

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, 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2012 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, 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, Mrs. W. Hillary, Mrs. K. Hopper, 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)

1. **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2012/13**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare and seconded by Councillor V. Crosby that Councillor Mrs. V. Raw be nominated as Mayor for the municipal year 2012/2013.

**RESOLVED** – that **Councillor Mrs. V. Raw** be appointed Chairman (Mayor) of the Council for the municipal year 2012/13.

**Councillor Mrs. V. Raw took the Chair for the meeting.**

2. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

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

3. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2012/13**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton, and seconded by Councillor Mrs. K. Hopper that Councillor Mrs. B.A. Clare be nominated as Deputy Mayor for the year 2012/13.

**RESOLVED** – that **Councillor Mrs. B.A. Clare** be appointed Vice-Chairman (Deputy Mayor) of the Council for the municipal year 2012/13.

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 R.S. Fleming.

6. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest declared.

## 7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The newly appointed Mayor, Councillor Mrs. V. Raw, thanked the Council for nominating her as Mayor in this special year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics.

She informed the Council that she would be nominating the following charities to support during her year in office:-

- Butterwick Hospice
- Town Organisations
- A donation to help Soldiers to cope from psychological problems when returning from war zones.

A full list of civic calendar dates would be produced and circulated as soon as possible, however the Civic Service would be held in conjunction with a Thanksgiving Service for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in St. Clare's Church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012.

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

The Deputy Leader gave a vote of thanks to Councillor Mary Dalton for the excellent work she had carried out during her year as Mayor. She had been a great ambassador to the Town in all the events she had attended. Special mention was given the Freedom of the Town which had taken place and the Mayor had been given the honour of inspecting the troops.

Thanks were also given to the Mayor's Consort, Michael Dalton, who had assisted his Mother with many of the events in a very professional manner.

## 8. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor A. Warburton, seconded by Councillor V. Crosby and

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the **18<sup>th</sup> April 2012** 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 2011/12.

**RESOLVED** – that the information be received.

## 10. **DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2011/12**

The Town Clerk submitted a report setting out allowances and expenses which had been paid to Elected Members during the financial year 2011/12.

**RESOLVED** – that the information be received.

## 11. ANNUAL CONSTITUTION REVIEW

The Town Clerk submitted a report seeking members to consider for adoption parts of the Council's Constitution which had been amended.

The report and set out each Article of the Constitution separately giving details of proposed amendments.

- (a) Article 1 – How the Council Operates  
No changes
- (b) Article 2 – Committee Structure  
Deletion of the Planning Sub-Committee from the structure of the Council's Committees / Sub-Committees and Working Groups.
- (c) Article 3 – Powers and Duties of Committees  
Policy and Resources Committee - changes to the Personnel Sub-Committee Item Nos. 10 and 11.  
Recreation Committee – No changes.  
Environment Committee – changes to Item 17 and the deletion of Item 18.
- (d) Article 4 – Mayor's Information Booklet  
No changes.
- (e) Article 5 – Members' Allowances Scheme  
No changes.
- (f) Article 6A – Standing Orders – Relating to Proceedings and Business of the Council  
Deletion of the reference to the Planning Sub-Committee.
- (g) Article 6B (Contracts and Procurement) and Article 7 – Financial Regulations  
Previously approved at Council on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012.
- (h) Article 8 – Scheme of Delegation
  - Amendments in respect of delegated powers to the Town Clerk in respect of planning applications.
  - Changes to Planning Applications for the Environment committee to be given delegated powers to respond on behalf of the Council.
  - Changes to the Personnel Sub-Committee – Member Appeal Panel to be included and given delegated powers to determine appeals under the Council's Appeal Process and Procedure.
- (i) Articles 9, 10, 11, 12 – No changes.
- (j) Article 13 – Strategies / High Level Documents / Service Plans  
These are updated annually at their appropriate times.
- (k) Article 14 – Council Policies  
Minor amendments were approved to the Council Policy list at the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012 and ratified by Council on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the amendments to the Council's Constitution as outlined in the report be adopted.

