

ANNUAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Bolsover District Council held in the Chamber Suites, The Arc, Clowne, on Wednesday, 24 May 2017 at 10.00 hours.

PRESENT:-

Councillor K F Walker.....Chair (Outgoing)
Councillor T Munro.....Chair (Incoming)
Councillor R Turner.....Vice Chair

Members:-

Councillor A Anderson, J E Bennett, P M Bowmer, D Bullock, G Buxton, T Cannon, J A Clifton, T J Connerton, C P Cooper, P A Cooper, M Dixey, M Dooley, S W Fritchley, H J Gilmour, R A Heffer, A Joesbury, D McGregor, T Munro, B R Murray-Carr, S Peake, K Reid, J Ritchie, J E Smith, P Smith, S J Statter, A M Syrett, B Watson, D Watson and J Wilson.

Officers:-

D Swaine (Chief Executive Officer), B Mason (Executive Director - Operations), A Wylie (Team Manager (Contentious) and Deputy Monitoring Officer), and D Cairns (Governance Manager - Acting)

Before the meeting began, Council observed a moment's silence for those who died, were injured or affected by the recent terrorist attack in Manchester.

Councillor K F Walker expressed his gratitude for the privilege of holding the position of Chairman of the Council for many years and thanked Members and Officers for their work in achieving all the successes of the Council over recent years and in working towards the future plans for the District.

Councillor K F Walker received a standing ovation in recognition of his service.

0001. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2015/16

The Chairman sought nominations for the position of Chairman of the Council for the 2017/18 municipal year.

Moved by Councillor S W Fritchley and seconded by Councillor R Turner.

RESOLVED that Councillor T Munro be appointed Chairman of the Council for the 2017/18 municipal year.

Having signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and taken on the Chains of Office, Councillor T Munro took the Chair.

Councillor T Munro thanked Members for nominating him and expressed his intention to dedicate the same level of commitment to the role as the retiring Chairman. He advised the Council that he had chosen to support two charities during

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his term of office, Namibia Bound 2019 and Clowne and District Community Transport.

With permission of the Chair, Councillor J Clifton spoke to offer thanks on behalf of the Council to the retiring Chairman's wife for her role in supporting the Chairman's duties, and presented her with a gift of flowers.

With permission of the Chair, the Leader of the Council, Councillor A Syrett, spoke to congratulate Councillor T Munro on his appointment as Chairman for 2017/18. She also thanked Councillor K F Walker for his numerous years of service and for his warmth and commitment as an ambassador for the Council, and she presented Councillor K F Walker and his wife with a basket of flowering plants.

0002. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN 2017/18

Moved by Councillor S Peake and seconded by Councillor A Syrett.

RESOLVED that Councillor R Turner be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the 2017/18 municipal year.

Having made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and taken the Vice Chairman's Medallion, Councillor R Turner took the Vice Chairman's seat.

0003. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received on behalf of Councillors T Alexander, P Barnes, R Bowler, M Crane and C Moesby.

0004. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared at this meeting.

0005. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair made no further announcements in addition to the remarks he made upon election as the new Chairman.

0006. EXECUTIVE

Councillor A Syrett, Leader of the Council, advised of the portfolios for the Executive Members appointed for the year 2017/18. Two amendments to the portfolios were mentioned, the inclusion of equalities within the portfolio of People & Places held by Councillor M Dooley and the inclusion of procurement within the portfolio of Efficiency and Business Development held by Councillor S W Fritchley.

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

RESOLVED that Council notes the Cabinet positions and Portfolios for 2017/8 as set out in **Appendix A** to these minutes.

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0007. ESTABLISHMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY GROUPS 2017/18

Moved by Councillor J E Smith and Seconded by Councillor J Ritchie.

RESOLVED that the nominations of members to Committees and Advisory Groups 2017/18, as set out in **Appendix B** to these minutes, be approved.

(Governance Manager)

0008. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES 2017/18

Moved by Councillor H J Gilmour and seconded by Councillor J E Bennett.

RESOLVED that the nominations for the positions of Chairs and Vice Chairs of Committees and Advisory Bodies the municipal year 2017/18 as set out in **Appendix C** to these minutes.

(Governance Manager)

0009. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2017/18

Nominations to the positions as representatives of the Council to serve on outside bodies (for Council functions only) were presented, subject to changes to be made to reflect the change in Portfolio Holders.

Moved by Councillor J E Smith and Seconded by Councillor S W Fritchley.

