

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 6 APRIL, 2011

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Alcott, G. (Chairman)
Jones, R. (Vice-Chairman)

Adamson, G.	Grice, Mrs. D.
Allen, F.W.C.	Grocott, M.R.
Ansell, Mrs. P.A.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Ball, G.D.	Meaden, R.G.
Beddows, J.	Mitchell, Mrs. C.
Bennett, Mrs. D.J.	Molineux, G.N.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Morgan, C.W.J.
Bernard, J.D.	Rowley, J.
Bullock, L.W.	Stanley, N.K.
Burnett, G.	Sutherland, M.
Cartwright, Mrs. S.M.	Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Collis, C.	Thomas, D.
Davies, D.N.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Dixon, D.I.	Whitehouse, Mrs. L.
Easton, Mrs. D.M.	Williams, A.
Easton, R.	Williams, B.
Freeman, M.P.	Williams, Mrs. P.
Gilbert, P.	Yates, Ms. W.

96. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Burnett; Mrs. M.A. Davis and M.R. Green.

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

The following declarations were made in addition to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members' Interests or declared in the Minutes of Committees being adopted at the meeting:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
Davies, D.N.	Minute 114 of Planning Control Committee: Application CH/10/0424 – Member is the applicant	Personal
Mitchell, Mrs. C.	Minute 34 of Health Scrutiny – Member is a Member of one of the organisations mentioned	Personal
Bernard, J.D.	Minute 14 of Scrutiny – Member is a Member of Staffordshire County Council's Planning Committee	Personal and Prejudicial
Easton, R.	Minute 14 of Scrutiny – Member is a Member of Staffordshire County Council's Planning Committee	Personal and Prejudicial

98. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 March, 2011 be approved as a correct record.

99. Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence

(i) Chairman's Charity Box

The Chairman reported that a charity collection box was circulating for Members to make a donation to his Charities. At the Council meeting held on 2 March, 2011 a total of £30.76 was donated.

(ii) Chairman's Charity Ball

The Chairman thanked all those who had attended the event. He was pleased to report that a total of £949.20 had been raised on the evening.

(iii) District Elections / Retiring Members

The Chairman advised that three current Members were not standing for re-election at the forthcoming elections on 5 May, and he wished to take the opportunity to acknowledge their hard work, dedication and valuable contributions over the years. The Chairman then invited fellow Members to speak about the individuals before he presented gifts to the Members concerned:

Councillor L.W. Bullock who had served for a total of 12 years;
Councillor Mrs. D.M. Easton who had served for 4 years; and
Councillor D. Thomas who had served for a total of 31 years.

100. Questions in Accordance with Rule 8

No questions had been submitted in accordance with Rule 8.

101. Part 1 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Forums and Panels

RESOLVED:

That the Part 1 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Committees, Forums and Panels be adopted and any recommendations be approved and decisions implemented following the expiry of any call-in period:-

- (a) Cabinet – 3 February, 2011

In respect of Minute 110, Members welcomed the proposals in respect of a Health Centre for Cannock, but agreed that there was a need to keep pressurising partners to ensure the best possible range of services.

- (b) Planning Control Committee – 2 February and 23 February, 2011

- (c) Licensing and Public Protection Committee – 27 January, 2011

- (d) Audit and Governance Committee – 27 January, 2011

The Leader of the Council advised that the Council had been accepted as a member of the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership, which, it was considered, best addressed the District's economic needs.

- (e) Health Scrutiny Committee – 17 January, 2011

Members were advised that the levels of Psychology Services for Cancer Patients had been reinstated to previous levels.

- (f) Scrutiny Committee – 14 September, 23 November and 6 December, 2010

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute 14 of the Scrutiny Committee held on 14 September, 2010, Councillors J.D. Bernard and R. Easton left the meeting at this point. In respect of Minute 14, Members agreed that the Council should continue to oppose development of the proposed incinerator on the Kingswood Lakeside site, and should continue to exert pressure where possible to seek early closure of the Poplars landfill site.

- (g) Appeals and Complaints Panel – 4 November, 2010 and 4 March, 2011

- (h) Cannock Community Forum – 24 November, 2010

- (i) Heath Hayes, Norton Canes and Rawnsley Community Forum – 23 November, 2010

- (j) Hednesford Community Forum – 30 November, 2010

- (k) Rugeley and Brereton Community Forum – 29 November, 2010

In respect of the Community Forums, Members commented on the generally poor levels of public attendance, and questioned the ongoing value of the Forums.

102. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet

Consideration was given to the following recommendation referred from Cabinet held on 6 April, 2011 in respect of Shared Services – Cannock Chase District Council and Stafford Borough Council, delegation of functions:

“That the Council be recommended to accept the delegation by the Executive of Stafford Borough Council of the Finance, Revenue & Benefits, Internal Audit, Risk Management, Insurance, Civil Contingencies and Procurement Functions listed at Appendix 2 (of the report to Cabinet) to the Executive of Cannock Chase District Council”.

