

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CABINET

HELD ON THURSDAY 15 DECEMBER, 2016 AT 4:00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Adamson, G.	Leader of the Council
Alcott, G.	Deputy Leader of the Council and Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Leader
Kraujalis, J.T.	Corporate Improvement Portfolio Leader
Bennett, C.	Crime and Partnerships Portfolio Leader
Preece, J.P.T.L.	Environment Portfolio Leader
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Leader
Allen, F.W.C.	Housing Portfolio Leader
Todd, Mrs. D.M.	Town Centre Regeneration Portfolio Leader

71. Apologies

The Leader submitted apologies on behalf of Councillor Mrs. C. Mitchell, Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader, who was attending a Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service meeting.

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

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

73. Updates from Portfolio Leaders

Economic Development and Planning

EU Transitional (Funding) Roadshow

The Portfolio Leader reported that on Tuesday, 13th December, the Council had hosted an EU transitional roadshow to help stimulate project ideas which could benefit from EU funding.

The event had been well attended with 33 people including representatives from across Cannock, Lichfield, Tamworth and East Staffs. All attendees had found the event useful. The key message remained that people should be urged to come forward with projects, as the area was in danger of not drawing down all

the available EU funding it was entitled to.

Cannock Town Centre Bus Station

The Portfolio Leader advised that CCDC Officers had been contacted by Staffordshire County Council asking if the District Council would support the County Council proposal to install Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) to the bus shelters in Cannock Bus Station. Such systems were in operation in numerous towns and cities providing live information about the time and service number of the next bus due to depart from each stand. The information was extremely helpful to the bus passengers and was similar to that used on the Chaseline rail service.

The District Council owned the bus station and the shelters, hence the reason for the request. Staffordshire County Council approves and licenses all bus routes; therefore they would manage the system.

All buses operated by ARRIVA (who are the major operator in the District) were already equipped with the technology to link into the system. The same system was already operational in and around Stafford, where ARRIVA was also the main operator.

The scheme would be funded by Staffordshire County Council and, subject to approval from the District, the scheme would be installed early in the New Year and fully operational by the end of March, 2017. Each one of the 10 shelters in Cannock Bus Station would have a high level electronic display board.

Members agreed to support the proposal and the Monitoring Officer confirmed that the Portfolio Leader had delegated authority to agree the matter.

74. Minutes of Cabinet Meeting of 17 November, 2016

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 November, 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed.

75. Forward Plan

The Forward Plan of Decisions for the period December, 2016 to February, 2017 (Item 5.1 – 5.2 of the Official Minutes of the Council) was considered.

RESOLVED:

That the Forward Plan of Decisions for the period December, 2016 to February, 2017 be noted.

76. Recommendations of Scrutiny Committees

A recommendation had been referred to Cabinet for consideration by the Customers and Corporate Scrutiny Committee held on 5 December, 2016. In respect of:

Local Government Association Peer Review Report Feedback

“That Cabinet, when responding to the LGA’s Peer Review report, prioritise its focus on the following recommendations as set out in the report:

- Recommendation 1 – “Further develop and widen the ‘Customer’ priority of the Corporate Plan so as to articulate what the Cannock Chase District

Council of the future will look like.”

- Recommendation 4 – “Review the current democratic decision-making arrangements – including Overview & Scrutiny – to better enable councillors to have a timely and proportionate opportunity to inform, influence and challenge decision-making and policy development.”
- Recommendation 6 – “Consider how the corporate leadership, organisational capacity and capabilities need to develop further to ensure that the Council has the skills and resources aligned to deliver future priorities.” This to also incorporate recommendation 3 – “Continue to utilise informal and formal relationships to maximise influence and leverage, as part of the Council’s ‘leadership of place’ role.””

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations be supported. It was noted that Recommendation 4 had already been addressed as part of the Financial Recovery Plan, which would see the number of Scrutiny Committees reduced from six to four.

77. Feedback from the Public Consultation on the Financial Recovery Plan and Approval of Savings Options

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Managing Director (Item 7.1 – 7.91 of the Official Minutes of the Council.

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The outcomes of the public consultation and engagement for the Financial Recovery Plan proposals, including the survey results and written submissions provided by residents, stakeholders and communities, be noted.
- (B) The following options be **withdrawn** from the process:
- Cease to operate the CCTV service
 - Reduce the operating hours of the CCTV service
 - Stop floral displays in town centres and traffic islands, including hanging baskets
 - Withdraw from the Green Flag application process
 - Reduce the capacity to deal with claims for housing benefit and council tax reduction
 - Integrate Local Land charges within Corporate Support Team
 - Review the role of the Local Strategic Partnership
 - Align internal and external Health & Safety functions
 - Delete Customer Services Assistant post in Development Control (to be reviewed as part of the business case for shared services with Stafford Borough Council).

(C) The following options be **included** in the draft Council Budget for 2017/18 to 2019/20:

(i) Capitalisation/ Use of reserves

- Use of capital funds

(ii) Optimisation and Transformation

- Reduce Operational Costs of Parks and Open Spaces services
- Deliver the staffed parks service in house
- Reduce the contingency budget in Parks and Open Spaces
- Reduce expenditure on the maintenance of the Housing Register
- Outsource operation of the café at Hednesford Park Pavilion (completed)
- Delete marketing budget for building control service
- Reduce Building Control car allowance budget
- Delete 0.35 fte Private Sector Housing Technical Officer
- Reduce staffing budget in Environmental Health
- Delete vacant Trainee Communications Officer post
- Reduce level of service for research and information
- Reduce ICT communications budget
- Reduce staffing hours in Democratic Services
- Reduce consultation budget
- Delete role of typist in Housing Strategy team
- Restructure the Waste & Engineering team & delete relief Waste Development Officer
- Demolish the out-of-use Rugeley squash courts (completed)

(iii) Management Structure

- Delete vacant Property Services Manager post and create Property Officer post with associated savings
- Delete Senior Management post in Environmental Health
- Delete Senior Management post in Financial Management
- Delete Risk & Resilience post in Governance following retirement of post-holder.

