

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**

**AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 9 DECEMBER, 2009**

**PART 1**

PRESENT: Councillors

Beddows, J. (Chairman)  
Mawle, D.L. (Vice-Chairman)

Alcott, G.	Grocott, M.R.
Allen, F.W.C.	Holder, M.J.
Ansell, Mrs. P.A	Jillings, J.
Ball, G.D.	Jones, R.
Bennett, Mrs. D.J.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Meaden, R.G.
Bernard, J.	Mitchell, Mrs. C.
Burnett, G.	Molineux, G.N.
Burnett, J.	Morgan, C.W.J.
Collis, C.	Pearce, Mrs. L.J.
Davies, D.N.	Stanley, N.K.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Dixon, D.I.	Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Easton, Mrs. D.M.	Thomas, D.
Easton, R.	Williams, A.
Freeman, M.P.	Williams, B.
Green, M.	Williams, Mrs. P.
Grice, Mrs. D.	

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K.L. Bennett; L.W. Bullock; Mrs. D.M. Todd and Ms. W. Yates.)

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

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

**63. Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 4 November, 2009 be approved as a correct record.

#### **64. Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence**

(i) Chief Executive

The Chairman advised Members of the Chief Executive's apologies for absence, owing to a long-standing leave arrangement.

(ii) Chairman's Charity Box

The Chairman advised Members that his Charity Collection Box was circulating for Members to make a donation to his chosen Charities.

He reported that at the meeting held on 4 November, 2009, a total of £59.00 was donated.

(iii) CorpComms Award

The Chairman announced that Council's PR and Marketing Team had won an award for Best In-House Team at the CorpComms awards on 25 November, 2009.

The Chairman presented the award to the PR and Marketing Team and congratulated them on behalf of the Council.

(iv) Christmas

The Chairman wished all Members and Officers a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

(v) Glenis Turner

The Chairman announced that Mrs. Glenis Turner, Principal Administrator, would be retiring at the end of the year, and he took the opportunity to wish her all the best for the future after nearly 37 years' service with both Rugeley and Cannock Chase Councils.

Several other Members also took the opportunity to record their thanks and best wishes for the future to Glenis.

(vi) Chairman's Quiz Night

The Chairman announced that a Quiz Night was being organised for 27 January, 2010. This was one of several initiatives he was hoping to see come to fruition as ways of raising monies for his chosen charities. He encouraged individual Members to make an early commitment by putting a team(s) together for the quiz as he anticipated a high demand for places. Further information was available from Councillor Mrs. P.Z. Stretton, who was coordinating the event on behalf of the Chairman.

**65. Questions in Accordance with Rule 8**

Councillor G.D. Ball asked the following question of the Culture, Sport and Services for Children and Young People Leader in accordance with Rule 8:

“Can you tell me the cost so far of the aborted Leisure Village on Cannock Park, i.e. the cost of consultants, the cost of consulting with the public and preparation of plans etc?”

Councillor M.G. Grocott, Culture, Sport and Services for Children and Young People Leader provided the following response:

“The Leisure Village proposal on the existing Chase Leisure Centre site was a multi million pound proposal to establish new sports and arts facilities funded primarily from the proceeds of residential development at the Pye Green Road Stadium site. It is usual to spend funds in advance of the approval of any major capital project to ensure that the project is feasible and that the public has the opportunity to comment at an early stage on any proposals.

At its meeting on 9 September, 2005 the Culture and Sport Select Committee agreed to recommend to Cabinet that £50,000 be approved for the purpose of project scoping and consultation on the proposed Leisure village concept. Cabinet were asked by the Select Committee to recommend to Council the approval of a supplementary estimate of £50,000 for this purpose. At the subsequent Cabinet meeting on 15 September, 2005 all of the recommendations from the Select Committee were approved.

Subsequent to this decision, Studio E architects were procured to complete a feasibility study together with eight options with outline plans. The total cost of this work was £38,973. Cabinet received the report and options at its meeting on 16 November, 2006 and decided to commence a public consultation on all 8 options with option 4B identified as the Cabinet's preferred option.

Two public consultation events were organised during December, 2006 attended by approximately 300 people. Information was circulated to over 200 groups. The cost of this public consultation was as follows:-

- Midland Newspapers Ltd - £ 325.00  
(For consultation adverts in newspapers)
- Modern Styling Ltd - £9,000.00  
(For consultation banners and other materials to support the public consultation)

The result of the public consultation was fed back to the Culture and Sport Select Committee at its meeting held on 13 March, 2007 and the Select Committee subsequently made recommendations to Cabinet which were accepted at its meeting on 19 April, 2007. Money spent on public consultation is never wasted and information gathered can and has been used to inform other proposals concerning the Chase Leisure Centre.

The Leisure Village proposals could not proceed due to the Secretary of State decision to refuse planning permission for residential development on the Pye Green Rd Stadium site, confirmed in a letter from the Department of Communities and Local Government dated 4 December 2008. Councillors will note that under item 13 on today's Council agenda (Part 2), there are recommendations from Cabinet to Council about a multi million pound redevelopment of the swimming pool, a modern large fitness suite and new electrical and mechanical infrastructure at Chase Leisure Centre to secure the long term future of this facility.

In summary, the cost of external consultancy and consultation support for the proposed Chase Leisure Village was £48,298.00 against a Member approved budget of £50,000. This response excludes the costs of Council officer time which is difficult to quantify accurately as only certain salaries are charged to capital projects after the project has received approval to proceed."

