

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER, 2015 AT 4.00 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

Notice is hereby given of the above mentioned meeting of the Council which you are summoned to attend for the purpose of transacting the business set out below:-

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

To declare any interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Members should refer to the guidance included as part of this agenda.

3. Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 October, 2015, Minute No's. 45 – 57; and Page No's.28 – 37.

4. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence

5. Questions in Accordance with Rule 8

No questions have been submitted in accordance with Rule 8.

6. Part 1 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees and Panels

To receive for information details of resolutions in respect of powers and duties delegated by the Council in Part 1 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Committees and Panels :-

(a) Planning Control Committee

- (i) 26 August, 2015
Minutes: 37 – 48
Page Nos.: 22 – 27
- (ii) 16 September, 2015
Minutes: 49 – 58
Page Nos.: 28 – 35
- (iii) 7 October, 2015
Minutes: 59 – 64
Page Nos.: 36 – 38

7. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet, Committees etc.

8. Motion(s) Received under Rule 6

The following Motion has been submitted in accordance with Rule 6.

Motion submitted by Councillor J. Preece, Norton Canes Ward:

This Council notes:

- In July 2015 the government announced its trade union bill - a wide-ranging set of proposals which will undermine the basic right to strike and make it harder for workers to organise effectively in trade unions.
- The proposals include ending the ban on employers bringing in agency workers to cover for permanent staff during industrial action - which fundamentally undermines the right to strike.
- The proposals will bring in new restrictions on pickets and protests during strikes. Unions will have to give the details of a lead picketer on every picket line to the police and employers. The union will be required to submit a campaign plan to the police and employers two weeks in advance - setting out what they intend to do, whether they will use a loudspeaker or carry a banner and even what strikers intend to put on social media, such as Facebook or Twitter.
- The government have also proposed new thresholds for turnout in strike ballots, plus additional thresholds for those working in "important public services".
- The government want to grant ministers the power to unilaterally cut so-called "facilities time" in the public sector. This is paid time-off mutually agreed between employers and unions for union reps to represent their members and negotiate with their employer.
- The government also proposes to prohibit public sector employers assisting unions to collect their membership subscriptions through payrolls - even though this is used for a variety of other staff benefits such as cycle-to-work schemes and childcare vouchers.

Council further notes:

- The human rights organisations Liberty, Amnesty International and the British Institute of Human Rights have said that the government's proposals "would hamper people's basic rights to protest and shift even more power from the employee to the employer".
- The government refuses to allow trade unions to ballot their members electronically, which could help increase engagement.
- Trade unions take industrial action for a wide range of reasons including defending wages and pensions, conditions at work and safety.
- Strikes in the UK are at historically low levels.

Council believes:

- No worker ever wants to go on strike - but it is a crucial last resort for workers when their employer refuses to listen to their views, negotiate with them or compromise
- •The right to strike and protest are fundamental rights which should be valued and respected in a free and democratic society.
- Without the right to strike, workers will be unable to defend their jobs or pay, stand up for decent services and achieve fairness and safety at work.
- The government's proposals will undermine constructive employment relations in Cannock Chase District Council. We believe harmonious industrial relations are achieved by meaningful engagement with trade unions and their members.
- That, in the spirit of localism, councils should be free to build positive industrial relations that work for their communities without central government interference.

Council resolves:

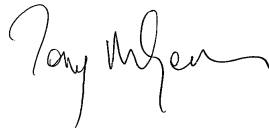
- To support the TUC's campaign to protect the right to strike.
- To write to the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills stating the council's opposition to the government's proposals on trade unions.
- To write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government stating the opposition to the interference of central government in local industrial relations as it is against the spirit of localism.
- Write to our MP, Amanda Milling, informing her of our position and encouraging her to oppose the trade union bill.
- Continue to value the importance of meaningful workforce engagement and representation through trade unions in Cannock Chase District Council.
- In the event that the government's proposals become law, in so far as is

lawful for the council as an employer:

- to continue to allow recognised trade unions to use subscriptions through payroll, or otherwise support trade unions' efforts to move members onto direct debit subscriptions, through allowing access to workers and as much notice as possible of any changed arrangements.
- to maintain current arrangements on "facility time" for trade union reps to represent their members.
- to commit not to use agency workers to break strikes.

9. Review of Licensing Policy

Report of the Head of Environmental Health (Item 9.1 – 9.5, plus Appendix).



T. McGovern,
Managing Director

Civic Centre,
Beecroft Road,
Cannock
WS11 1BG

10 November, 2015

GUIDANCE ON DECLARING PERSONAL, PECUNIARY AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

DEFINITION OF WHAT IS A PERSONAL, PECUNIARY AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

A PERSONAL INTEREST is one where your well-being or financial position, or those of a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association would be affected to a greater extent than the majority of Council Tax payers, ratepayers, or inhabitants of the electoral ward(s) affected by the decision. You automatically have a personal interest if you have given notice in the Register of Members' Interests, e.g. if you are appointed to an outside body by the Council.

A PECUNIARY INTEREST is a personal interest where the matter

- a) affects your financial position or that of a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association or a body in which you have registered in the Register of Members Interests or
- b) relates to the determining of any consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to you or any person with whom you have a close association or a body in which you have registered in the Register of Members Interests

and, in either case, where a member of the public knowing the facts would reasonably regard the interest as so significant it is likely to affect your judgement of the public interest

A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST is an interest of yourself or your partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom you are living as if you are civil partners) in respect of employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried out for profit or gain; sponsorship; contracts; land; licences; corporate tenancies; or securities, as defined with the Localism Act, 2011.

PLEASE MAKE IT CLEAR WHETHER IT IS A PERSONAL, PECUNIARY OR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST.

It would be helpful if, prior to the commencement of the meeting, Members informed the Monitoring Officer of any declarations of interest, of which you are aware. This will help in the recording of the declarations in the Minutes of the meeting.

DECLARING INTERESTS AT FULL COUNCIL

The Code of Conduct requires that personal interests where you have a personal interest in any business of the Council, and where you are aware or ought reasonably to be aware of the existence of the personal interest, and you attend a meeting of the Council at which the business is considered, you must disclose to that

meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

Some items will be mentioned in the papers for full Council but are not actually being considered by Full Council. In such circumstances the Monitoring Officer's advice to Members is that there is no need to declare an interest unless the particular matter is mentioned or discussed. As a general rule, Members only need to declare an interest at full Council in the following circumstances:

- Where a matter is before the Council for a decision and/or
- Where the matter in which the Member has an interest is specifically mentioned or discussed at the Council meeting.