

MINUTES of the MEETING of the
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
held at the Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote
on Thursday 3rd July 2014
at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Murray (Chairman), Councillor Atkin (Vice Chairman) and Councillors Bale, Mrs. Brown, Ford, Mrs. Hall, Harrison, Hewlett, Mrs. Hood, Jones, Mrs. Patten, Mrs. Plenderleith, Roberts, Smith, Stanton, Mrs. Watson, Watson and Wheeler.

Labour Group

Councillors Bambrick, Bell, Chahal, Dunn, Frost, Mrs. Heath, Mrs. Mead, Mulgrew, Pearson, Rhind, Shepherd, Southerd, Stuart, Taylor, Tilley and Wilkins.

CL/22 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Lemmon (Conservative Group) and Councillor Richards (Labour Group).

CL/23 **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL**

The Open Minutes of the Annual Council held on 15th May 2014 (Minute Nos. CL/1 – CL/19) were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

CL/24 **MINUTES OF THE CIVIC COUNCIL**

The Open Minutes of the Civic Council held on 29th May 2014 (Minute Nos. CC/1 – CC/5) were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

CL/25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Vice-Chairman of the Council, Councillor Atkin, declared an interest in relation to Item 13 and made it clear that he would leave the meeting when this item was considered. No other declarations of interest were received.

CL/26 **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, LEADER AND HEAD OF THE PAID SERVICE**

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor Murray, listed the events that he had attended since his election to the post in May. Many of these events, he explained, had been within the District and involved local communities. They included the recent festival of leisure as well as a meeting with the League of Friends and the Dancing in the Forest event.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Wheeler, informed the meeting that Dr Sophie Churchill was leaving the National Forest Company at the end of the year. Councillor Wheeler, praised Dr Churchill for her work and the way in which she had co-operated closely with the Council.

The Chief Executive reminded Council that a strike involving local government and other public sector workers had been called for the 10th July. He also informed the meeting of a potentially significant new redevelopment, which could generate significant additional income to help fund new sports and golf course leisure facilities within the district.

CL/27 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

Council was informed that no questions had been received.

CL/28 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

Council was informed that no questions had been received.

CL/29 **SEALED DOCUMENTS**

RESOLVED:-

That the Sealed Documents listed, for which there is no specific authority, be duly authorised.

CL/30 **OPEN REPORTS**

Council received and considered the open minutes of its committees.

RESOLVED:-

That the open minutes of the following Committees be approved as a true record:-

Licensing & Appeals Sub-Committee 12.05.2014 (LA/41-LA47)

Planning Committee 13.05.14 (PL/106-PL/118)

Overview & Scrutiny Committee 14.05.2014 (OS/29-OS/33)

Finance & Management Committee (special) 20.05.2014 (FM/01-FM03)

Environmental and Development Services 05.06.2014 (EDS/01-EDS/10)

Housing & Community Services Committee 12.06.2014 (HCS/01-HCS/10)

Finance & Management Committee 19.06.2014 (FM/05-FM/18)

CL/31 **THE COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING PANELS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR**

Council was informed that no changes had been made to the composition of committees, sub-committees and working panels since its last meeting.

CL/32 **COMPOSITION OF SUBSTITUTE PANELS**

Councillor Southerd on behalf of the Labour Group informed the meeting that Councillor Wilkins had been replaced as a substitute member of the Planning Committee by Councillor Mulgrew. He also stated that Councillors Shepherd had ceased to be a substitute members of the Finance & Management Committee and been replaced by Councillor Chahal.

CL/33 **REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Wheeler on behalf of the Conservative Group informed the meeting that Councillor Mrs Hood would replace Councillor Murray on the 'People Express' group.

CL/34 **LOCAL PLAN PART ONE**

Councillor Atkin left the meeting at this point. The Council considered a report which set out the latest position on the Local Plan (part one) for the District. This asked members to decide whether to submit the plan to the Secretary of State, subject to the proposed modifications that were explained at the meeting.

