

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER, 2016
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Stretton, Mrs. P.Z., M.B.E. (Chairman)

Dudson, A. (Vice Chairman)

Adamson, G.	Hoare, M.W.A.
Alcott, G.	Johnson, J.P.
Allen, F.W.C.	Johnson, T.B.
Allt, Mrs. A.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Bennett, C.	Lea, C.I.
Bowater, J.L.	Martin, Mrs. C.E.
Burnett, G.	Mitchell, Mrs. C.
Buttery, M.S.	Pearson, A.R.
Cartwright, Mrs. S.M.	Preece, J.P.T.L.
Christian, Miss J.	Snape, D.J.
Cooper, Miss J.	Snape, P.A.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Sutherland, M.
Dean, A.	Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Dudson, Miss M.J.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Foley, D.	Whitehouse, Miss S.
Freeman, Miss M.A.	Witton, P.T.
Grice, Mrs. D.	Woodhead, P.E.
Grocott, M.R.	

53. Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted for Councillors J.L. Bowater; W.T.A. Hardman; G.N. Molineux; C.L. Peake; and C.D. Smith* (*arrived at 5.25 p.m.).

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

The following Declarations of Interest were made:

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Nature</u>
Mrs. M.A. Davis	Minute 35 of Planning Control Committee – 21 September, 2016: Application CH/16/100	Personal and Pecuniary
Mrs. S. Cartwright	A person affected by Motion (i)	Personal and Pecuniary
C. Lea	Spouse or partner of a person affected by Motion (i)	Personal and Pecuniary
Mrs. C. Martin	Person affected by Motion (i)	Personal and Pecuniary
A Pearson	Spouse or partner of a person affected by Motion (i)	Personal and Pecuniary
M. Sutherland	Spouse or partner of a person affected by Motion (i)	Personal and Pecuniary

The Legal Services Manager advised that those Members who had declared an interest in respect of Motion (i) could not participate in the debate and would need to leave the Chamber when the matter was discussed.

No other Declarations of Interests were made in addition to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members' Interests.

55. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 October, 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed.

56. The Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence

(i) Order of Business

The Chairman advised that she had agreed to change the order of business and the Motions listed at Item 8 would be considered following completion of the Chairman's announcements.

(ii) Chairman's Charity Collection Box

The Chairman advised that a collection box was circulating for Members to donate to her fundraising. At the meeting held on 5 October, 2016 a total of £37.00 was received, and she thanked all Members for their donations.

(iii) Carol Concert

The Chairman informed Members that she would be hosting a Carol Concert at 1.00pm on Friday, 9 December, 2016, at St. Luke's Church, Cannock. All Members were invited to attend and to bring along friends and family as they wished.

57. Motion(s) Received under Rule 6

Councillors Mrs. S.M. Cartwright; C. Lea; Mrs. C.E. Martin; A. Pearson; and M. Sutherland; who had declared an interest in respect of Motion (i) left the Chamber while the matter was discussed.

- (i) Consideration was given to the following Motion submitted under Rule 6 by Councillor G. Adamson, Leader of the Council, which was seconded and debated:

“The Council calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6th April 1951, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification.

Hundreds of thousands of women had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little/no/personal notification of the changes. Some women had only two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age.

Many women born in the 1950's are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace so struggle to find employment. Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60. It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time. The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.

The Council calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.”

For information, the Legal Services Manager advised that the reference dates above should be 6 April, 1950, not 6 April, 1951.

A named vote was held.

For

Adamson, G.
Alcott, G.
Allen, F.W.C.
Bennett, C.
Buttery, M.S.
Cooper, Miss J.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.
Dean, A.
Dudson, A.
Dudson, Miss M.J.
Foley, D.
Freeman, Miss M.A.
Grice, Mrs. D.
Grocott, M.J.
Johnson, T.B.
Kraujalis, J.T.
Mitchell, Mrs. C.
Preece, J.T.
Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Whitehouse, Miss S.
Witton, P.
Woodhead, P.E.

23**Against**

Snape, P.A.