*A separate report will be required for approval at Council on the proposed new management structure.

(iv) Shared Services

- Reduction in the internal audit provision
- Stafford BC led Shared Services to deliver savings
- Review call handling operation between Contact Centre and Social

Alarm Service

- Explore option of joint working between Street Cleansing and Parks & Open Spaces
- Explore Development Control & Planning Policy as a shared service
- Explore Environmental Health as a shared service
- Explore Building Control as an extended shared services across majority of District / Borough Councils in Staffordshire.

(v) Democratic/Governance

- Remove allowance paid to Elected Members for IT equipment in full.

(vi) Reductions in Corporate and Support Services

- Restructure the Policy & Performance Team

(vii) Reduction in funding to external bodies

- Relocate Chase Tenants & Residents Forum and re-let the property on a commercial basis
- No longer fund or install Christmas illuminations anywhere in the District
- No longer provide Local Council Tax Support Grant to Parish Councils

(viii) Reduction in front line services to the public

- Continue to operate the CCTV service and seek a contribution from Staffordshire Police
- Delete an Environmental Enforcement Assistant post
- Review the resources in the Countryside Team
- Reduce post specification by using only 2nd class mail
- Reduction in neighbour consultations for planning applications
- Reduction in management hours in Economic Development
- Start charging for pre-application advice on major planning applications
- Increase Cannock Market Hall fees
- Increase trading days at Cannock Indoor Market from three to four days
- Provide new entrance and additional stalls at Cannock Market Hall
- Increase charges / revenue from bus stations
- Increase fees for football pitch hire by 20% (increase is limited to 10% if more than 50% of team members reside in the District)
- Increase parking charges by 10p / hour.

- (D) The following options be **approved** as amended as described and **recommended for inclusion** in the draft budget:
- Review and reduce the social alarm installation service: *amended to reflect alternative proposal received from staff*
 - Reduce the grant to the CAB: *amended to reflect on-going discussions with CAB regarding relocation and property costs; no reduction in grant in 2017/18 with joint commitment to explore how to reduce property costs.*
 - Review existing contract for leisure and culture services to deliver savings: *amended to reflect proposals from Inspiring Health Lifestyles: From the options presented, the following are recommended for implementation:*
 - *Discretionary NNDR (Business Rates) - £20,000*
 - *Reduction in Planned Maintenance - £10,000*
 - *Prince of Wales – revised operating Model - £15,000*
 - *Increase income from Footgolf - £20k (Commercial at risk)*
 - *Increase private hire charges by 10% at Prince of Wales - £5,000 (Commercial at risk)*
 - *Reduction in Arts and Sports Development Budget by 25% - £9,200*
 - *Capital Investment proposal that delivers £50,000 additional revenue by 2019/20 (Chase leisure centre)*
 - *The Head of Commissioning in consultation with the Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader to:*
 - (a) *Implement the two 5 year extension periods under the existing contract arrangement to include all saving proposals and variations, and*
 - (b) *Enter into a separate interim management arrangement with Independent Healthy Lifestyles (IHL) for up to two years for the new Artificial Grass Pitch and changing pavilion at Bradbury Lane, Hednesford.*
 - *Reduction of grass cutting frequencies on Council owned land and cease any follow up operations: amended to reduced number of cuts but maintain follow up operations in line with reduced numbers of cuts.*
 - *Increase fees for cemeteries/memorials by 20%: amended to a 15% increase following feedback*
 - *Stop providing a Revenues and Benefits reception and enquiry service at the Rugeley Area Office and Hednesford Library: amended to reduced provision in Rugeley (2 days / week) and Hednesford (1 day/week) on a 12 month trial basis and then review.*

(E) The following new options be **approved**:

- To recommend to Council that the number of Scrutiny Committees are reduced from the existing 6 to 4 at the start of the new Municipal Year (May 2017) in response to a recommendation from the LGA Peer Review.
- To include the Land Charges service in the business case for a shared service for Development Control / Planning Policy with Stafford Borough Council.
- The Council will explore the feasibility of introducing charges for CCTV evidence requested by Staffordshire Police, and insurance companies.
- The Council will also explore an offer from the West Midlands CA (Transport for WM) re CCTV provision made as part of the consultation.

Reasons for Decisions

Cannock Chase Council's Financial Recovery Plan (FRP) was published in September 2016, detailing the reductions in funding facing the Council due to changes in Government grant, the reduction in business rates income due to the premature closure of the Rugeley Power Station site, and continuing uncertainty over the future of the New Homes Bonus revenue stream. As such, the FRP set the context for Council's requirement to "take decisions about how it will achieve financial balance in the future".

A savings target of £1.6m from the Council's General Fund Budget was identified and formed the basis for consulting on £2.1m savings options.

Public and stakeholder consultation had been integral to the FRP process, described in further detail in section 5 of the report. A total of 829 responses were received to the survey, along with written representations from community groups, stakeholders and individuals totalling approximately 40 submissions. A summary of the survey results and the main themes raised by respondents was included in the Appendices to inform the decisions and reasons for recommendation.

The recommendations set out the proposed options in four categories:

- Those not recommended for inclusion and withdrawn from the process
- Those recommended as stated for inclusion in the draft Budget
- Those amended as described and recommended for inclusion in the draft Budget
- New options arising from the consultation.

The total savings for each year 2017/18 to 2019-20, in accordance with the £1.6million saving requirement, were contained elsewhere on the agenda (Item 8).

78. Draft General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme - Consultation

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Finance (Item 8.1 – 8.14 of the Official Minutes of the Council). The Head of Finance also tabled a supplementary update report 'Draft General Fund Revenue Budget – Update re.

Provisional Local Government Settlement and Changes to the New Homes Bonus Scheme' (Item 8A.1 – 8A.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council), which reflected details of the final changes to the New Homes Bonus New Scheme and the 2017/18 Local Government Settlement.