RESOLVED that the nominations to outside bodies for the municipal year 2017/8 as set out in **Appendix D** to these minutes be approved.

(Governance Manager)

0010. REVIEW OF THE CONSITUTION

Council considered a report of the Assistant Director – Governance and Monitoring Officer, which sought approval of a revised Constitution, including Scheme of Delegation.

The Standards Committee had undertaken a review of the Council's Constitution to ensure it was up-to-date in line with legislation and current Best Practice. A Working Group had been set up to consider the review, which included the Council Procedure Rules, the Officer Scheme of Delegation, the Petition Scheme, Guidance on Planning Committee, Levels of Key Decisions and the Code of Conduct.

The level of the financial thresholds for Key Decisions had also been reviewed and it was recommended that the thresholds be changed to £75,000 in relation to Revenue Income or Expenditure and £150,000 in relation to Capital Income or Expenditure.

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A table summarising all of the proposed changes to the Constitution was attached to the report.

Moved by Councillor K Reid and seconded by Councillor A Syrett.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the revised Constitution attached to the report be approved.
- (2) That the areas of focus for the forthcoming 2017/18 Review be noted.
- (2) That delegated power be given to the Monitoring Officer to make changes to the Constitution arising from any new legislation, administrative errors or conflicts in interpretation.

(Governance Manager)

0011. DELEGATION SCHEME AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF MEETINGS

Council were advised that there had been no further changes to the Delegation Scheme or Terms of Reference other than the changes approved within the previous report.

Moved by Councillor K Reid and seconded by Councillor A Syrett.

RESOLVED that the Delegation Scheme and Terms of Reference of the Council's Committee and Advisory Groups be approved.

0012. OPERATION OF URGENCY RULES AND FINANCIAL LIMIT FOR KEY DECISIONS

Council considered a report of the Leader, which advised of decisions taken under special urgency rules over the past 12 months and the revised financial limits for key decisions.

The Council was required under legislation to report instances where Special Urgency Rules had been utilised in respect of Key Decisions. This was where it was impracticable to give the requisite notice of Key Decisions before they were made. Council had taken one such decision in the previous year and this was set out in the report.

The Council also had a constitutional requirement to advise of those occasions when it had taken decisions where Call-In provisions had been waived. The Council had not taken any such decisions in the previous 12 months.

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As approved under the review of the Council's Constitution, the financial thresholds for Key Decisions had been changed to £75,000 in relation to revenue income or expenditure and £150,000 in relation to capital income or expenditure.

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

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) the decision taken under special urgency rules in the past 12 months as detailed in the report be noted.
- (2) Council note that no decisions had been taken over the past 12 months where call-in had been waived under the urgency provisions in the Council's scrutiny rules.
- (2) The revised financial thresholds for Key Decisions be agreed as £75,000 for revenue income and expenditure and £150,000 for capital income and expenditure.

0013. ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT

Council considered a report of the Scrutiny Chairs which provided an update on the work of the Scrutiny Committees over the past year.

Details of the plans for the forthcoming year were also set out within the report.

Moved by Councillor S Peake and seconded by Councillor J Wilson.

RESOLVED that the Annual Scrutiny Report be noted.

0014. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Council considered a report of Councillor H Gilmour, Member Development Champion and Chair of the Member Development Working Group, setting out the work undertaken in respect of Member Development in 2016/17.

Following the completion of the personal development plans exercise carried out in 2015/16, learning and development priorities for the year were identified and used to prepare a learning and development programme for the forthcoming year, which was attached to the report. Council were informed of a number of amendments to the programme:

- Licensing Committee Briefing had been rescheduled to 15 June 2017.
- An agenda item on Local Government Financing would be included at the first Budget Scrutiny committee meeting, rather than the topic being the subject of separate training.
- Planning Committee Briefing had been rescheduled to 5 September 2017.

Moved by Councillor H J Gilmour and seconded by Councillor S Peake.

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RESOLVED that the annual report on Member Development 2015/16 be noted.

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) the annual report on Member Development 2016/17 be noted.
- (2) the Member Development Session Programme as attached to the report, subject to the amendments set out above, be approved.

0015. MINUTES

Moved by Councillor R Turner and seconded by Councillor S Peake.

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) the minutes as printed in the Minute Books dated 24 May 2017 be noted.
- (2) the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 April 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

0016. CHAIR'S URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business considered at this meeting.

The meeting concluded at 1035 hours.