

# CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 17 AUGUST 2005

### PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Davies, D.N. (Chairman)

Alcott, G.	Hodges, E.J.
Beddows, J.	Jones, Mrs. A.E.
Bennett, Mrs. D.J.	Jones, R.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Kraujalis, J.T.
Burnett, J.	Martin, G.R.
Butler, R.D.	Mitchell, C.
Bullock, L.W.	Morgan, C.W.J.
Collis, C.	Molineux, G.N.
Daly, K.	Stanley, N.K.
Davis, Mrs. M.A.	Thomas, D.
Dixon, D.I.	Toth, J.
Easton, R.	Turville, R.C.
Freeman, M.P.	Whitehouse, Mrs. G.M.
Grice, Mrs. D.	Williams, A.
Grocott, M.R.	Williams, B.
Hewitt, S.M.	

Councillor D.N. Davies was appointed Chairman for the meeting in the absence of the Chairman, Councillor R.G. Meaden and Vice Chairman, Councillor K.L. Bennett)

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K.L. Bennett, Mrs. P.A. Ansell, R.G. Meaden, F.W.C. Allen, G.D. Ball, I.R. Carr, M.C. Stretton and Mrs. P.Z. Stretton).

Councillor D.N. Davies in the Chair.

#### 25. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters

<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
Kraujalis, J.T.	Employee of a Housing Association	Personal
Morgan, C.W.J.	Council Tenant	Personal
Dixon, D.I.	Council Tenant	Personal
Hodges, E.J.	Member of Norton Canes Parish Council	Personal

Beddows, J.	Member of Norton Canes Community Partnership	Personal
Beddows, J.	Member of Norton Canes Community Association	Personal
Grice, Mrs. D.	Member of Cannock Citizens Advice Bureau	Personal
Grice, Mrs. D.	Member of Hednesford Ex-Servicemen's Club	Personal
Toth, J.	Member of Staffordshire County Council	Personal
Toth, J.	Member of Heath Hayes and Wimblebury Parish Council	Personal
Toth, J.	Partner works in the Council's CCTV/Social Alarms Section	Personal
Toth, J.	Norton Canes Community Association likely to be a Member of the Association	Personal
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Member of Heath Hayes and Wimblebury Parish Council	Personal
Bernard, Mrs. A.F.	Member of Norton Canes Community Partnership	Personal
Jones, R.	Member of Rugeley Citizens' Advice Bureau	Personal

**26. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 29 June, 2005 be approved as a correct record.

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

It was reported that there were no announcements or correspondence.

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

It was reported by the Chairman that no questions had been received in accordance with Rule 8.

29. **Reports of Cabinet, Committees and Select Committees**

RESOLVED:

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

- (a) Cabinet – 9 June, 16 June, 30 June and 14 July, 2005.
- (b) Planning Control Committee – 20 June and 13 July, 2005

Following consideration of the Minutes Councillor R. Jones requested that an item relating to the erection of telecom masts in Cannock Chase be included as an agenda item for the next Health Select Committee.

- (c) Licensing/Public Protection Committee – 21 June and 12 July, 2005
- (d) Housing Transfer Committee – 21 June, 2005

(Members noted that the recommendation contained within Minute 5 had been considered by Council on 29 June, 2005)

- (e) Scrutiny Committee – 27 June, 2005

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 7(2) Councillor G. Alcott requested that the accuracy of Minute 3 (paragraph 2) be considered at the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

(At this point the meeting adjourned and reconvened after 10 minutes)

- (f) Social Inclusion and Housing Select Committee – 4 July, 2005
- (g) Health Select Committee – 5 July, 2005

Following consideration of the Minutes, Members expressed concern over reports that the Lea Hall Ward at Cannock Chase Hospital was due to be closed. It was agreed by the Chairman, Councillor J. Beddows, that a meeting of the Health Select Committee would be arranged to consider this matter.

- (h) Culture and Sport Select Committee – 6 July, 2005
- (i) Access to Skills and Economic Development Select Committee – 18 July, 2005
- (j) Environment Select Committee

**30. Rent Restructuring Strategy**

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Head of Housing and Head of Financial Management (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the revised rent restructuring strategy, formulated in accordance with the following principles be agreed:-

- (i) That no rent change by more than RPI plus 0.5% plus/minus £2.00 per week.
- (ii) That all rent changes be implemented via 7 equal steps between October 2005 and October 2011 except where:-
  - (a) The total change in rent is between £0.10 - £1.00 over the restructuring period, in which case the total change will be implemented in October 2005.
  - (b) The total change in rent is between £1.01 and £2.00 over the restructuring period, in which case the total change will be implemented in two equal proportions in October 2005 and 2006.
- (iii) That the 2005-06 rent restructuring plan, as detailed in paragraph 7.1 of the report, be implemented with effect from 3 October, 2005.
- (iv) That the current position regarding the Government's three-year rent restructuring policy review be noted.

**31. Annual Treasury Report**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Enclosure 8.1 – 8.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the Report be noted.

**32. Indemnities to Officers and Members**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 9.1 – 9.8 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

That the terms of the proposed indemnities for Members and Officers in accordance with the Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004 and as set out in Appendices A and B of the report be adopted.

**33. Recruitment of Shadow Board Members**

In accordance with Council Minute No. 14(h)(ii), the Council was requested to confirm the names of five Council nominees to be appointed to the Shadow Board of a newly formed subsidiary of an existing Registered Social Landlord in the event of a positive ballot.

The nominees to be sought were 2 Liberal Democrat nominations, 2 Labour nominations and 1 Conservative nomination.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the persons to be appointed to serve as Council nominees on the Shadow Board of a new locally based organisation attached to an existing Housing Association in the event of a positive ballot be as follows:-

Liberal Democrat Nominees

Councillor N.K. Stanley  
Miss Ann Ames

Conservative Nominee

Mr. Brian Faulkner

- (B) That it be noted that no Labour nominees have been appointed to the Shadow Board, leaving two vacancies.

**34. Exclusion of Public**

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9, Part I, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

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**AT 4.00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, 17 AUGUST 2005**

**PART 2**

**35. Reports of Cabinet, Committees, Select Committees and Panels**

RESOLVED:

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

- (a) Cabinet – 30 June, 2005
- (b) Licensing/Public Protection Committee – 21 June and 12 July, 2005
- (c) Housing Transfer Committee – 21 June, 2005
- (d) Access to Skills and Economic Development Select Committee – 18 July, 2005

**36. Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Chief Executive (Enclosure 13.1 – 13.2 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

RESOLVED:

- (A) That Councillor Mrs. G.M. Whitehouse be appointed to serve as the Council's representative to the Hopkin & Sneyd Almshouse Charity.
- (B) That Councillor G.D. Ball be appointed to serve as the Council's representative to St. Giles Hospice.

**CHAIRMAN**