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The Draft General Fund Revenue Budget for 2016-17 to 2019-20 as reflected in the Revised Financial Plan and Saving Options for consultation be approved.
- (B) The proposed changes to the Capital Programme arising from the Revised Financial Plan and Savings Options proposals be noted.
- (C) Cabinet's final recommendation to Council on the budget would need to take into account Government's proposals in relation to New Homes Bonus and the 2017/18 Local Government Settlement.
- (D) The update report be noted and a full report on the Local Government Settlement and the New Homes Bonus would be received at the Cabinet meeting on 19 January, 2017.

Reasons for Decision

Cabinet at its meeting of the 22 September approved the Council's Financial Recovery Plan. The plan was instigated following a material deterioration in the Council's financial position following the premature closure of Rugeley Power Station (RPS) and the failure to obtain transitional funding from the Government.

The Financial Recovery Plan was set against a background of uncertainty in relation to the actual level of saving requirement. The outcome of the Government's consultation on changes to New Homes Bonus was still awaited; details of the 100% Business Rates Retention Scheme were only at preliminary design and principle stage; whereas the opening timeline for Mill Green Designer Outlet Village (MGDOV) is outside the control of the Council. In addition it was envisaged that potential further changes could arise from the Chancellor's Autumn Statement and the 2017-18 Local Government Settlement.

The updated Financial Plan that formed the basis of the Financial Recovery Plan showed the Council facing an ongoing minimum saving requirement ranging from £1.3 million to £2.4 million dependant upon the timing of the MGDOV Development.

The Financial Recovery Plan included a range of potential financial saving options prepared by officers reflecting the Council's Budget Strategy and its priorities and objectives. The options related to all the services of the Council with the exception of the recently let Refuse and Recycling Waste Contract, and were presented under 8 categories ranked based upon their impact on the public.

The total saving options presented for consultation amounted to some £2.1 million per annum in a full year and were in excess of the £1.6m requirement minimum savings requirement (representing the ongoing deficit from 2019-20 with MGDOV development proceeding according to plan)

The consultation period ran from 23 September, 2016 to 6 November, 2016 and

a report on the feedback was included elsewhere on the Agenda for the meeting. Appendix A to the report included the Draft Budget/Financial Plan; Appendix B the proposed Saving Options for 2017-18 to 2019-20; and Appendix C the changes to the Capital Programme.

The Draft Budget for Consultation remained in accordance with the Financial Plan assumptions as contained in the September Financial Recovery Plan Report.

No material changes had arisen from the Chancellor's Autumn Statement of 23 November, whereas details of the final changes to the New Homes Bonus New Scheme and the 2017/18 Local Government Settlement were not announced until the day of the meeting. The Local Government Settlement was in line with the draft Budget for 2017/18; however, allocations for 2018/19 and 2019/20 would be part of the annual settlement process covering those years.

The New Homes Bonus allocation was worse than expected with the Government increasing the deadweight on homes outside the grant regime from 0.25% to 0.4%, equivalent to 52 properties or £60,000 per annum.

The detailed Portfolio Budgets for the Council were being produced and would form part of the normal budget setting report to Cabinet in January 2017. The detailed budgets had been refreshed to reflect the outturn for 2015-16 and were being updated to reflect latest spending patterns as contained in the suite of corporate monitoring reports. No material variances had been identified to date.

79. Quarter 2, 2016-17 Priority Delivery Plans Performance

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Governance (Item 9.1 – 9.44 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The performance information relating to PDPs as detailed at Appendices 1 to 6 to the Report be noted.
- (B) The actions which have been flagged as requiring amendment to the timescale, scope or timeline be noted.

Reasons for Decision

Information for performance actions and indicators for Quarter 2, 2016/17 was included for relevant items in Appendices 1 to 6 to the Report. The overall rankings for each Portfolio area were detailed in Section 5 of the report, indicating that 72.6% of actions/projects had been achieved or were on target to be achieved. 3.2% had been aborted or closed. 24.2% had been flagged as requiring amendment to the timescale, scope or timeline.

80. Update on the Cannock Chase Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Financial Year Report and Local CIL Guidance

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Economic Development (Item 10.1 – 10.9 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The CIL financial year report be noted.
- (B) The intention to update the CIL Guidance for Developers and Applicants be noted.

Reasons for Decision

The Council approved the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule and Regulation 123 List of infrastructure projects eligible to receive funding at its meeting on 15 April, 2015. CIL came into effect in relation to relevant chargeable development on 1 June, 2015.

CIL was intended to provide a funding stream for infrastructure needed to support the policies and proposals in the adopted Local Plan. In part, it would replace funding previously obtained via Planning Obligations (Section 106 agreements and Unilateral Undertakings) which had become more limited in scope in relation to pooling of funds from 5 or more obligations as a result of Regulations.

The Council had a legal requirement to produce a financial year report on CIL receipts and spend in accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the CIL Regulations). The report provided a summary of the first CIL financial year report for 2015-16.

The Council had produced a CIL Guidance for Developers and Applicants. Updates to the document were considered necessary to keep it in line with national legislation.

81. Local Plan Part 2: Regulation 18 Issues and Options Consultation

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Economic Development (Item 11.1 – 11.12, plus Appendix* of the Official Minutes of the Council).

(*Appendix 1 – ‘Issues and Options Consultation Document’ was a 160 page document, which had not been printed as part of the Agenda, but could be viewed via the Members’ Portal and on the Council’s website. Hard copies had been placed in the Group Rooms, for reference.)

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) The Cannock Chase Local Plan Part 2 Issues and Options consultation document (Appendix 1 to the Report) be approved, and for the document to be published under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 for a six week consultation period, the strategy for which would be carried out in line with the Council’s adopted Statement of Community Involvement 2014.
- (B) The Head of Economic Development, in consultation with the Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Leader, be authorised to make any non substantive changes considered necessary to the plan prior to it being published, and agree the arrangements for the consultation.
- (C) Finalisation of the accompanying documentation for Local Plan Part 2

(The Sustainability Appraisal) Issues and Options consultation be delegated to the Head of Economic Development in consultation with the Economic Development and Planning Portfolio Leader.