1**Abstain**

Allt, Mrs. A.
Burnett, G.
Christian, Miss J.
Hoare, M.
Johnson, J.P.
Snape, D.J.
Sutton, Mrs. H.M.

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In addition, Councillors J. Bowater; W.T.A. Hardman; G.N. Molineux; Mrs. C.L. Peake; and C.D. Smith were absent from the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The Council calls upon the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6th April 1950, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification.
- (B) The Council calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1950, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.

Councillors Mrs. S.M. Cartwright; C. Lea; Mrs. C.E. Martin; A. Pearson; and M. Sutherland; who had declared an interest in respect of Motion (i) returned to the Chamber following resolution of the Motion.

- (ii) Councillor P.A. Snape, Leader of the Opposition, withdrew his Motion (below), in light of a defibrillator having been installed, as requested.

"Following the positive discussions at the Full Council Meeting on Wednesday 4th October 2016, on the benefits of having a modern type and easy to use defibrillator machines positioned within easy access to both the Ballroom and Council Chamber, I request that Members authorise Cannock Chase District Council to purchase one or more machines. Such a machine would be in the interests of Members, Officers and Members of the Public, whilst using this building."

- (iii) Councillor M. Sutherland, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Economic Development and Planning Shadow Portfolio Leader, withdrew his Motion (below), following assurances from the Leader of the Council that he had already written to the Boundary Commission on behalf of the Council, in support of their recommendations concerning the Cannock Chase Parliamentary Constituency boundary.

"Proposal:

That Cannock Chase District Council formally responds back to the Boundary Commission in support of their (BC) review to retain the current Cannock Chase constituency.

Reason:

Cannock Chase District Council notes the work of the Boundary Commission to review the Parliamentary Constituency in Staffordshire. Cannock Chase District Council supports the Boundary Commission decision to retain the current Cannock Chase constituency with no change or alterations and welcomes the fact that the Boundaries Commission respect the importance for Cannock Chase electors to feel a real sense of common identity with their constituency within Cannock Chase."

- (iv) Consideration was given to the following Motion submitted under Rule 6 by Councillor J.P.T.L. Preece, Environment Portfolio Leader, which was seconded and debated:

“This Council is opposed to the charges introduced by Staffordshire County Council on 1st November 2016 for a number of items that were previously disposed of for free at Household Waste Recycling Centres.

This Council believes that the charges will result in the increase in the level of fly tipping in our District and calls on Staffordshire County Council to reimburse Cannock Chase Council for any increased costs incurred, due to the increased levels of fly tipping following the opposition of the charges.

This Council is also concerned at the lack of consultation with both District and Borough Councils and the public in general prior to the imposition of the “Tory Tip Tax”. This is not in the spirit of open Government nor is it true partnership working.”

A named vote was held.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Adamson, G.	Hoare, M.	Burnett, G.
Alcott, G.		Christian, Miss J.
Allen, F.W.C.		Johnson, J.P.
Bennett, C.		Lea, C.I.
Buttery, M.S.		Snape, D.J.
Cartwright, Mrs. S.M.		Snape, P.A.
Cooper, Miss J.		Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.		
Dean, A.		
Dudson, A.		
Dudson, Miss M.J.		
Foley, D.		
Freeman, Miss M.A.		
Grice, Mrs. D.		
Grocott, M.J.		
Johnson, T.B.		
Kraujalis, J.T.		

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Martin, Mrs. C.E.		
Mitchell, Mrs. C.		
Pearson, A.R.		
Preece, J.T.		
Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.		
Todd, Mrs. D.M.		
Whitehouse, Miss S.		
Witton, P.		
Woodhead, P.E.		
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In addition, Councillors A. Allt (excused); J. Bowater; W.T.A. Hardman; G.N. Molineux; Mrs. C.L. Peake; M. Sutherland; and C.D. Smith were absent from the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The Council should communicate its opposition to the charges introduced by Staffordshire County Council on 1 November, 2016 for a number of items that were previously disposed of for free at Household Waste Recycling Centres.
- (B) The Council was concerned that the charges would result in an increase in the level of fly tipping in the District and called on Staffordshire County Council to reimburse Cannock Chase Council for any increased costs incurred, due to increased levels of fly tipping following the introduction of the charges.
- (C) The Council was also concerned at the lack of consultation with both District and Borough Councils and the public in general prior to the imposition of the charges, which was not in the spirit of open Government nor was it true partnership working.

