

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover, on Wednesday, 13th April, 2011 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor R. Turner in the Chair

Councillor J.E. Bennett, R.J. Bowler, K. Bowman, Mrs. P.M. Bowmer, R. Brooks, J.A. Clifton, T.J. Connerton, T. Cook, M.G. Crane, M. Dooley, H.J. Gilmour, S.A. Gray, B.W. Hendry, P.R. Hendry, R. Holmes, D. Kelly, D. McGregor, V.P. Mills, B.R. Murray-Carr, J.J.P. Phelan, T. Rodda, J.E. Smith, A.M. Syrett, A.F. Tomlinson, K.F. Walker, A. Waring, H. Ward, D.S. Watson, E. Watts and G.O. Webster

Officers:-

S.E.A. Sternberg (Solicitor to the Council), S. Tomlinson (Director of Neighbourhoods), K. Hopkinson (Director of Development), D. Hill (Head of Finance & Revenues), P. Campbell (Head of Housing), J. Fieldsend (Senior Principal Solicitor) and A. Saxby (Assistant Democratic Services Manager).

1014. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors A.J. Hodkin, B. Huddless, J. Morley, S. Peake, S. Wallis and the Chief Executive Officer.

1015. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

1016. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

1017. QUARTERLY REPORTS

There were no quarterly reports to consider.

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

1018. COUNCIL MINUTES

Council – 1st March, 2011

Moved by Councillor R. Turner, seconded by Councillor M. Dooley

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting held on 1st March, 2011 be approved as a correct record.

1019. EXECUTIVE/COMMITTEE MINUTES CONTAINED IN THE MINUTE BOOK – 13th APRIL 2011

- (1) Union/Employee Consultation Committee – 23rd February, 2011
- (2) Improvement Scrutiny Committee – 28th February, 2011
- (3) Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee – 3rd March, 2011
- (4) Executive – 7th March, 2011
- (5) Audit Committee – 7th March, 2011
- (6) Standards Committee – 8th March, 2011
- (7) Licensing Committee – 21st March, 2011

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson

RESOLVED that the Executive/Committee minutes as reproduced in the Council Minute Book dated 13th April, 2011 be received.

1020. RECOMMENDED ITEMS FROM OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES

- (1) Standards Committee – 8th March, 2011 – Min. No. 915 – Members' Roles and Responsibilities

The Solicitor to the Council advised Members that the Members' Roles and Responsibilities had been submitted to Cabinet, Member Development Working Party, Scrutiny and Standards Committees and are submitted to Council for approval and inclusion in the Constitution.

Councillor Connerton voiced his concerns about accepting the members' roles and responsibilities as he felt that they were too subjective and do not actually cover the role of the member.

It was suggested by the Leader, that he, the Deputy Leader, Monitoring Officer and Councillor Connerton met to discuss the job descriptions to look at the issues raised and make any necessary amendments and refer the matter back to Standards Committee for consideration. Councillor Syrett advised Members that this matter had been discussed at some length through the mechanisms advised to Members by the Solicitor.

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson

RESOLVED that the Leader, Deputy Leader, Monitoring Officer and Councillor Connerton meet to further discuss the members' roles and responsibilities, job descriptions and referred back to Standards Committee for consideration.

(Solicitor to the Council & Monitoring Officer)

1021. CHAIRMAN OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Solicitor to the Council advised Members that in February, Council had resolved that Standards Committee would remain in its current format and that Council would reconsider the situation in 12 months, once the Localism Bill has been enacted. It was proposed that John Yates, the current Chairman of Standards Committee continue as a co-optee of the Standards Committee for a further 12 months in line with the Council's decision on the future of the Standards Committee.

Moved by Councillor M. Dooley, seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett

RESOLVED that Mr. John Yates be reappointed to the Standards Committee until such time as the future of the Standards Committee is determined.