Reasons for Decision

Local Plan Part 2 followed on from Local Plan Part 1 which was adopted by the Council in 2014 having been found to be sound by an independent Planning Inspector further to Examination in Public. Part 1 set out the strategic context for the scale and distribution of development, balanced with environmental protection and enhancement. It contained a number of commitments in terms of issues which needed to be addressed in Local Plan Part 2. These were set out in the detail of the report.

The role of Local Plan Part 2 was to deliver Part 1. It should allocate sites to deliver the amounts of development in the right locations, and where necessary could also provide further policy elaboration provided that it linked directly back to Part 1 and could be clearly justified by robust evidence.

This was the first stage of preparing Local Plan Part 2. It set out the issues which the plan needed to address and a range of possible options for dealing with these, inviting comment and further information. The document had to be publically consulted upon for six weeks and representations made would then be used in shaping the next iteration of the Plan before it was submitted to the Secretary of State for examination. The consultation would be undertaken in line with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement which was adopted in 2014.

The Local Plan Part 2 consultation had to be accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal: Issues & Options Consultation which assessed the sustainability of different sites and options (including policy options) and would be used in shaping the plan as it progressed to its next stage. The production of this document was an iterative process and would need to be produced in parallel with the Local Plan Part 2 Issues and Options document. In order to facilitate this approach and minimise delays it was requested that finalisation of the complementary document should be agreed by the Head of Economic Development in consultation with the Economic Development & Planning Portfolio Leader.

As agreed at Cabinet on 24 March 2016, production of Local Plan Part 2 was delegated to the Head of Economic Development, working in consultation with a cross-party Member / Officer working group, an informal group with an advisory role. This group was consulted on the key areas being covered in the Issues and Options document at its meeting on 7 November 2016 and was satisfied that it could proceed to Cabinet.

82. Hednesford Town Centre Regeneration: Proposed Parking Order: Car Park to the Rear of Co-op: Revised Proposals

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Head of Housing and Waste Management and the Head of Economic Development (Item 12.1 – 12.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) Approval be given to the principle of designating long-stay and short-stay parking areas at the Council owned car park to the rear of the Co-op store in Anglesey Street, Hednesford as illustrated on the plan at Appendix 1 to the Report.
- (B) Implementation of the previously approved Parking Order be subject to consultation which would include key stakeholders, such as Hednesford Town Council, the Traders of Hednesford, Mid-Counties Co-op and users of the car park.
- (C) The Managing Director be authorised to take those actions necessary to support the consultation process and the implementation of any subsequent car park management arrangements, including the Parking Order and its enforcement.
- (D) The Mid-Counties Co-op be informed of the proposals and advised to ensure that the seven spaces adjacent to the car park entrance be secured and made available for the exclusive use of their staff/customers.

Reasons for Decisions

In September 2016, Cabinet considered a report which recommended the introduction of a Parking Order to limit the use of the Council's car park to the rear of the Co-op in Anglesey Street, Hednesford to no more than four hours (minute 49 refers). The implementation of the Parking Order was subject to:

- Public consultation.
- The provision of adequate measures to control on-street parking.
- The availability of appropriate long-stay parking provision within the town centre.

As a result of the above the public consultation into the proposed Parking Order had been held in abeyance until opportunities to ensure appropriate long-stay parking provision within Hednesford Town Centre had been considered in more detail.

Notwithstanding the bulk of the car parking capacity in Hednesford Town Centre was on non-Council managed car parks, Officers had identified that part of the existing capacity at the car park to the rear of the Co-op in Anglesey Street could be designated for long-stay parking purposes with the remainder becoming available for short-stay parking and their use being enforced by the proposed Parking Order (as per Appendix 1 to the Report).

83. 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 (as amended).

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CABINET

HELD ON THURSDAY 15 DECEMBER 2016 AT 4:00 P.M.

IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 2

84. Rugeley Boxing Club

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Head of Economic Development (Item 14.1 – 14.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That:

- (A) A lease extension be granted to the Rugeley Boxing Club at a favourable (non-market) rent, as detailed in Paragraph 5.6 of the Report, having regard to the community benefits provided by the club and its charity status.
- (B) Authority be delegated to the Head of Economic Development to agree terms and conditions and all other actions required to implement the recommendation.

Reasons for Decisions

Rugeley Boxing Club was a registered charity, operating on a 'voluntary donation' approach by its users, which was open to males and females of all ages.

The only registered members of the club were those that took part in competition; but, otherwise, all those who used the Club for exercise/fitness purposes did this on a 'drop-in' basis so that the Club offered both health and social benefits to people of all ages using the facilities. The weekly attendance averaged 60 to 70 attendees which was considered to be full capacity. Historically, the Club had a strong police connection with several serving police understood to attend and a serving police sergeant being on the club committee.

Rugeley Boxing Club was seeking an extended lease term of a sufficient duration to allow the club to secure further funds to finance the construction of a building extension for which planning permission had already been obtained. The proposed extension was indicative of the Club's need for additional capacity to meet the needs of the community.

Extension of the lease term would need to be on favourable 'non-commercial' terms in order to enable the Rugeley Boxing Club to secure finance, build the proposed extension and continue to operate the club in its existing form.

The meeting closed at 4.45 p.m.



LEADER

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER, 2016 AT 3.00 P.M.

IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT:
Councillors

Cartwright, Mrs. S.M. (Chairman)
Pearson, A. (Vice Chairman)

Burnett, G.	Grocott, M.R.
Cooper, Miss J.	Hoare, M.W.A.
Dean, A.	Kraujalis, J.T. (substitute)
Dudson, Miss M.J.	Snape, P.A.
Freeman, Miss M.A.	Sutherland, M.
Grice, Mrs. D.	Witton, P.T.

68. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C.I. Lea and J.P.T.L. Preece.

Notification had been received that Councillor J.T. Kraujalis would be substituting for Councillor J.P.T.L. Preece.

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

Member	Interest	Type
Grocott, M.R.	TPO/2016/03 Mansefield House, Market Street, Rugeley – Proposed Tree Preservation Order – Member knows the speaker	Personal

70. Disclosure of lobbying of Members

All Councillors declared that they had been lobbied in respect of Application CH/16/377, 24 Watermint Close, Cannock, Variation of conditions 2 Materials and 3 Approved plans of planning permission CH/15/0472 to allow for use of alternative materials and alterations to roof for first floor side extension.

71. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 November, 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

72. Members' Requests for Site Visits

None.

73. Proposed Tree Preservation Order 2016/03 at Mansefield House, Market Street, Rugeley

Following a site visit consideration was given to the report of the Development Control Manager (Item 6.1 – 6.5 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Prior to determination of the application representations were made by Mr. McKenry speaking against the application. The officer from Parks and Open Spaces also addressed the Committee and responded to any issues raised.

RESOLVED:

That TPO 2016/03 be confirmed without modification.

(Councillor M. Grocott requested that his name be recorded as having voted against this decision).

74. Application CH/16/393, 3 West Butts Road, Rugeley, Erection of outbuilding for home office

Following a site visit consideration was given to the report of the Development Control Manager (Item 6.6 – 6.21 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Prior to the determination of the application representations were made by Mr. Duncan, the Agent for the applicant, speaking in support of the application.

RESOLVED:

That the application be approved subject to the conditions contained in the report for the reasons stated therein and to the following additional conditions being added in respect of:

- Hours of use of proposed building;
- Numbers of individuals using the proposed building at any time;
- The provision of a bird ad bat box in the building.

These conditions be delegated to the Development Control Manager to agree in discussion with the applicant.

75. Application CH/16/377, 24 Watermint Close, Cannock, Variation of conditions 2 Materials and 3 Approved Plans of planning permission CH/15/0472 to allow for use of alternative materials and alterations to roof for first floor side extension

Following a site visit consideration was given to the report of the Development Control Manager (Item 6.22 – 6.35 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Prior to the determination of the application representations were made by Mr. Gorman, an objector, speaking against the application and Mr. Edwards, the applicant, speaking in support of the application.

The Development Control Manager advised that there was a spelling mistake on Item 6.26 of the second planning condition, “coulr” should read “colour”.

For clarification purposes the Development Control Manager advised that applicant had not refused to lower the roof height but had discussed the matter with his architect and builder and decided to submit a retrospective planning application.

RESOLVED:

That the application, which was recommended for approval, be refused as the Committee considered that varying conditions “2 Materials” and “3 Approved Plans” would not be acceptable for the following reason:

The variation of Condition 2 of planning permission CH/15/0472 to allow the render and painting of the side gable of the extension would have a detrimental impact on the visual amenity of the adjoining neighbours. The variation of Condition 3 of planning permission CH/15/0472 to retain the extension as built with a higher ridge height than approved results in a non-subordinate extension, which results in an adverse visual impact on the street scene. As such, the application to vary Conditions 2 and 3 conflicts with Local Plan Policy CP3 and the Design SPD, which seek to secure high quality design in the interests of the amenity of neighbours and the character/appearance of the wider area.

(At this point in the proceedings the Committee adjourned for a five minute comfort break).

76. Application CH/16/360, Land to rear of 23 Cannock Road, Cannock, Residential development: Erection of 1 no. detached bungalow

Following a site visit consideration was given to the report of the Development Control Manager (Item 6.36 – 6.49 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the application be approved subject to the conditions contained in the report for the reasons stated therein.

77. Application CH/16/176, 148 Hednesford Road, Cannock, Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 3 no. detached houses and associated works (resubmission of CH/14/0360)

Following a site visit consideration was given to the report of the Development Control Manager (Item 6.50 – 6.73 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the application be approved subject to the conditions contained in the report for the reasons stated therein.

The meeting closed at 4.50pm.

CHAIRMAN

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 4 JANUARY, 2017 AT 3.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT:
 Councillors

Cartwright, Mrs. S.M. (Chairman)
 Pearson, A. (Vice Chairman)

Burnett, G.	Lea, C.I.
Dean, A.	Preece, J.P.T.L.
Dudson, Miss M.J.	Snape, D. (substitute for
Freeman, Miss M.A.	M. Sutherland)
Grocott, M.R.	Snape, P.A.
Hoare, M.W.A	Witton, P.T.
Kraujalis, J.T. (substitute for Miss J. Cooper)	

(Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chairman wished all those present a Happy New Year).

78. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. D. Grice, Miss J. Cooper and M. Sutherland.

Notification was received that Councillor J.T. Kraujalis would be substituting for Councillor Miss J. Cooper and Councillor D. Snape would be substituting for Councillor M. Sutherland.

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

Member	Interest	Type
Grocott, M.R.	Application CH/16/388 Land adjoining 80 Hardie Avenue, Rugeley WS15 1NT, Erection of detached dwelling – Member knows the applicant speaking in relation to this application	Personal

80. Disclosure of lobbying of Members

All Members, with the exception of Councillor P. Snape, disclosed that they had been lobbied in respect of Application CH/16/191, Land off Brownhills Road, Norton Canes, Cannock – Residential development: proposed erection of 37 new affordable dwellings and associated works (amendment proposal and plans).

Councillor J.P.T.L. Preece advised that he was the Chairman of Norton Canes Parish Council and clarified that residents had lobbied and had meetings with the Parish Council but he had not taken part in these discussions.

81. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 December, 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

82. Members' Requests for Site Visits

None.

83. Application CH/16/388, Land adjoining 80 Hardie Avenue, Rugeley, Erection of detached dwelling

Following a site visit consideration was given to the report of the Development Control Manager (Item 6.1 – 6.15 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Prior to consideration of the application representations were made by Mike Pope, speaking in support of the application.

The Principal Planning Officer advised that should the application be approved Condition 6 would be amended in accordance with Staffordshire County Council Highways recommendation. It would read:

“6. Scheme for the Location of the Car Parking Bays and reinstatement of the access”.

A Member suggested that the access for 63 Queensway should be reinstated and in response the Development Control Manager confirmed that he would speak with the Estates Section regarding this matter.

RESOLVED:

That the application be approved subject to the conditions contained in the report for the reasons stated therein and to the amendment of Condition 6.

