

Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2012** at **7.15 p.m.**

**PRESENT**                    **Councillor Mrs. V. Raw (Chairman) and**  
Councillors W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, V. Crosby, W. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, R.S. Fleming, G.C. Gray, G.R. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Mrs. W.P. Hillary, Mrs. K. Hopper, Mrs. A. Palmer and Mrs. E.M. Paylor.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Mr. G. Barker (Senior Audit Manager – Audit Commission)

**OFFICIALS**                Mr. D. Austin (Finance Manager)  
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin. Officer)

36.    **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

37.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors T.R. Bowman, P. Gittins, I. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, Mrs. I. Hewitson, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and A. Warburton.

38.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

39.    **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton, seconded by Councillor V. Crosby and

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

40.    **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT 2011/12**

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Gavin Barker Senior Audit Manager from the Audit Commission to the meeting to give information on his Annual Governance Report for 2011/12 and to ask the Council to sign the Letter of Representation.

Mr. Barker gave his report on the Annual Governance Report for the period 2011/12 stating that the Audit Commission had given an unqualified opinion on the financial statements and the Value for Money aspect of the Council.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i)    That Mr. Barker be thanked for his attendance to present the Annual Governance Report 2011/12 and for the efficient manner in which he had carried out the Audit.
- (ii)   That the information from Mr. Barker be received.
- (iii)   That approval be given for the signing of the Letter of Representation.

41. **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2011/12**

The Finance Manager submitted a report and the statutory Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2011/12 for approval.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the Statement of Accounts for 2011/12 be approved.
- (iii) That the Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts be signed by the Chairman of the Council.
- (iv) That the Annual Report included within the Accounts be approved.
- (v) That following the Audit of Accounts by the Audit Commission, the Annual Governance Report for 2011/12 the accounts be published in accordance with the statutory framework no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012.
- (vi) That the Council's thanks be recorded to the Finance Staff on the work carried out by them to receive such an excellent report from the Auditor.

42. **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2011/12**

The Corporate Management Team submitted a report and the Annual Governance Statement for the 2011/12 financial year for approval.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the Annual Governance Statement for 2011/12 be approved and signed off by the Town Clerk and the Chairman of the Council.

43. **LETTER OF REPRESENTATION**

The Finance Manager submitted his report which sought the Council's approval for the signing of the 'letter of representation' as required by the Audit Commission as part of the annual audit of the Council.

**RESOLVED** – as follows:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the contents of the 'letter of representation' be approved.
- (iii) That the 'letter of representation' be signed by the Chairman of the Council, Town Clerk and Finance Manager and forwarded to the Audit Commission.
- (iv) That following receipt of the final audit opinion and audit closure certificate the notice of completion of the Audit of Accounts be published in the local press in accordance with the statutory framework.

**CHAIRMAN.**