

Minutes of the proceedings of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 12th MAY 2010 at 7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT Councillors W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, T.R. Bowman, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, V. Crosby, W. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, P. Gittins, G.C. Gray, G.R. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Mrs. I. Hewitson, T. Hogan, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, W. Iveson, Mrs. A. Palmer, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, Mrs. V.M. Raw and A. Warburton.

OFFICIALS Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Administrative Officer)
Mrs. C. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mr. D. Austin (Finance Manager)

1. **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare and seconded by Councillor V. Crosby that Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman be nominated as Mayor for the municipal year 2010/2011.

It was further proposed by Councillor W. Curtis and seconded by Councillor P. Ducker that Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh be nominated as Mayor for the municipal year 2010/2011.

Voting took place which resulted as follows:

For Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh	10 Votes
For Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman	17 Votes

RESOLVED – that **Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman** be appointed Chairman (Mayor) of the Council for the municipal year 2010/11.

Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman took the Chair for the meeting.

2. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

The Mayor made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11**

It was proposed by Councillor V. Crosby and seconded by Councillor M. Iveson that Councillor R.S. Fleming be nominated as Deputy Mayor for the year 2010/11.

It was further proposed by Councillor T. Hogan and seconded by Councillor P. Ducker that Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh be nominated as Deputy Mayor for the year 2010/11.

Voting took place which resulted as follows:

For Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh 12 Votes
For Councillor R.S. Fleming 16 Votes

RESOLVED – that **Councillor R.S. Fleming** be appointed Vice-Chairman (Deputy Mayor) of the Council for the municipal year 2010/11.

4. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

5. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs. H.J. Hutchinson.

6. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor V. Crosby declared a personal interest in agenda item No. 15(c) (Outside Bodies – Citizens Advice Bureau) but would remain in the meeting during the discussion thereon.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The newly appointed Mayor, Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman, thanked the Council for her appointment.

The Mayor would be announcing at a later date who she would choose as her nominated charity during her year in office. She would also be producing a list of civic calendar dates as soon as possible.

The Mayor presented the previous Mayor, Councillor Mary Dalton, with a memento from the Council to mark her year in office.

Councillor R.S. Fleming gave a vote of thanks to Councillor Mrs. Mary Dalton for the hard work she had carried out during her year as Mayor. The year had been extremely successful and the Council wished to record their thanks to Councillor Mrs. Dalton for being such a worthy ambassador for the Town.

8. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare, seconded by Councillor V. Crosby and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the **21st April 2010** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

9. **MEMBERS' ATTENDANCES**

The Town Clerk submitted a list of members' attendances for the municipal year 2009/10.

RESOLVED – that the information be received.

10. **DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2009/10**

The Town Clerk submitted a report setting out allowances and expenses which had been paid to Elected Members during the financial year 2009/10.

RESOLVED – that the information be received.

11. **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

The Council considered proposals in relation to standing committees of the Council:

RESOLVED – as follows:-

(1) **Environment Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare and seconded by Councillor B. Hall:

- (a) That an Environment Committee be appointed for the municipal year 2010/11.
- (b) That it comprise of 24 Members of the Council plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as Ex-Officio Members.
- (c) That the Membership of the Environment Committee be:

Councillors S. Bambridge, W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, T.R. Bowman, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, V. Crosby, W. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, T. Hogan, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, W. Iveson, Mrs. A. Palmer, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, Mrs. V.M. Raw and A. Warburton.
- (d) That the Chairman of the Environment Committee for the municipal year 2010/11 be **Councillor V. Crosby**.

It was proposed by Councillor V. Crosby and seconded by Councillor B. Hall that Councillor I. Gray be nominated as Vice-Chairman.

It was further proposed by Councillor W. Curtis and seconded by Councillor P. Ducker that Councillor A. Warburton be nominated as Vice-Chairman.