84. Application CH/16/191, Land off Brownhills Road, Norton Canes, Cannock, Residential development: Proposed erection of 37 new affordable dwellings and associated works (amended proposal and plans)

Following a site visit consideration was given to the report of the Development Control Manager (Item 6.16 – 6.62 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Prior to consideration of the application representations were made by Mr. Goodwin and Alex Jakeman who were objecting to the application and Steve Rose, speaking on behalf of the applicant, in support of the application.

The Development Control Manager circulated the following update:-

“Item No. 6.38

Condition 20 – Delete as duplicated by Condition 23.

Condition 23 – Construction Environment Management Plan – amended to read as follows:-

No development shall take place until a Construction Environmental Management Plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved Construction Environmental Management Plan shall be adhered to throughout the construction period. The statement shall provide details in respect of the following:-

- A site compound with associated temporary buildings;
- Parking of vehicles for site operatives and visitors;
- Times of deliveries including details of loading and unloading of plant and materials;
- Restriction of construction working hours to 8am-6pm weekdays and 8am-1pm Saturdays only;
- Storage of plant and materials used in constructing the development;
- Duration of proposed works;
- On-site wheel wash facilities;
- Appropriate routing agreement using the most appropriate access route;
- Appropriate dust mitigation measures during the construction phase of the development.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety and amenity of nearby neighbours

Condition 24 – Ecological Mitigation Plan

No Development shall commence until ecology and nature conservation mitigation measures and the phasing of the implementation of such mitigation works has been submitted to and agreed in writing to the Local Planning Authority. The measures shall include:

- Ensuring that the development is undertaken in accordance with the recommendations set out in the Brownhills Road, Preliminary Ecological Assessment (Phase 1 Ecological Survey);
- Provision of bird and bat boxes within the development;
- Submission of a dust mitigation plan to manage air quality;
- Submission of an information pack informing residents of recreational opportunities in the area.

Thereafter the mitigation measures shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: In the interests of nature conservation and protection of protected species. In accordance with the Local Planning Policy CP12 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity.

Item No. 6.55

Paragraph 4.21 reads: *Overall, officers are satisfied that the level of proposed development is proportionate to the development and is acceptable. Any further changes required would be addressed through the proposed conditions.*

Paragraph 4.21 should read: *Overall, officers are satisfied that the level of proposed landscaping is proportionate to the development and is acceptable. Any further changes required would be addressed through the proposed conditions”.*

The Development Control Manager confirmed that, subject to the above amendments, the recommendation remained as outlined in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the application, which was recommended for approval, be refused for the following reason:

“The proposed development constitutes ‘inappropriate development’ within the Green Belt, which would harm the openness and character/appearance of the Green Belt. The ‘very special circumstances’ submitted to justify the proposed development do not clearly outweigh the harm to the Green Belt by reason of inappropriateness and other harm including impact on openness, and character/appearance. The proposal also conflicts with the purposes of including land within the Green Belt. Consequently, it has not been demonstrated that the very special circumstances necessary to justify the development exist. The proposal therefore conflicts with the National Planning Policy Framework in particular paragraphs 87-89 and policy CP1 of the Cannock Chase Local Plan (Part 1)”.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm.

CHAIRMAN

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER, 2016 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Freeman, Miss M.A. (Chairman)

Allt, Mrs. A.	Lea, C. (Substitute)
Cooper, Miss J.	Martin, Mrs. C.E.
Dudson, Miss M.J.	Pearson, A.R.
Johnson, J.P.	Woodhead, P.E.

Also present:

- Staffordshire County Council Co-opted Member Councillor Mrs. D. Todd
- Independent Co-opted Member: Elizabeth Learoyd, Advocacy Manager, Healthwatch Staffordshire

Invited:

- Mr. Peter Prokopa, South Staffs Local Pharmaceutical Committee

Observing:

- Councillor Mrs. M.A. Davis, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Leader.
- Councillor Mrs. C. Mitchell, Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader

30. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. H.M. Sutton (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. S.M. Cartwright, T.B. Johnson, C.D. Smith and Miss. S. Whitehouse.

Notification had been received that Councillor C. Lea would be substituting for Councillor Mrs. H.M. Sutton.

31. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restrictions on Voting by Members and Party Whip Declarations

No declarations of interests in additions to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members Interests were made.

32. Minutes

Councillor P.E. Woodhead referred to the Minutes of 3 October, 2016 and asked for it to be recorded that he was unhappy with both the accuracy and the fairness of how the meeting was recorded. He commented on the lengthy speech made by the Cabinet Member which had been incorporated into the Minutes and asked that Minutes in future be recorded either as a verbatim record or synopsis.

The Senior Committee Officer advised that a 'call-in' was slightly different from a Committee meeting and the Cabinet Member for Culture and Sport was present in order to provide a response. In this instance the Cabinet Member read from a statement which had been incorporated into the Minutes. The Member raising concern was advised that had he provided a statement to Democratic Services, this could have also been incorporated into the Minutes. The Member advised that he was not aware of this.

Steve Shilvock, Head of Environmental Health reported that at a meeting of a 'call-in' it was usual practice for the written statement read out to be incorporated into the Minutes.

Councillor C. Mitchell, Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader advised that if there was concern regarding the Scrutiny process, particularly with training for Members regarding the call-in process, the Member should address this with Democratic Services.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 and 18 October, 2016 be approved as a correct record.

33. Community Pharmacy

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Prokopa to the meeting to provide an updated on community pharmacy provision.

He advised that the Government in December, 2015 agreed a number of proposals regarding the community pharmacy. This would see a reduction in funding in 2016-17 of £113 million, and may see changes to the dispensing of medicines in the community, pharmacy opening hours and staffing levels.

Mr. Prokopa reported that the Government had also consulted on proposals for a large centralised pharmacy; however it was found that this was not an option for independent pharmacies and this proposal would not be taking place at this time given that it would be a large operation to run and would not improve efficiency of the pharmacy chain.