The meeting was adjourned at 5.35 p.m. and reconvened at 5.45 p.m.

Councillor J.T. Kraujalis excused himself during the adjournment and did not return to the meeting. Councillor C.D. Smith was a late arrival and participated in the meeting from its reconvention.

58. Question(s) in Accordance with Rule 8

No questions had been submitted in accordance with Rule 8.

59. Part 1 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees and Panels

RESOLVED:

That the Part 1 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Committees and Panels be received for information:-

- (a) Cabinet – 22 September, 2016

Peer Review (Leader's Update – Minute 44)

In response to a question, the Leader said that he considered the findings of the Peer Review to be generally good. While it was accepted that some things could be done better / more efficiently, the Council was also doing a lot of things well considering its financial circumstances. By way of acting to address some of the points raised, the Cabinet would be recommending a reduction in the number of Committees and their frequency of meetings as a recommendation in the Financial Recovery Plan.

- (b) Planning Control Committee – 21 September and 12 October, 2016

- (c) Customers and Corporate Scrutiny Committee – 27 July, 2016

- (d) Health Scrutiny Committee – 6 September, 2016

- (e) Licensing and Public Protection Committee – 27 and 28 July, 2016

- (f) Appeals and Complaints Panel – 30 September and reconvened on 1 November, 2016

60. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet, Committees etc.

None received.

61. Gambling Act 2005 – Review of Statement of Principles

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Environmental Health (Item 9.1 to 9.37 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the Statement of Principles included at Appendix 1 to the report be approved and adopted.

62. Approval of Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2016-18

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Environmental Health (Item 10.1 – 10.50 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2016-18 (The Plan) included at Appendix 1 to the report and detailing service demand and arrangements for delivery, monitoring and review, be approved.

- (B) The Head of Environmental Health be authorised to make any amendments to The Plan required due to changes in legislation or government guidance and minor variations to The Plan in the interests of service improvement or operational efficiency.

63. Pest Control Service

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Environmental Health (Item 11.1 – 11.4 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the reintroduction of charging for pest control treatment on domestic premises, except for rats and mice, be agreed.

64. Representatives on Outside Bodies 2016-17

Consideration was given to the Report of the Managing Director (Item 12.1 – 12.4 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the following Members be approved as the Council's revised appointees on the Poplars Landfill Site Liaison Committee for the remainder of the 2016-17 municipal year:

- Councillor Miss M.A. Freeman (Cannock South ward);
- Councillor J.T. Kraujalis (Cannock South ward);
- Councillor D.J. Snape (Hawks Green ward);
- Councillor M. Sutherland (Hawks Green ward);
- Councillor M.W.A. Hoare (Norton Canes ward);
- Councillor Mrs. P.Z. Stretton (Norton Canes ward);
- Councillor Miss J. Cooper (Environment Scrutiny Committee Chairman).

65. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

The Legal Services Manager advised that a blanket exclusion was not necessary, and the public need only be excluded in the event that exempt information was discussed.

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER, 2016
PART 2

66. Part 2 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees and Panels

RESOLVED:

That the Part 2 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Committees and Panels be received for information:-

- (a) Cabinet – 22 September, 2016

Debt Recovery (Minute 52)

For clarification, the Legal Services Manager advised that non-payment of Council Tax by a Councillor did not constitute a breach of the Code of Conduct as the error or omission had occurred in their personal capacity, and did not arise from their position as a Councillor. Therefore, it would not be a matter for referral to / consideration by the Standards Committee.

- (b) Licensing an Public Protection Committee – 27 and 28 July, 2016

- (c) Appeals and Complaints Panel – 30 September and 1 November, 2016

The meeting closed at 6:20 p.m.

CHAIRMAN