

MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING of the  
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
held at Civic Offices, Civic Way,  
Swadlincote on 15th May 2003  
at 6.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:-**

**Labour Group**

Councillor Mrs. Mead (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Bambrick, Bell, Carroll, Dunn, Harrington, Isham, Jones, Lane, Lauro, Mulgrew, Murphy, Pabla, Richards, Shepherd, Southerd, Southern, Stone, Taylor, Whyman, M.B.E. and Wilkins.

**Conservative Group**

Councillor Bale (Chair) and Councillors Atkin, Ford, Mrs. Hall, Harrison, Mrs. Hood, Martin, Nalty, Mrs. Renwick, Shaw, Mrs. Walton and Mrs. Wheeler.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors Bladen, Hood and Lemmon (Conservative Group).

CL/1. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 1ST MAY 2003**

The election of the following Members at the District Council Elections held on 1st May 2003 was noted:-

**Midway Ward**

William Dunn  
Michael Edward Mulgrew  
Peter John Wilkins

**Swadlincote Ward**

Ronald Frederick Lane  
Stuart David Murphy  
Richard John Stone

**Church Gresley Ward**

Kenneth Harrington  
Trevor Southerd

**Newhall and Stanton Ward**

Sean Andrew Bambrick  
Jean Mead  
Kevin John Richards

**Linton Ward**

Michael Ronald Lauro  
Robert William Southern

**Repton Ward**

John Bladen  
Heather Kay Wheeler

**Melbourne Ward**

Jane Dunster Carroll  
John Patrick Harrison

**Etwall Ward**

Francis Roy Hood  
John Lawrence Lemmon

**Hilton Ward**

George Anthony Martin  
Roma Mary Walton

**Willington and Findern Ward**

Martyn Ford  
Ann Hood

**Hatton Ward**

Barrie Whyman

**Seales Ward**

Margaret Elizabeth Hall  
Colin Buckstone Shaw

**North West Ward**

Michael John Palmer Bale

**Woodville Ward**

Gloria Dawn Isham  
Stephen Taylor

**Stenson Ward**

Lakhvinder Singh Pabla  
David Geoffrey Shepherd

**Hartshorne and Ticknall Ward**

Roy Leonard Bell  
Raymond Jones

**Aston Ward**

Neil Kenneth Atkin  
Robert Graham Nalty  
Beryl Renwick

CL/2. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17th April 2003 (Minutes Nos. CL/144 – CL/155) were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

(With regard to Minute No. CL/148 relating to the occupation of a lay-by at Barrow-on-Trent by travellers, Councillor Atkin declared a personal interest in this matter, being the owner of land adjacent to the lay-by).

CL/3. **APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

It was noted pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, that Councillor Whyman was the Leader of the Labour Group and Councillor Mrs. Wheeler was the Leader of the Conservative Group.

It was proposed, duly seconded, and,

**RESOLVED:-**

***That Councillor Whyman be appointed Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.***

CL/4. **APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

It was noted pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, that Councillor Carroll was the Deputy Leader of the Labour Group and Councillor Harrison was the Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group.

It was proposed, duly seconded, and,

**RESOLVED:-**

***That Councillor Carroll be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.***

CL/5. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair advised that the Charity Golf Competition would be held on 16th May 2003 at the Branston Golf and Country Club, which was the last charity

event during her year of office. The Chair advised that a Disability Awareness Day would be held in Swadlincote on 4th July 2003 and requested Members' support on this issue. The Chair reported a letter received from former Councillor Evens thanking all members of staff for their help to him as a Councillor during the previous eight years and wishing all new Members of the Council the best in their endeavours over the next four years.

As this was the final Council Meeting before the forthcoming Civic Council Meeting on 22nd May 2003, the Chair took the opportunity to thank all Members for the support and respect afforded to her during her year of office.

CL/6. **LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader welcomed all newly elected Members to the Authority and also expressed his gratitude to the Chair for her dedicated service during her year of office.

CL/7. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chief Executive reported a letter received from former Councillor Brooks, thanking all staff for their assistance to him whilst serving as a Member. The Chief Executive extended an invitation to new Members to tour the offices immediately following the Meeting.