12. **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

The Council considered proposals in relation to Standing Committees of the Council:

**RESOLVED** – as follows:-

(i) **Environment Committee**

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

- (a) That an Environment Committee be appointed for the municipal year 2012/13.
- (b) That it comprise of 26 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, B. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, P. Gittins, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Mrs. W. Hillary, Mrs. K. Hopper, 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 2012/13 be **Councillor V. Crosby**.
- (e) That the Vice-Chairman of the Environment Committee for the municipal year 2012/13 be **Councillor I. Gray**.

(ii) **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 2012/13.
- (b) That it comprise of 26 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, B. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, P. Gittins, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Mrs. W. Hillary, Mrs. K. Hopper, 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 2012/13 be **Councillor B. Hall.**
- (e) That the Vice-Chairman of the Recreation Committee for the municipal year 2012/13 be **Councillor M. Iveson.**

(iii) **Policy and Resources Committee**

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

- (a) That a Policy and Resources Committee be appointed for the municipal year 2012/13.
- (b) That it comprise of 26 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, B. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, P. Gittins, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Mrs. W. Hillary, Mrs. K. Hopper, 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 2012/13 be **Councillor R.S. Fleming.**
- (e) That the Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for the municipal year 2012/13 be **Councillor J.D. Clare.**

13. **ADJOURNMENT OF COUNCIL MEETING**

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

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

14. **RECONVENING OF COUNCIL MEETING**

It was moved by Councillor B. Hall, seconded by Councillor V. Crosby and

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

15. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Town Clerk submitted a report setting out the current Outside Bodies list together with the names of members currently serving on those Bodies.

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

(a) **Youth Council**

It was proposed by Councillor J.D. Clare and seconded by Councillor B. Hall that the following amendment be made to the Youth Council membership:

‘That the membership of the Youth Council be reduced from 3 places to 2 places plus the Corporate and Policy Officer.’

It was further proposed by Councillor A. Warburton and seconded by Councillor W. Curtis that the membership of the Youth Council remain at 3 places plus the Corporate and Policy Officer.

Voting took place and resulted in the membership of the Youth Council being reduced to 2 places plus the Corporate and Policy Officer and the following be appointed:

Councillor V. Crosby and Mrs. K. Hopper 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**

Councillor B. Hall with Councillor M. Iveson as reserve.

(d) **Woodham Village Community Association**

Councillor Mrs. J. Gray and Councillor K. Henderson.

(e) **Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (AAP) Local Councils’ Committee**

Councillor R.S. Fleming, Councillor B. Hall and the Town Clerk.

(f) Countryside Volunteers

That the Countryside Volunteers be removed from the Outside Bodies list.

(g) Larger Local Councils' Forum

Councillor R.S. Fleming and Councillor J.D. Clare and the Town Clerk.

(h) Lifelong Learning Committee

Councillors Mrs. D. Bowman, Mrs. K. Hopper and Mrs. A. Palmer.

(i) Normandy Veterans' Association

It was pointed out that this Association would be disbanding shortly with only one more meeting scheduled.

As agreed at a previous meeting the Normandy Veterans would be presenting their standard to the Council for display in the Council Chamber.

That Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton would remain as the representative until the Association disbands.

(j) Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre

Councillor Mrs. K. Hopper.

(k) Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society – (2 Places)

Councillors I. Gray and B. Haigh.

(l) The Cubby

That the Cubby be removed from the Outside Bodies list.

(m) Health and Wellbeing Partnership Network

Councillor M. Iveson.

(n) Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve

Councillor I. Gray.

16. **MEETINGS 2012/13**

The Town Clerk submitted a suggested schedule of Council meeting dates for the municipal year 2012/13.

**RESOLVED** – that the dates be approved.

17. **COUNCIL INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS REVIEW**

The Finance Manager had 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.

18. **LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER**

It was reported that for the Municipal Year 2012/13 the Leader would be Councillor R.S. Fleming and the Deputy Leader would be Councillor J.D. Clare.

**CHAIRMAN.**