

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**RATE RELIEF COMMITTEE**  
**THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 4.00 PM**  
**IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**

**PART 1**

PRESENT: Councillors

Pearson, A.

Alcott, G.	Johnson, J.
Bottomer, B.	Rowley, J.
Grocott, M.R.	

**5. Apologies**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor J.T. Kraujalis

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

<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
Grocott, M.R.	Application for Non Domestic Rates – Charitable Relief – Brereton Sports and Social Club - Member knows the Secretary of the Club	Personal

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

**7. Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 June, 2012 be approved as a correct record.

**8. National Non-Domestic Rates – Charitable Relief**

Prior to consideration of the report the Local Taxation and Benefits Manager outlined the four types of rate relief applications that could be considered by the Committee. He also explained that from April 2012 the Council's flexibility in awarding discretionary rate relief had been extended and Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 had been amended to allow local authorities to reduce the business rates of any local ratepayer (not just those who can currently be granted discretionary relief). Local authorities would be responsible for fully funding any local discounts granted. Members were advised that the first application under this legislation was on the agenda for consideration at the meeting.

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Finance (Enclosure 4.1 – 4.49 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

(A) That the action of the Head of Finance in awarding Mandatory Rate Relief as set out below be noted and that the amount of Discretionary Relief be awarded as follows:-

(i) Newlife Trading Ltd, Unit 3 Ranton Park, Martindale, Cannock

That 80% Mandatory Rate Relief be granted in respect of the above premises for the period 10 July 2012 to 31 March 2013.

(ii) South Staffordshire College, Crown House, Beecroft Road, Cannock

That 80% Mandatory Rate Relief be granted in respect of the above premises for the period 13 July 2012 to 31 March 2013.

(iii) Chase Learning Trust, Kingsmead Technology College, Littleworth Road, Hednesford Account No. 101152873

That 80% Mandatory Rate Relief be granted in respect of the above premises for the period 13 February 2012 to 31 March 2012 and for one year with effect from 1 April 2012.

(iv) Chase Learning Trust, Kingsmead Technology College, Wood Lane, Hednesford Account No. 101154622

That 80% Mandatory Rate Relief be granted in respect of the above premises for the period 13 February 2012 to 31 March 2012 and for one year with effect from 1 April 2012.

(v) Beacon Centre for the Blind, 18 Market Place, Cannock

That 80% Mandatory and 5% Discretionary Rate Relief be granted in respect of the above premises for the period 28 June 2012 to 31 March 2013.

(vi) YMCA Charity Shops Services, 15 Upper Brook Street, Rugeley

That 80% Mandatory and 5% Discretionary Rate Relief be granted in respect of the above premises for the period 14 August 2012 to 31 March 2013.

(vii) The Richmond Fellowship Ltd., 16 High Green Court, Newhall Street, Cannock

That 80% Mandatory and 5% Discretionary Rate Relief be granted in respect of the above premises for the period 13 January 2012 to 31 March 2012 and for one year with effect from 1 April 2012.

- (viii) Public Safety Charitable Trust, Wi-fi at Ascot Suite 4, Ground Floor Office Block, Keys Park Business Village, Keys Park Road, Hednesford

That 80% Mandatory Rate Relief be granted for the period 18 August 2011 to 31 March, 2012 and for the period 1 April 2012 to 28 June 2012 and the application for Discretionary Rate Relief be refused as the organisation was no longer operating in the area.

- (ix) Brereton Sports and Social Club, Main Road, Brereton, Rugeley

That 10% Discretionary Rate Relief be granted in respect of the above premises for one year with effect from 1 April 2012.

- (B) Application for National Non-Domestic Discretionary Relief (Local Discount) - MP Help Zone – A Burley MP., 6 High Green Court, Newhall Street, Cannock

Consideration was given to the application for Discretionary Rate Relief (Local Discount) in respect of the above premises. Following a debate the following motion was moved by Councillor M.R. Grocott and seconded by Councillor J. Rowley:-

“That 5% Discretionary Rate Relief be granted in respect of the application relating to the MP Help Zone”.

Following a vote the motion was defeated by the Chairman exercising his casting vote.

The following motion was then moved by Councillor A. Pearson and seconded by Councillor Alcott:

“That the application for Discretionary Rate Relief in respect of the MP Help Zone be refused”.

Following a vote the motion was carried by the Chairman exercising his casting vote.

RESOLVED:

That, having regard to the nature of the premises, the service being provided and the potential cost to the General Fund the application for Discretionary Rate Relief (Local Discount) in respect of the above premises be refused.

(The meeting closed at 4.35 pm)

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CHAIRMAN