CL/8. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**RESOLVED:-**

***That the Open reports of the following Committees be received and noted, subject to any matters annotated:-***

***Housing and Community Services Committee, 17th April 2003 (Minutes Nos. HCS/119 -HCS/120)***

***Development Control Committee, 22nd April 2003 (Minutes Nos. DC/140 - DC/148)***

***(Untidy Sites – Councillor Lauro expressed his pleasure at various sites being tidied in the Swadlincote area. However, he voiced concern at the condition of the scrap yard site and the entrance to the former Nadins site at the Cadley Hill gateway to the Swadlincote town centre from the A444. The Chair of the Environmental and Development Services Committee advised that the mounds of earth on the former Nadins site related to the forthcoming commencement of works at Tetron Point which would improve the area. With regard to the scrap yard in the vicinity, it was noted that this had the benefit of planning permission but some tree planting may be possible to screen the site. The Chair of the Committee also advised that County Councillors Mrs. Lauro and Routledge had raised the issue of street lighting on Cadley Hill Road, for which funds had been set aside and the County Council had assured that this provision would be made shortly.)***

CL/9. **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/10. **TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2003/04**

**RESOLVED:-**

*That the timetable of Meetings for 2003/04 attached at Annexe ‘A’ to these Minutes be approved.*

CL/11. **POLITICAL COMPOSITION**

The Council reviewed the political proportionality for the composition of Committees and Sub-Committees, calculating accordingly to reflect the political proportionality of the Council.

**RESOLVED:-**

*That the allocation of seats to the political Groups attached at Annexe ‘B’ to these Minutes be approved.*

CL/12. **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING PANELS 2003/04**

**RESOLVED:-**

*(1) That the Groups’ nominations of Members to serve on Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Panels for the ensuing year, as set out at Annexe ‘C’ to these Minutes, be received and noted.*

*(2) That Chairs and Vice-Chairs be appointed as indicated.*

CL/13. **SUBSTITUTE PANELS**

**RESOLVED:-**

*That the Groups’ nominations of Members to serve on Substitute Panels, as set out at Annexe ‘D’ to these Minutes, be received and noted.*

CL/14. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS OF AREA MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED:-**

*That Chairs of the following Area Meetings be appointed as indicated for the ensuing year:-*

**Area Meeting**  
**Etwall**  
**Linton**

**Chair**  
**Councillor Whyman**  
**Councillor Southern**

**Melbourne  
Newhall  
Repton  
Swadlincote**

**Councillor Carroll  
Councillor Mrs. Mead  
Councillor Taylor  
Councillor Southerd**

CL/15. **REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

**RESOLVED:-**

***That appointments of representatives to or nominations to serve on outside bodies for the ensuing year, unless otherwise indicated, be made as set out at Annexe 'E' to these Minutes.***

(In response to a question, the Leader of the Council advised that there would be an appropriate mechanism in place to receive reports from the Council's representatives on the activities of outside bodies).

CL/16. **LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP – NOMINATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SHADOW BOARD**

It was reported that the Local Government Act 2000 gave Councils new powers to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of their area. This was linked to a duty to prepare a Community Strategy with a Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and to involve the local community fully in the process. An initial forum event for key stakeholders had been held on 6th October 2002 when it was agreed that a Business Planning Group (BPG) be established. The Group was mandated to establish the LSP to commence the initial work of preparing the Community Strategy and to agree the community involvement agenda. The BPG had since met on a monthly basis and had proposed a draft constitution which provided the context for establishing the LSP. This would provide the basis for discussion at a further forum event on 11th June 2003 at the Bretby Conference Centre.

A key element of the constitution involved the establishment of a Shadow Board to manage the LSP and to oversee the preparation of the draft Community Strategy. It was proposed that the Board should comprise of 24 representatives, with local authorities, other public sector, private sector and the community/voluntary sector each nominating or electing six representatives. The BPG had also recommended that the representation of the local authority sector should consist of a representative from the County Council, a representative of the Parish Councils with the four remaining positions being nominated by the District Council, including the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council. On this basis, two positions would remain and the Group had suggested that these should be filled by one nomination from each of the two political groups.

There would be some financial and staffing implications associated with the Council's support of the LSP. Whilst these could not be quantified in detail at this stage, initial indications had revealed that they could be accommodated within existing budgets.

**RESOLVED:-**

***That the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council together with Councillors Mrs. Wheeler and Wilkins be appointed to the Shadow Board.***

CL/17. **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 17th April 2003 were duly received and approved.***

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

***The Exempt report of the following Committee was received and noted:-***

***Housing and Community Services Committee, 17th April 2003***

MRS. J. MEAD

CHAIR