Voting took place which resulted as follows:

For Councillor A. Warburton	10 Votes
For Councillor I. Gray	16 Votes

- (e) That the Vice-Chairman of the Environment Committee for the municipal year 2010/11 be **Councillor I. Gray**.

(2) **Recreation Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare and seconded by Councillor V. Crosby:

- (a) That a Recreation Committee be appointed for the municipal year 2010/11.
- (b) That it comprise of 24 Members of the Council plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as Ex-Officio Members.
- (c) That the membership of the Recreation Committee be:

Councillors S. Bambridge, W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, T.R. Bowman, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, V. Crosby, W. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, T. Hogan, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, W. Iveson, Mrs. A. Palmer, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, Mrs. V.M. Raw and A. Warburton.
- (d) That the Chairman of the Recreation Committee for the municipal year 2010/11 be **Councillor B. Hall**.

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare and seconded by Councillor B. Hall that Councillor M. Iveson be nominated as Vice-Chairman.

It was further proposed by Councillor W. Curtis and seconded by Councillor P. Ducker that Councillor G.C. Gray be nominated as Vice-Chairman.

Voting took place which resulted as follows:

For Councillor G.C. Gray	12 Votes
For Councillor M. Iveson	16 Votes

- (e) That the Vice-Chairman of the Recreation Committee for the municipal year 2010/11 be **Councillor M. Iveson**.

(3) **Policy and Resources Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor B. Hall and seconded by Councillor W. Iveson,

- (a) That a Policy and Resources Committee be appointed for the municipal year 2010/11.
- (b) That it comprise of 24 Members of the Council plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as Ex-Officio Members.
- (c) That the membership of the Policy and Resources Committee be:

Councillors S. Bambridge, W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, T.R. Bowman, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, V. Crosby, W. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, T. Hogan, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, W. Iveson, Mrs. A. Palmer, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, Mrs. V.M. Raw and A. Warburton.

- (d) That the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the municipal year 2010/11 be **Councillor R.S. Fleming**.
- (e) That the Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the municipal year 2010/11 be **Councillor J.D. Clare**.

12. **NEW CONSTITUTION**

The Town Clerk submitted a report seeking members to consider for adoption the revised Standing Orders with regard to the business of the Council, Contracts and Procurement and Financial Regulations.

Members had previously received and approved the reports at the Council Meeting held on the 21st April, however the following two Standing Orders had been outstanding pending further information being sought from NALC. These had now been clarified and were appended for members consideration.

Standing Order No. 14 – Sealing of Documents

Standing Order No. 32 – Allegations of Breaches of the Code of Conduct.

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the Standing Orders for the business of the Council as amended with Standing Orders No. 14 and No. 32 be agreed and adopted by the Council.
- (ii) That the Standing Orders for Contracts and Procurement be agreed and adopted by the Council.
- (iii) That the Standing Orders for Financial Regulations be agreed and adopted by the Council.

13. **ADJOURNMENT OF COUNCIL MEETING**

It was moved by Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp, seconded by Councillor Mrs. V. Raw and

RESOLVED – that the meeting be adjourned to enable the Policy and Resources Committee and Recreation Committee to appoint Sub-Committees and Working Groups.

14. **RECONVENING OF COUNCIL MEETING**

It was moved by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor K. Henderson and

RESOLVED – that the meeting of the Council be reconvened following the meetings of the Recreation and Policy and Resources Committees.

15. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor V. Crosby declared a personal interest in item (c) (Citizens Advice Bureau) but remained in the meeting during the discussion thereon.

The Town Clerk submitted a report requesting the Council to nominate representatives on a number of outside bodies:

RESOLVED – that the following members and officers be nominated to the following bodies:

(a) Youth Council

Councillor V. Crosby and A. Warburton together with the Corporate and Policy Officer.

(b) County Durham Association of Local Councils

Councillors R.S. Fleming, J.D. Clare and the Town Clerk.

(c) Citizens' Advice Bureau

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare, seconded by Councillor I. Gray that Councillor M. Iveson be nominated with Councillor B. Hall as reserve.