**66. 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 – 22 October, 2009

Item 64 – Councillor A. Williams advised that car parking charges would also be suspended on Pritchard Holdings' High Green car park on the two Saturdays before Christmas. However, he was unable to confirm if the suspension of charges would also apply to the multi-storey car park.

Item 68 – Councillor Holder advised that he considered the question of who should lay wreaths where to be a Civic matter to be determined by the Chairman, not Cabinet. In particular, he expressed concern that, with the

Chairman being committed to lay the wreath in Cannock, another Member from Norton Canes, rather than a Cabinet Member, had not been given first invitation to lay a wreath there.

- (b) Planning Control Committee – 14 October and 28 October, 2009
- (c) Licensing and Public Protection Committee – 6 October, 2009
- (d) Standards Committee – 7 October, 2009
- (e) Audit and Governance Committee – 28 September, 2009
- (f) Cannock Community Forum – 15 September, 2009
- (g) Heath Hayes, Norton Canes and Rawnsley Community Forum – 8 September, 2009
- (h) Chairman of the Council's Civic Committee – 17 March, 2009
- (i) Joint Parking Committee – 2 September, 2009
- (j) Appeals and Complaints Panel – 11 November, 2009

**67. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet held on 5 November, 2009**

Consideration was given to the following recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 5 November, 2009, in relation to 'Reward for Information on Flytippers':

"That Council be recommended to approve:

- (A) The adoption of a reward scheme whereby £100 is paid to the public for information that led to the successful prosecution of flytippers.
- (B) The funding of such a reward scheme being subject to the availability of income from Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) served through Environmental Enforcement actions and on such terms as are agreed by the Director of Service Improvement as being necessary and appropriate to ensure the fair and transparent operation of the scheme."

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) A reward scheme whereby £100 is paid to the public for information that led to the successful prosecution of flytippers be adopted.
- (B) The funding of such a reward scheme be subject to the availability of income from

Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) served through Environmental Enforcement actions and on such terms as were agreed by the Director of Service Improvement as being necessary and appropriate to ensure the fair and transparent operation of the scheme.

**68. Recommendations Referred from Audit and Governance Committee held on 12 November, 2009**

Consideration was given to the following recommendations referred from the Audit and Governance Committee held on 12 November, 2009:

That Council be recommended to:

- (A) Adopt the 'Confidential Reporting Framework'
- (B) Adopt the 'Anti-Fraud and Corruption Framework'

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The 'Confidential Reporting Framework' be adopted.
- (B) The 'Anti-Fraud and Corruption Framework' be adopted.

**69. Determination of Council Tax Base – Year Commencing 1 April, 2010**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Financial Management (Enclosure 9.1 – 9.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the report and the associated calculation of the Council's tax base for the year commencing 1 April, 2010 be approved.
- (B) That pursuant to the report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amount calculated by the Cannock Chase District Council as its tax base for the year commencing 1 April 2010 shall be 30,043.71 equivalent Band D properties, and that for the various parts of the District described below, the amounts so calculated be as stated.

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Base</b>
Brereton & Ravenhill	1,974.66
Bridgtown	329.69
Brindley Heath	250.55
Cannock Wood	408.09
Heath Hayes & Wimblebury	4,273.94
Hednesford	5,130.48
Norton Canes	2,305.26
Rugeley	5,578.64
Balance of the Area	9,792.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,043.71</b>

**70. Review of Gambling Act, Statement of Principles**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Director of Service Improvement (Enclosure 10.1 – 10.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the revised Gambling, Statement of Principles, given at Annex 3 of the report be approved and adopted.

**71. 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 and 3 Part 1, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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**HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**

**AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 9 DECEMBER, 2009**

**PART 2**

**72. Part 2 Minutes of Cabinet, Committees and Panels**

RESOLVED:

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

- (a) Licensing and Public Protection Committee – 6 October, 2009
- (b) Appeals and Complaints Panel – 11 November, 2009

**73. Recommendations Referred from Cabinet held on 19 November, 2009**

Consideration was given to the recommendations referred from Cabinet held on 19 November, 2009, in relation to 'Development Options for the Future of Chase Leisure Centre, Cannock':

'That Council be recommended to:

- (C) Add the preferred option (Option 2A) project to the Council's Capital Programme.
- (D) Note the funding options and implications of the preferred option (Option 2A) selected and the necessary prudential borrowing be approved.
- (F) Approve the full contract value of the preferred option (Option 2A) in order to implement a Design and Build procurement and procure professional services.'

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15(5), a named vote was called.  
RESOLVED (unanimously):

That:

- (A) The preferred option (Option 2A) project be approved for addition to the

Council's Capital Programme.

- (B) The funding options and implications of the preferred option (Option 2A) selected be noted and the necessary prudential borrowing be approved.
- (C) The full contract value of the preferred option (Option 2A) be approved in order to implement a Design and Build procurement and procure professional services.

**74. Annual Leave Dispute**

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Director of Service Improvement (Enclosure 14.1 – 14.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that the first sentence of the paragraph at the top of Enclosure 14.2 should read:

“The settlement agreements signed by both the trade unions and Chief Executive are attached as appendix 1 and 2 to this document.”

The Deputy Chief Executive also advised that the phrase “with a further 5 days after 5 years continuous local government service” was missing from the final page of Annex 1 and 2 of the report, in respect of all Annual Leave Entitlements for Heads of Services; Directors and the Chief Executive, and the agreement document would need to be amended accordingly.

RESOLVED:

That a supplementary estimate of £20,500 (General Fund £19,000; HRA £1,500), to achieve full and final settlement of the dispute over annual leave be approved.

The meeting closed at 6.00 pm.

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CHAIRMAN