

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY, 2006

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Meaden, R.G. (Chairman)  
Bennett, K.L. (Vice-Chairman)

Alcott, G.	Holder, M.J.
Allen, F.W.C.	Jones, Mrs. A.E.
Ansell, Mrs. P.A.	Jones, R.
Ball, G.D.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Beddows, J.	Martin, G.R.
Bennett, Mrs. D.J.	Mawle, D.L.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Mitchell, C.
Burnett, J.	Molineux, G.N.
Butler, R.D.	Morgan, C.W.J.
Carr, I.R.	Pearce, Mrs. L.J.
Collis, C.	Stanley, N.K.
Davies, D.N.	Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Thomas, D.
Dixon, D.I.	Todd, Mrs. D.M.
Easton, R.	Toth, J.
Faulkner, B.J.	Turville, R.C.
Freeman, M.P.	Whitehouse, Mrs. G.M.
Grice, Mrs. D.	Williams, A.
Grocott, M.R.	Williams, B.
Hewitt, S.M.	

88. Presentation

Prior to the start of the business, the Chairman welcomed all new Members and made the following presentations:-

(a) Certificates of Service

The Chairman presented retired Members , Ted Hodges, Les Bullock, Kevin Daly and Mike Stretton with Certificates of Service.

(b) Certificates of Long Service

The Chairman presented Mike Stretton and Councillors C. Mitchell and C.W.J. Morgan with Certificates of Long Service.

(c) Outgoing Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman highlighted outstanding events that he had attended and thanked all those who had supported him during his term of office.

A sum in excess of £5,000 had been raised for charities and this would be distributed between St Giles Hospice, Lichfield and Acorns Children's Hospice, Walsall. The Chairman expressed appreciation to everyone who had donated money or gifts and who had been involved in the organisation of charity events.

89. 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>
Allen, F.W.C.	Member of the British Red Cross	Personal
Allen, F.W.C.	Eligible for Concessionary Fares	Personal
Dixon, D.I.	Council Tenant	Personal
Dixon, D.I.	Member of Staffordshire County Council	Personal
Grice, Mrs. D.	Member of Cannock CAB	Personal
Grice, Mrs. D.	Eligible for Concessionary Fares	Personal
Todd, Mrs. D.M.	Member of Heath Hayes and Wimblebury Parish Council	Personal
Toth, J.	Member of Staffordshire County Council	Personal
Toth, J.	CCTV/Social Alarms Section - Family Connection	Personal
Toth, J.	Member of Heath Hayes and Wimblebury Parish Council	Personal

90. Election of Chairman

Councillor R.D. Butler (seconded by Councillor J. Burnett) nominated Councillor K.L. Bennett to be Chairman of the Council.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor K.L. Bennett be elected Chairman of the Council to hold office for the ensuing municipal year.

(Councillor K.L. Bennett thereupon declared and signed his acceptance of office and was invested with the badge of office.)

Councillor K.L. Bennett, the newly appointed Chairman, thanked Members for electing him to office.

The Chairman announced that he would be supporting St Giles Hospice, Air Ambulance and the Entertainment Artist Benevolent Fund during his year in office.

**91. Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

Councillor M.R. Grocott (seconded by Councillor G.N. Molineux) nominated Councillor R. Easton to be Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Councillor D. Grice (seconded by Councillor P.Z. Stretton) nominated Councillor G.D. Ball to be Vice-Chairman of the Council.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor R. Easton be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council to hold office for the ensuing municipal year.

(Councillor R. Easton thereupon declared and signed his acceptance of office and was invested with the badge of office).

**92. Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 26 April 2006 be approved.

**93. Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence**

The Chairman reported that at the conclusion of the meeting those Members, who had previously responded to the invitation to attend the reception, would be welcome to join him for refreshments in the Ballroom.

**94. Election of Leader of The Council**

Councillor P.A. Ansell (seconded by Councillor R.D. Butler) nominated Councillor N.K. Stanley to be Leader of the Council.

Councillor F.W.C. Allen (seconded by Councillor G.D. Ball) nominated Councillor D. Thomas to be Leader of the Council.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor N.K. Stanley be elected Leader of the Council for the ensuing municipal year.