It was further proposed by Councillor W. Curtis, seconded by Councillor P Ducker that Councillor G.C. Gray be nominated.

Voting took place as follows:	For Councillor M. Iveson	15 votes
	For Councillor G.C. Gray	8 votes
		1 absention

Councillor M. Iveson was then nominated as the representative on the Citizens' Advice Bureau with Councillor B. Hall as reserve.

(d) Agnew Community Association

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare, seconded by Councillor B. Hall that Councillors K. Henderson and Mrs. B.A. Clare be nominated.

It was further proposed by Councillor W. Curtis, seconded by Councillor P Ducker that Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh be nominated.

Voting took place as follows:	For Councillor K. Henderson	16 votes
	For Councillor Mrs. B. A. Clare	16 votes
	For Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh	8 votes

Councillors K. Henderson and Mrs. B.A. Clare were then nominated as representatives on the Agnew Community Association.

- (e) Woodham Village Community Association
Councillor Mrs. J. Gray and Councillor K. Henderson.
- (f) Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (AAP) Local Councils' Committee
Councillor R.S. Fleming, Councillor B. Hall and the Town Clerk.
- (g) Town Centre Forum
That the Town Centre Forum group be abolished.
- (h) Durham Countryside Volunteers
Councillors V. Crosby, I. Gray and A. Warburton.
- (i) Larger Local Councils' Forum
Councillor R.S. Fleming and Councillor B. Hall and the Town Clerk.
- (j) Lifelong Learning Committee
Councillors Mrs. D. Bowman, V. Crosby and R.S. Fleming.
- (k) Normandy Veterans' Association
Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton.
- (l) Woodham Community Technology College Forum
Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman and Councillor Mrs. V.M. Raw.
- (m) Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre
It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare, seconded by Councillor B. Hall that Councillor V. Crosby be nominated.

It was further proposed by Councillor W. Curtis, seconded by Councillor P Ducker that Councillor A. Warburton be nominated.

Voting took place as follows: For Councillor V. Crosby 16 votes
 For Councillor A. Warburton 10 votes

Councillor V. Crosby was then nominated to the Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre.
- (n) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society
It was agreed that this Society be added to the list of Outside Bodies and that it be sought for two representatives to be nominated to this Society.

That the Council's representatives be Councillors I. Gray and B. Haigh.

16. **MEETINGS 2010/11**

The Town Clerk submitted a suggested schedule of Council meeting dates for the municipal year 2010/11.

RESOLVED – that the dates be approved.

17. **CIVIC DIGNITARY – INVITATION LIST**

The Town Clerk submitted a report to seek members views on the Civic Dignitary Invitation list for the municipal year 2010/2011.

The standard list of Councils were:

Durham County Council
Seaham Town Council
Shildon Town Council
Spennymoor Town Council
Durham City Charter Trust
Peterlee Town Council
Chilton Town Council
Sedgefield Town Council
Ferryhill Town Council

The Mayor could also choose up to a further two Councils to be added to the Council's standard list.

It was proposed that officers be asked to bring forward, to Council, a report outlining the Civic Functions of this Council and the costs involved and also to suggest alternative ways to make them more efficient.

RESOLVED – as follows:

- (i) That the standard list of Council's be approved.
- (ii) That the Mayor would choose two further Authorities to be added to the Civic Dignitary list for her year in office.
- (iii) That Officers prepare a report in respect of Civic Functions and the costs involved for further consideration.

18. **COUNCIL INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS REVIEW**

The Finance Manager submitted a report setting out for consideration the annual review of the Council's insurance arrangements, as required by the Council's approved Standing Orders.

RESOLVED – that the annual review of the Council's insurance arrangements be approved.

19. **LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER**

It was reported that for the Municipal Year 2010/11 the Leader would be Councillor R.S. Fleming and the Deputy Leader would be Councillor J.D. Clare.

CHAIRMAN.