Members received a presentation on the Local Plan (part one). This would, it was explained, set out strategic allocations and key development management policies. The second part of the plan would set out the location of new educational facilities, non-strategic allocations and the remaining development management policies. Members were reminded that extensive consultation had already taken place on the local plan and that the Council had worked closely with Derby City Council and Amber Valley Borough Council to ensure a joined-up approach. The meeting was told that the three authorities were now in different positions and that Amber Valley had already submitted their plan to the Secretary of State. However, further action on this plan had been suspended in order to allow that council to consider the inclusion of further new housing to meet the accommodation requirements of the City of Derby.

Members were told that South Derbyshire had already made provision within its own plan to accommodate 70% of Derby's excess housing growth. The report warned that it might become harmful if this District was to make further allocations to meet the housing needs of the city, as they would probably be in unsustainable locations and not supported by the required infrastructure. For this reason, members were asked to approve the first option in the report, to submit the Local Plan (part one) to the Secretary of State, without any changes to include additional accommodation.

The Chief Executive advised that if the Council was to submit the Local Plan (part one) to the Secretary of State without any additional changes, it should emphasise to him that it had discharged fully its duty to co-operate with its neighbours and that the authority had already gone a long way towards meeting the additional accommodation requirements of Derby.

During the subsequent discussion, the Chairman of the Environment & Development Services Committee, Councillor Watson, congratulated the officers on the excellent work that had been carried out to prepare the Plan. He agreed that the Council had carried out its duty to co-operate very effectively and felt that this point should be made to ministers.

Councillor Southerd, on behalf of the Labour Group also expressed his thanks to the officers for their efforts. He made it clear that although he and his colleagues supported the Council's position, that no additional housing should be included in the Local Plan (part one), he made it clear that his group had important reservations about the proposed development sites, which in many instances they regarded as unsuitable for local communities. For this reason his group would not be prepared to support the plan.

At the conclusion of the discussion members considered the motion that the Council adopt 'Option One' in the report, to submit the Local Plan (part one), that as part of this no further housing increase be accepted and that the Secretary of State be informed of how the Council had discharged fully its duty to co-operate.

Labour members requested that a recorded vote be taken on the motion.

The members who voted for the motion were: Councillors Murray, Bale, Mrs. Brown, Ford, Mrs. Hall, Harrison, Hewlett, Councillor Mrs. Hood, Jones, Mrs. Patten, Mrs. Plenderleith, Roberts, Smith, Stanton, Mrs. Watson, Watson and Wheeler.

The members who voted against the motion were: Councillors Bambrick, Bell, Chahal, Dunn, Frost, Mrs. Heath, Mrs. Mead, Mulgrew, Pearson, Rhind, Shepherd, Southerd, Stuart, Taylor, Tilley and Wilkins.

RESOLVED:-

That the Council adopt 'Option One' in the report, to submit the Local Plan (part one) to the Secretary of State and that as part of this no further housing increase be accepted. That the Secretary of State be informed of how the Council had discharged fully its duty to co-operate in preparing the Local Plan (part one).

CL/35 **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.

CL/36 **EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL**

The Exempt Minutes of the Annual Council, held on 15th May 2014 (Minute Nos. CL/20 – CL/21) were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

CL/37 **EXEMPT QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NUMBER 11**

Council was informed that no questions had been received.

CL/38 **EXEMPT REPORTS**

Council received and considered the exempt minutes of its committees.

RESOLVED:-

That the exempt minutes of the following committees be approved as a true record:-

Planning Committee 13.05.2014 (PL/119)

Finance & Management Committee 20.05.2014 (FM/04)

Environmental & Development Services Committee 05.06.2014 (EDS/11-EDS 12)

Housing & Community Services Committee 12.06.2014 (HCS/11)

Finance & Management Committee 19.06.2014 (FM/19)

The meeting terminated at 7.15pm

Councillor P. Murray

CHAIRMAN