges. A copy of the details of the petition was circulated at the meeting. The Chairman stated that the petition would stand referred to the Executive whose next meeting would take place on 7 June 2007.

(c) Mr Peter Green

The Chairman paid tribute to Mr Peter Green who had been a Member of the District Council for 24 years and had retired in May. The Council thanked Mr Green for his hard work and dedication over this long period of service.

C9. Appointment of Leader of the Council

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

Councillor JM Hartless proposed and Councillor AM Bucknell seconded that Councillor RL Tonge be appointed Leader of the Council. There were no other nominations.

Resolved that Councillor RL Tonge be appointed as Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

Councillor RL Tonge then announced the membership and portfolios of the Executive, details are attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

C10. Appointment of Committees

(a) Area Committees

Consideration was given to report 10(a) which explained the changes that were required to the Area Committees following the boundary changes to the Wards that were effective from the elections on 3 May 2007.

Resolved to agree the composition of the Area Committees as set out in the Appendix to the report.

(b) Local Government and Housing Act 1989 – Review of Allocation of Seats to Political Groups

Consideration was given to report 10(b) which advised the Council regarding the allocation of seats on Committees to political groups.

Resolved:

- (1) To note the report and the legal requirements.
- (2) To agree the number of seats for the Standing Committees of the Council as follows:
 - Appeals Committee – 6
 - Appointments Committee – 6
 - Development Control Committee – 15
 - Final Accounts and Audit Committee – 7
 - Licensing Committee – 15
 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 11
 - Personnel, Licensing and Administration Committee – 11
 - Standards Committee – 4 District Councillors, 3 Independent Members and 2 Local Council Members
 - Malmesbury Area (1) Committee – 8
 - Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Area (2) Committee – 11
 - Chippenham Area (3) Committee – 17
 - Corsham Area (4) Committee – 8
 - Calne Area (5) Committee - 10
- (3) To agree the number of seats to be allocated to political groups as follows:

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| <u>Committee</u> | <u>Total Number of Places for Elected Members</u> | <u>Conservative Group Allocation</u> | <u>Liberal Democrat Group Allocation</u> | <u>Labour Allocation</u> |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Appeals | 6 | 4 | 2 | |
| Appointments | 6 | 4 | 2 | |
| Development Control | 15 | 11 | 4 | |
| Personnel, Licensing and Administration | 11 | 8 | 3 | |
| Overview and Scrutiny | 11 | 7 | 3 | 1 |
| Final Accounts and Audit | 7 | 5 | 2 | |
| <u>TOTALS:</u> | 56 | 39 | 16 | 1 |

(c) Appointments to the Council's Committees

The Council considered the appointment of Members to the Council's Committees.

Resolved to agree appointments to the Council's Committees as set out in Appendix B to these minutes.

C11. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Consideration was given to report no. 11 advising the Council of the outside bodies for which representatives were required. The Leader asked Members to inform Councillor AM Bucknell if there were any particular outside bodies they wished to sit on. He also reminded Members that they were required to produce a report on the work of the outside body if they were appointed as the Council's representative.

Resolved that

- (1) The Council delegates the nomination of representatives to outside bodies as detailed in the appendix to the report; and
- (2) If an appointment needs to be made as a matter of urgency the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to make the appointment after consultation with Group Leaders.

C12. Calendar of Meetings

Consideration was given to report no. 12 which set out the Calendar of Meetings for 2007/08.

Resolved that the Calendar of Meetings for 2007/08 be noted.

C13. Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places – Proposed Order in Calne

Consideration was given to report no. 13 which proposed that the Council designate certain streets and public places in Calne as areas in which the drinking of alcohol could be controlled and to authorise the Team Leader Legal Services to make the appropriate Order. A plan detailing the Exclusion Zone was circulated at the meeting. Following a query regarding the specific streets to be covered by the Order a revised Plan is attached as Appendix C to these minutes.

Resolved that

- (1) under Section 13 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001, the Council designate those street and public areas in Calne identified on the plan attached as Appendix C to these minutes as areas in which the drinking of alcohol can be controlled.
- (2) the Team Leader Legal Services be authorised to make the appropriate Order;
- (3) the required notice be placed in the local press advertising the making of the Order; and
- (4) the necessary signs be erected as agreed in partnership with Calne Town Council.

C14. Members' Code of Conduct

Consideration was given to Report No. 14 which asked Members to formally adopt the revised Model Code of Conduct for Members.

Resolved

- (1) to adopt the Model Code of Conduct for Members as attached as Appendix A of the report to take effect as from 16 May 2007.
- (2) To annex the ten General Principles set out in Appendix C of the report to the Model Code of Conduct to remind both Members and the public of the principles underlying the Code.

C15. Questions from Councillors – Council Procedure Rule 14

No questions from Councillors were received.

The meeting started at 7pm and finished at 7.35pm.

There were 6 members of the public present.