95. **Appointment of Cabinet**

Councillor N.K. Stanley (seconded by Councillor R.D. Butler) moved the following:-

(a) That the Cabinet be 7 Members with the following portfolios:-

- Policy and Resources
- External Partnerships
- Culture and Sport
- Health
- Access to Skills and Economic Development
- Social Inclusion and Housing
- Environment

(b) That the following Members be appointed to serve on the Cabinet:-

- Councillor N.K. Stanley with responsibility for the Policy and Resources Portfolio.
- Councillor R.D. Butler with responsibility for the External Partnerships Portfolio.
- Councillor B. Williams with responsibility for the Social Inclusion and Housing Portfolio.
- Councillor M.R. Grocott with responsibility for the Culture and Sport Portfolio.
- Councillor Mrs. P.A. Ansell with responsibility for the Access to Skills and Economic Development Portfolio.
- Councillor D.N. Davies with responsibility for the Environment Portfolio.
- Councillor Mrs. A.F. Bernard with responsibility for the Health Portfolio.

RESOLVED:

(A) That the Cabinet be 7 Members with the following portfolios:-

- Policy and Resources
- External Partnerships
- Culture and Sport
- Health
- Access to Skills and Economic Development
- Social Inclusion and Housing
- Environment

(B) That the following Members be appointed to serve on the Cabinet:-

- Councillor N.K. Stanley with responsibility for the Policy and Resources Portfolio.
- Councillor R.D. Butler with responsibility for the External Partnerships Portfolio.
  
- Councillor B. Williams with responsibility for the Social Inclusion and Housing Portfolio.
- Councillor M.R. Grocott with responsibility for the Culture and Sport Portfolio.
- Councillor Mrs. P.A. Ansell with responsibility for the Access to Skills and Economic Development Portfolio.
- Councillor D.N. Davies with responsibility for the Environment Portfolio.
- Councillor Mrs. A.F. Bernard with responsibility for the Health Portfolio.

96. Committees and Other Bodies

Councillor N.K. Stanley (seconded by Councillor D. Thomas) moved the following:-

- (A) That the membership of Committees, Select Committees and other bodies be as set out on the schedule at Annex 1 of these minutes.
- (B) That the Terms of Reference of the Select Committees reflect the responsibilities of the Portfolio Leaders.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the membership of Committees, Select Committees and other bodies be as set out on the schedule at Annex 1 of these minutes.
- (B) That the Terms of Reference of the Select Committees reflect the responsibilities of the Portfolio Leaders.

97. Representatives on Outside Bodies 2006/07

Consideration was given to the appointment of representatives on outside bodies for 2006-07.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That where appointments on outside bodies are held by nominated postholders, such as the Leader of the Council or a portfolio holder, these continue to be the Council's representatives for the forthcoming municipal year.
- (B) That the nominations to outside bodies as set out on the schedule at Annex 2 of these minutes, be the Council's representatives for the forthcoming municipal year, subject to the Council's representatives on the following bodies being : -

- Blakeways Youth Centre Management Committee:  
Councillors Mrs. L.J. Pearce and R.C. Turville
- Hazel Slade Youth Centre Management Committee:  
Councillors Mrs. P.A. Ansell and D.L. Mawle
- Relate:  
Councillor Mrs. L.J. Pearce
- Rural Community Council of Staffordshire:  
Councillor B. Faulkner
- Stafford Drugline Advisory Committee:  
Councillor K.L. Bennett

103. **Calendar of Meetings 2006-07**

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 11.1 – 11.4 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Calendar of Meetings for 2006-07 be approved subject to the Council meeting scheduled for 16 August 2006, being moved to Wednesday 9 August 2006.
- (B) That the Chief Executive in consultation with the relevant Chairmen and/or Leader of the Council be authorised, where appropriate, to convene additional meetings, postpone or cancel meetings as and when required.

104. **Members Allowances 2006-07**

Consideration was given to the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (Enclosure 12 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Leader of the Council moved the following motion which was seconded by Councillor R.D. Butler: -

- (i) "That the Council agree the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the scheme for the payment of allowances to Members, but that the recommendations of the Panel in relation to travel and subsistence be deferred for the coming year in order that the Panel can reconsider the recommendations".
- (ii) "That the Chief Executive be given the authority to authorise the payment of travel and subsistence to Members in those circumstances that fall outside the Council's existing travel and subsistence scheme".

Councillor D. Thomas moved the following amendment which was seconded by Councillor J. Toth:-

“That Members of the Council support the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel contained within the report”

The amendment was defeated.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the report of the Independent Panel in relation to the scheme for the payment of allowances to Members, be agreed, but that the recommendations of the Panel in relation to travel and subsistence be deferred for the coming year in order that the Panel reconsider the recommendations.
- (B) That the Chief Executive be delegated to authorise the payment of travel and subsistence to Members in those circumstances that fall outside the Council's existing travel and subsistence scheme.

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CHAIRMAN