He reported that a funding package had been imposed in October which saw a settlement and a reduction of 4% compared with last year. Pharmacies would see their funding reduce for December 2016 to March 2017 by 12% and then a further reduction of £95 million would take effect in 2017-18.

Mr. Prokopa advised that lobbying of Local Authorities and MPs had taken place as locally there were 25 community pharmacies across Cannock Chase with 180,000 items prescribed each month and some pharmacies dispensed around 60% less, and it was those pharmacies more at risk of closure in the future.

He advised that 40% of pharmacies were in clusters of 3 or 4 and there was a proposal for pharmacies to merge without creating gaps in services. However, this would be identified within the pharmacy needs assessment and judged by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

It was reported that there would be a reduction in income for Cannock Chase which could be up to £7K per calendar month up to March, 2017, whilst busier pharmacies could see a reduction of up to £2K per month.

Mr. Prokopa reported on the integration pharmacy fund which managed medicines at pharmacies and supported how this could be delivered. He advised that this was not integrated into other health services.

He reported on Government proposals to focus on putting pharmacies into GP surgeries and talked about the Pharmacy Access Scheme (PhAS) where services would be protected in areas where there were fewer pharmacies with higher health needs. Patients in deprived areas would need to rely on public transport and a closure of a local pharmacy would have a big impact. He advised that Rawnsley Pharmacy and Northwood Pharmacy, Hillsprings would be eligible for the PhAS.

Mr. Prokopa was happy to take questions from Members.

A Member commented that the GP surgery she was registered with had funded a pharmacist for 4 days per week which she had found really helpful.

Mr. Prokopa advised that whilst this was useful, investment should be made into community pharmacies as pharmacists based within GP surgeries would not be available to prescribe medicines to the public after the surgery had closed.

A Member referred to a recent Healthwatch event held at the Aquarius Ballroom, Hednesford which discussed care in the community. She referred to the proposals which would see some pharmacies closing and expressed concern that this would be removing services out of the community. She asked if figures were available for numbers in Cannock Chase that would close.

Mr. Prokopa reported that he was unable to provide the figure, however it was estimated that up to 30% could be at risk.

A Member asked where patients would go if pharmacies located near to or within GP surgeries were only open during surgery hours.

Mr. Prokopa advised that there were a number of pharmacies open after GP surgery hours across Cannock Chase. Some were committed to opening up to 100 hours per week; however they could be at risk with the drop in income as

some may not dispense enough medicines. Pharmacies could also request supplementary hours with 90 days notice, however there could be an impact on out of hours and Sundays.

In response to a question from a Member regarding the use of pharmacies to obtain medicines rather than see a GP, Mr. Prokopa advised that there was a risk that people would utilise their GP where treatment could have been provided at a community pharmacy. He would forward details of pharmacies to the Head of Environmental Health to pass to Members.

A Member expressed concern that some GP surgeries did not open during the weekend and then there was added pressure with waiting times for prescriptions. She advised that with the proposals to reduce pharmacies, this situation could be made worse.

A Member expressed concern with the proposals to reduce pharmacies, and highlighted the problem with medicine waste. He indicated that initiatives had been introduced over the years, however he was concerned that patients were being prescribed the medicines they required and checks were carried out to ensure their prescription was correct and over prescribing did not take place.

Mr. Prokopa assured Members that these issues were being addressed through the Clinical Commissioning Group which included ensuring appropriate ordering and dispensing were taking place.

34. Environmental Health Food Hygiene Service and Safety Food Project

The Chairman welcomed Dave Prosser-Davies, Food, Safety and Licensing Manager and Laura Nichols, Environmental Health Officer to the meeting.

The Food, Safety and Licensing Manager gave a brief overview of the food hygiene service and covered the following:

- Local Authority Regulatory Service including Environmental Health contributing towards the Council's key strategic priorities;
- Work of the Food and Safety Team including Projects and Campaigns and Support of LEPs;
- Activities and Outputs and Outcomes and Impacts;
- Typical demands on the service including 300 food inspections annually and 240 food requests for advice.

A Member asked if the Council promoted healthy eating with food establishments.

The Food, Safety and Licensing Manager indicated that a possible project based around healthy eating to include portion sizes etc. had been discussed.

- Profile of Food Hygiene Ratings which included 99% at 3 or above, of which 88% had a rating of 5. There were 0.5% at a rating of 1;
- Cannock Chase was ranked as one of the 10 best areas in the Country, ranked by the proportion of food premises that pass inspections.

In response to a question raised by a Member, the Food, Safety and Licensing Manager indicated that if a food premises disagreed with the rating provided by the Council, they could apply for a re-visit which would be undertaken within 3 months. The food premises could also ask to be re-evaluated if the Council had given advice on how the premises could improve their rating.

- Systems Thinking which helped food premises to be compliant and avoid posing food safety risks;
- How Safe is your Kitchen was about promoting food safety checks in the home;
- Current and Future Issues included food fraud, campylobacter reduction and FSA – official control review officer competence/CPD.

In response to a question raised by a Member concerning food fraud, the Food, Safety and Licensing Manager explained that meat and ingredients need to be safe and come from a reputable source. He explained that a European food identification mark would identify the processing establishment which could be monitored and checked.

The Environmental Health Officer gave a brief overview of the Friends of Hednesford Project and covered the following:

- Aims of the Project;
- Delivery of the Project including collaboration with the Friends of Hednesford Park (FOHP), devising and details of the sessions;
- Slides showing FOHP working on the project;
- Evaluation;
- Quantitative data which showed that 69% had practised safe behaviours during the cooking process, whilst 5% did not wash their hands at the appropriate time;
- Quantitative data which provided answers to questions asked throughout the day;
- Feedback from the Groups and examples such as: 'I liked working as a group';
- What new things did they learn which included throwing away dishcloths and rice being a high risk food;
- What successes have there been which included improving food hygiene in business and interest from a professional magazine;
- Going forward there would be the opportunity to work further in the community and work with a children's/young adults disability group.

In response to a comment made by a Member on how positive the project had been and the skills that had been passed on, the Environmental Health Officer commented that skill passing and sharing had been made through Trinity Church and was viewed as positive.