(Head of Democratic Services)

1022. ANTI MONEY LAUNDERING POLICY

The Head of Finance and Revenues presented the report on the Anti Money Laundering Policy which had been considered by Audit Committee.

This policy has been developed against the best practice detailed in the Audit Commission's review in "Protecting the Public Purse". The revised policy also takes into account information from the Internal Audit Consortium recommendations and the Council's Treasury Management advisors.

Staff are to be advised on the changes to the Anti Money Laundering Policy and training or reminders are to be given on an annual basis.

A copy of the Anti Money Laundering Policy was attached to the report.

Moved by Councillor E. Watts, seconded by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson

RESOLVED that the Anti Money Laundering Policy be approved.

(Director of Resources)

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

1023. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATION

(1) The Leader

The Leader of the Council informed Members that this was the end of a four year term and that Members were not sure who would be returning following the District elections.

He reminded members of the achievements of the Council; the Council had moved from an average Council to an Excellent Council, achieved Customer Excellence, Investors in People, equalities and numerous other awards and retained services in house.

It is a new future with the creation of the Strategic Alliance with North East Derbyshire and he wished the Chief Executive all the best for the future. He also gave thanks to the assistance of Chief Executive and Partnership Team staff and the Solicitor to the Council.

Thanks were also given to both Independent Groups for their support over the last four years.

There are a number of members not standing at these elections. These are Councillors Huddless, Hodkin, Peake and Gray who had all contributed to the achievements of the Council. He also mentioned Councillor Morley who has had a very bad year, but wished her all the best for a speedy recovery. He also thanked the Deputy Leader for his support through his time as Leader and was pleased that he was standing again.

The Chair of the Council was an excellent ambassador for the Council and Bolsover and the Council should be proud of her. She does a fantastic job.

Finally, we need to be proud of our achievements. The Council has had to make some tough decisions, and has needed to protect the partnerships, people, jobs and services. The Leader said he was proud to be the Council's Leader and good luck for the elections.

(2) Presentation by Kevin Hopkinson, Director of Development

The Chair advised Members that Kevin Hopkinson, Director of Development would be giving a presentation on 'Project Horizon' at the conclusion of the meeting.

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

1024. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Moved by Councillor K. Bowman, seconded by Councillor T.J. Connerton

RESOLVED that under Section 1004(1)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the stated Paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and it is not in the public interest for that to be revealed.

1025. HOUSING REPAIRS – STAFFING EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 1

The Head of Housing reported that a request had been received from the Housing Repairs Co-ordinator Inspector for voluntary redundancy.

The business case for mobile working envisaged a reduction of management of the repairs service and this request would contribute towards this reduction.

A financial assessment for the cost of the redundancy was reproduced in the report.

Members wished the post holder a long and happy retirement, as he had been a loyal servant to the Council.

Moved by Councillor K. Bowman, seconded by Councillor E. Watts

RESOLVED that post REP010 is disestablished with immediate effect and the current post holder made redundant.

(Head of Housing/Head of Human Resources & Payroll)

1026. PRACTICAL DELIVERY OF SHIREBROOK MASTERPLAN EXEMPT – PARAGRAPH 3

The Senior Principal Solicitor advised Members that at an Executive on 4th April, 2011, a report concerning the delivery of the Shirebrook Masterplan was discussed. Executive agreed to make an application to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government under Section 32 of the Housing Act 1985 for consent to dispose of the land.

The nature of this decision was such that even though it is an Executive function, the Executive's decision must be authorised by the Council. As this decision was still subject to call-in, Council cannot approve it. However, the decision to authorise the application may be delegated to an individual.

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Moved by Councillor A.F. Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor E. Watts

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive be granted delegated powers, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing Management, Leader and Deputy Leader, the authority to authorise the decision of the Executive to apply to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government under section 32 of the Housing Act 1985 to dispose of the housing land at Market Close, Shirebrook as shown on the attached plan.

(Senior Principal Solicitor)

The meeting concluded at 1040 hours.