RESOLVED:

That the delegation from the Executive of Stafford Borough Council for Finance, Revenue & Benefits, Internal Audit, Risk Management, Insurance, Civil Contingencies and Procurement Functions listed at Appendix 2 (of the report to Cabinet) to the Executive of Cannock Chase District Council, be agreed.

103. Motion(s) received Under Rule 6

Consideration was given to the following motions submitted under Rule 6:

Motion 1. Submitted under Rule 6 by Councillor G. Burnett. The Council Solicitor advised that the Motion was admissible under the time limits for comments on a referendum, being 28 days:

Councillor Burnett moved the following Motion which was seconded and debated:

“In welcoming the opportunity for the people to exercise their ultimate sovereignty directly on such an important issue, this Council urges the people of Cannock Chase to support the retention of the present simple plurality (“First Past the Post”) voting system for UK Parliamentary elections in the forthcoming referendum”.

The Leader of the Council proposed the following amendment which was seconded and debated:

“In welcoming the opportunity for the people to exercise their ultimate sovereignty directly on such an important issue, this Council urges the people of Cannock Chase to consider the cases for and against changing the existing voting system for UK Parliamentary elections and to make up their own minds and vote in the forthcoming referendum.”

The amendment to the Motion was voted on and was not carried on the Chairman’s casting vote.

The original Motion was then voted on and was not carried on the Chairman’s casting vote.

Motion 2. Submitted under Rule 6 by Councillor G. Adamson.

Councillor Adamson moved the following Motion which was seconded and debated:

“This Council welcomes the proposals concerning the all weather pitch at Cardinal Griffin School and looks forward to the early resolution to the ongoing discussions with ASDA concerning their S106 money.”

Following a vote the Motion was carried.

RESOLVED:

That the Council welcomes the proposals concerning the all weather pitch at Cardinal Griffin School and looks forward to the early resolution to the ongoing discussions with ASDA concerning their S106 money.

(The meeting was adjourned at 6.45pm and reconvened at 7.00pm.)

104. Calendar of Meetings 2011-12

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 9.1 - 9.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Calendar of Meetings for 2011-12, as shown at Annex 1 to the report, be approved
- (B) That the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, the relevant Chairman of Committees and/or Leader of the Council, be authorised, where appropriate, to convene additional meetings, postpone or cancel meetings as and when agreed.

105. Corporate Plan and Priority Delivery Plans

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 10.1 – 10.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council)

RESOLVED:

- (A) To receive the recommendation from Cabinet in respect of the Corporate Plan 2011-14 and the Priority Delivery Plans (PDPs) for 2011-12.
- (B) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any necessary alterations prior to final publication.

106. Policy for Issuing Fixed Penalty Notices to Juveniles

Consideration was given to the Report of the Corporate Director (Enclosure 11.1 – 11.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the policy for issuing Fixed Penalty Notices to Juveniles attached as Annex 1 of the report, be adopted and approved.
- (B) That a communications strategy be formulated and implemented prior to the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices to Juveniles for littering to ensure schools, pupils and parents/guardians are fully aware of the Policy.

107. Policy Re. Transfer of Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Licences

Consideration was given to the Report of the Corporate Director (Enclosure 12.1 – 12.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That a Policy be introduced with immediate effect, whereby on application, a licence pertaining to a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicle can be transferred to a replacement vehicle that fulfils the Council's criteria for licensing.
- (B) That the process for transfer shall involve a pro-rata refund of the element of the licence fee paid, calculated from the days remaining on the licence and rounded down to the nearest £1 and this figure shall be set against the fee payable for a 12 month licence in respect of the replacement vehicle.
- (C) That an administration fee of £25, subject to annual review as part of the fees and charges process, shall be applied to all requests for transfer, regardless of their success.
- (D) That for the avoidance of doubt, the Policy shall only apply to situations where a replacement vehicle is licensed and if an application for transfer is unsuccessful, or withdrawn, then no refund is due but the administration fee is payable.

108. Sustainable Community Strategy

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 13.1 – 13.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

- (A) That the refreshed Sustainable Community Strategy, be approved.
- (B) That the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council be given delegated authority to make any necessary alterations prior to adoption by the Chase Community Partnership and final publication.

109. 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 paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, Part 1, Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972.

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PART 2

110. Part 2 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees, Select Committees and Panels

RESOLVED:

That the Part 2 Minutes of the following Cabinet, Committees, Select Committees and Panels be adopted and any recommendations be approved and decisions implemented following the expiry of any call-in period:-

- (a) Cabinet – 3 February, 2011
- (b) Licensing and Public Protection – 27 January, 2011
- (c) Appeals and Complaints Panel – 4 November, 2010 and 4 March, 2011

CHAIRMAN

(The meeting closed at 7.20 pm.)