The Chairman thanked Officers in Environmental Health for the work they had undertaken.

35. Healthwatch Staffordshire - Update

The Chairman welcomed Elizabeth Learoyd, Healthwatch Staffordshire who provided an update on recent projects.

She reported that work had paused earlier this year on end of life care, however the programme would now continue and a scoping document would go out in January, 2017. This follows concerns expressed by relatives about the programme.

Elizabeth Learoyd also reported that bereaved families through Royal Stoke University Hospital were also keen to have further information concerning end of life care.

She reported on the second phase of the Staffordshire and Stoke-On-Trent Neurological Survey which was working with the Staffordshire Neurological Alliance to better understand people's experiences of neurological services.

It was reported that a number of events in conjunction with Stoke-On-Trent Healthwatch had been held with regard to the Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP) which covered the planning and delivery of certain health and care services in Staffordshire and Stoke-On-Trent.

She reported that the STP Ambassador Programme was now looking to recruit and she had recently attended a training day and commented on well the training was delivered. She indicated that the STP was looking to train around 200 people.

Elizabeth Learoyd reported on the advocacy service and reported that few complaints had been received from the Cannock Chase area.

It was also reported that a Community Engagement Officer was scheduled to visit Cannock Chase Hospital and was also happy to come to a future meeting of the Committee.

A Member queried the transport arrangements from Rugeley to North Staffs Hospital and asked if there was any update on this particularly in light of the early morning appointments and the lack of transport available. Elizabeth Learoyd would look into this and provide an update for the Committee.

She commented that a none emergency patient transport scheme was in place if people requiring it met the criteria. The scheme was provided through a provider and commissioned through the Clinical Commissioning Group.

A Member referred to the recent events held with regard to the STP and was keen to know if people's views and comments would be taken on board.

Elizabeth Learoyd advised that information was forwarded to Local Authorities and the STP had a duty to engage with the public. She advised that if there were any substantial changes, a public consultation would have to be held.

In response to a question raised by a Member concerning the end of life care programme, Elizabeth Learoyd reported that the project was not undertaken in conjunction with the Clinical Commissioning Group and was a separate piece of work to find out about patient experience.

(At this point Councillor Mrs. M.A. Davis left the meeting 5.40 p.m.)

36. Quarter 2 Performance Report 2016-17 – More and Better Health Priority Delivery Plan

To develop and provide a new community multi sport and recreation hub facility at the former stadium site

It was reported that remaining works to the former Stadium site was to be re-tendered which closed on 2 December, 2016 and was yet to be evaluated.

To develop and provide a new community AGP, 7v7 grass pitch and changing pavilion at Bradbury Lane, Hednesford

It was reported that the Leader of the Council and Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader had recently visited the site which was progressing well and hoped that completion would be around the end of the year/beginning January, 2017.

Members noted the contents of the Quarter 2 Performance Report 2016-17, More and Better Health Priority Delivery Plan.

37. Staffordshire County Council's Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee – Update

The Chairman reported that information on the Joint Health Scrutiny Accountability Session held on 31 October, 2016 had been previously circulated and would update/circulate information to Members of the Committee from the next meeting.

38. Work Programme

The Head of Environmental Health reported that the Work Programme was currently on track and it was intended to invite a representative from the Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust to the meeting to discuss progress with the transfer of services to Cannock Chase Hospital and improvements to the hospital.

CHAIRMAN

The meeting closed at 5.45 pm

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER, 2016 AT 10:00AM
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Grice, Mrs. D. (Chairman)
Dudson, A. (Vice-Chairman)

Allen, F.W.C.	Hoare, M.W.A. (substitute)
Dean, A.	Snape, D.J.
Freeman, Miss M.A. (substitute)	Witton, P.
Grocott, M.R.	

11. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C.I. Lea, M. Sutherland and Mrs. D.M. Todd.

Councillors Miss M.A. Freeman and M.W.A. Hoare were in attendance as substitutes for Councillors Mrs. D.M. Todd and M. Sutherland, respectively.

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

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

13. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 27 and 28 July, 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

14. Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Principles 2016

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Environmental Health (Enclosure 4.1 – 4.43 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Committee noted the updated and amended Statement of Principles (The Policy) and considered the consultation responses. Members were asked to consider whether they wished to include any further issues within the final Policy which would be presented to full Council on 16 November, 2016. A number of

issues were raised and it was requested that the following comments be included within the final policy:-

A Member made reference to the use of gambling premises, particularly bookmakers, for criminal activities, such as money laundering, drug dealing and counterfeiting and asked whether the operators of betting shops could be required to make the police aware if they suspected this was taking place in their premises.

Officers explained that the Gambling Act and Statement of Principles did require gambling operators to ensure promotion of the licensing objectives:

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or being used to support crime;
- Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way;
- Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

Officers agreed to amend the Policy statement to include reference to specific criminal activity.

A Member expressed concern about the length of time betting shops were allowed to be open and asked if representations could be made in this regard. The Officer explained that, whilst there was concern about the opening hours of premises, the hours were set nationally. In order to restrict hours, authorities would need clear evidence of a breach of the law.

Members were concerned at the possibility of gamblers losing large amounts of money through the use of Betting Terminals, which allowed large sums to be gambled in a matter of seconds. Members asked if the numbers of machines could be restricted or the sums gambled reduced.

Officers explained that there was national concern over the use of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in bookmakers, particularly by vulnerable persons. It was also explained that licences permitted the installation of up to four such machines in each bookmaking shop, which then resulted in the opening of more shops. Officers understood that this issue was being considered in Parliament.

Officers agreed to make amendments in respect of the references to criminal activity within the policy prior to it being referred to full Council for approval and adoption.

RESOLVED:

That the updated and amended 2005, Statement of Principles (The Policy) and the consultation responses be noted and presented to full Council for approval and adoption on 16 November, 2016 subject to the following:

- Reference be made in the Policy to the possibility of criminal activities such as money laundering, counterfeiting and drug dealing being associated with betting premises.

The meeting closed at 11:10am

CHAIRMAN