

MINUTES of the MEETING of the
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
held at Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote
on 8th April 2010
at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Murray (Chairman), Councillor Atkin (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Bale, Bladen, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Coyle, Mrs. Farrington, Ford, Grant, Harrison, Hewlett, Mrs. Hood, Jones, Mrs. Patten, Roberts, Timms, Mrs. Wheeler and Wheeler.

Labour Group

Councillors Bambrick, Dunn, Mrs. Lane, Lane, Rhind, Shepherd, Southerd, Taylor and Wilkins.

Independent / Non-Grouped Member

Councillor Pabla.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors Lemmon, Mrs. Plenderleith, Stanton and Watson (Conservative Group) and Councillors Mrs. Gillespie, Mrs. Mead, Richards and Tilley (Labour Group).

CL/116. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 1st March 2010 (Minutes Nos. CL/101 - CL/112) were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. A Member referred to Minute No. CL/105 and questioned whether the Council would take all possible actions to secure the removal of travellers from the skate park adjacent to the Gresley Common. The Chairman of the Environmental and Development Services Committee confirmed that this would be pursued.

CL/117. **PRESENTATION BY MELBOURNE ARMY CADETS**

The Chairman welcomed Julie Long and Jack Knowles from the Melbourne Army Cadets. A presentation was given on the Cadets' expedition to the Everest Base Camp in October of this year. Details were provided of the selection process used for the 14 Cadets involved and the fundraising activities which had raised £11,000 to date. An outline was given of the Cadets' itinerary including, climbing Island Peak, first aid training and charity work. Presentation slides would be circulated to Members of the Council. Jack Knowles gave further information on the selection process and the other training that cadets were undertaking.

Questions were submitted and it was confirmed that this expedition would count towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award's Scheme for relevant cadets. A

Melbourne Councillor expressed his delight at this exciting project, the rapid progress made and he wished the Cadets well for the future. In response to further questions, details were provided of the ages of cadets involved, the endeavours to establish a detachment of the Cadets in Swadlincote and it was suggested that the Cadets visit local schools. The Chairman paid tribute to the work of the Cadets and their assistance to the Council and to him personally over the last 18 months. The Melbourne Army Cadets were thanked for the presentation.

CL/118. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman had circulated extracts from his diary, giving details of recent events attended. He thanked those who had supported the Civic Dinner on 13th March 2010 and the 'dress down/sleep easy' events on 19th March 2010. The Chairman gave details of recent sporting events attended, his visits to local schools and the Geoffrey Hodges Wing at Queens Hospital. He then spoke about work shadowing and representing the Council at the Maundy Service held at Derby Cathedral, in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen. The Chairman publicised forthcoming events, asking people to sponsor Councillor Lane, who was running the London Marathon for his charity and he also referred to the charity golf competition, which would be held at Burton Golf on Tuesday 18th May 2010.

CL/119. **LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

It was reported that Councillor Mrs. Wheeler had now taken a leave of absence as the Leader of the Council until further notice. During this period, Councillor John Harrison would be the Acting Leader of the Council.

CL/120. **HEAD OF PAID SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chief Executive confirmed that the required documentation had been received in relation to the Leader's announcement above. He referred to the Parliamentary Election and would be issuing Purdah advice to Members and Officers. He also referred to the Maundy Service and had taken as his guest, the longest serving female employee, Mrs. Jenny Bates, who worked at the Council's Depot Office.

CL/121. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

RESOLVED:-

That the Open reports of the following Committees be received and noted and any recommendations contained therein be approved and adopted, subject to any matters annotated:-

Standards Committee, 25th February 2010 (Minutes Nos. SC/34 – SC/38)

Development Control Committee, 2nd March 2010 (Minutes Nos. DC/125 – DC/135)

*Environmental and Development Services Committee, 4th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. EDS/46 – EDS/50)
(Minute No. EDS/47 – With regard to tourism, it was questioned what would be done in the future to manage the problems caused by chewing gum on footways and passageways. The Chairman of the Environmental and Development Services Committee shared the Member's concerns and would need to ascertain the likely costs of removing chewing gum from the Town Centre. He offered to research this and would circulate this information to the Member).*

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 11th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. LAS/17 – LAS/18)

Housing and Community Services Committee, 11th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. HCS/60 – HCS/62)

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 18th March 2010 (Minute No. LAS/20)

Finance and Management Committee, 18th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. FM/96 – FM/102)

Development Control Committee, 23rd March 2010 (Minutes Nos. DC/136 – DC/145)

*Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Special), 24th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. OS/24 – OS/25)
(Minute No. OS/25 – a Member referred to the advanced payment of grants and asked whether his views were shared over the positive steps taken by the Government regarding the early release of DCSF grants to companies such as Roger Bullivant who had recently accessed grant funding for building of over £3 million. The Chairman of the Committee and Acting Leader responded.*

Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 24th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. OS/26 – OS/30)

Area Forums

Etwell, 10th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. EA/24 – EA/30)

Linton, 15th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. LA/28 – LA/34)

Swadlincote, 16th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. SA/26 – SA/33)

Melbourne, 17th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. MA/24 – MA/31)

Newhall, 25th March 2010 (Minutes Nos. NA/30 – NA/38)

CL/122. **SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

RESOLVED:-

That the sealed documents listed at Annexe 'SMB1' to the Signed Minute Book, which have no specific authority, be duly authorised.

CL/123. **COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING PANELS**

There were no amendments to the compositions of Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Panels.

CL/124. **COMPOSITION OF SUBSTITUTE PANELS**

There were no amendments to the compositions of Substitute Panels.

CL/125. **REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no amendments to the Council's representatives on outside bodies.

CL/126. **TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2010/11**

A report was submitted on the proposed schedule of Committee and Council Meetings for 2010/11.

RESOLVED:-

That the Timetable of Meetings for 2010/11, shown at Annexe "A" to these Minutes, be approved.

CL/127. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**

RESOLVED:-

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as indicated in the reports of Committees.

MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 1st March 2010 were duly received and approved.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Exempt reports of the following Committees were received and noted and any recommendations contained therein, approved and adopted:-

Standards Committee, 25th February 2010

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 11th March 2010

Housing and Community Services Committee, 11th March 2010

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 18th March 2010

Finance and Management Committee, 18th March 2010

Development Control Committee, 23rd March 2010

P. MURRAY

CHAIRMAN