

MINUTES of the MEETING of the
SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
held at Civic Offices, Civic Way,
Swadlincote on 3rd November 2005
at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Labour Group

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

Conservative Group

Councillors Bale, Bladen, Mrs. Hall, Harrison, Mrs. Hood, Hood, Lemmon, Nalty, Mrs. Renwick and Mrs. Wheeler.

Independent Member

Councillor Mrs. Walton.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors Harrington, Isham, Mrs. Mead and Richards (Labour Group) and Councillors Atkin, Ford, Mrs. Littlejohn and Shaw (Conservative Group).

CL/91. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 22nd September 2005 (Minutes Nos. CL/72 - CL/87) were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

CL/92. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Mulgrew declared a personal interest in the item relating to the Council Depot (Minute No. CL/107), as members of his family were employed at the Depot, Councillor Whyman M.B.E. declared a potential prejudicial interest if any discussion ensued on the Derbyshire Provisional Local Transport Plan and Derby Joint Provisional Local Transport Plan Consultation (Minute No. FM/54 of the Finance and Management Committee held on 13th October 2005) and Councillors Lemmon and Southerd declared prejudicial interests in the presentation by Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire PCT (Minute No. CL/94) as non-executive Directors of the PCT.

CL/93. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair thanked those who had supported the recent Last Night at the Proms Concert, which had raised the sum of £1,385.25 for new equipment for the South Derbyshire Music Centre. The Chair advised of various events he had attended during the last month, including a Coalfield Communities Campaign Meeting, Local Democracy sessions at Pingle School, Ilkeston Charter Fair, a University Court Meeting at Buxton and the CVS "Make a

Difference” Day. Forthcoming events included the Royal British Legion’s 11-11 Campaign, Swadlincote Remembrance Day Parade and Service on 13th November 2005 and the Switch-on of the Swadlincote Christmas Lights on 25th November 2005.

The Chair advised that Councillor Mrs. Mead had recently undergone surgery for a hip replacement and would remain in hospital for several days. The Chair welcomed Frazer Powell to the Meeting, a recently appointed Democratic Services Officer who would commence employment with the Council on 28th November 2005.

CL/94. **PRESENTATION ON “CHOOSING HEALTH”**

Gerry Bryant, Director of Public Health at Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire Primary Care Trust attended the Meeting and made a presentation to Members on this matter. “Choosing Health” was a White Paper setting out how health services would be reformed to educate people about their health, help people to make healthy choices and promote good health. The key messages were outlined and priorities for action included reducing the number of people who smoked, reducing obesity with a focus on children, increasing exercise, supporting sensible drinking, improving sexual health and improving mental health and well-being. The presentation dealt with children and young people, developing capacity, information and knowledge, physical activity and smoke-free public places. The issues which the NHS organisations should concentrate on were also outlined, together with work and health, the delivery targets, how the Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire PCT was responding to “Choosing Health” and targets relating to smoking. The number of smokers in South Derbyshire were detailed, together with possible measures to reduce smoking prevalence to 21% by 2010. The presentation concluded by outlining measures which could be undertaken in South Derbyshire relating to obesity, sexual health and sensible drinking.

Members expressed their gratitude for the informative presentation.

CL/95. **PRESENTATION RELATING TO PPG17 – STUDY ON RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE**

Nick Rimmer, Managing Consultant of Knight Kavanagh and Page Consultants, together with Rosie Benson, Senior Consultant attended the Meeting and made a presentation to Members on the findings of this study. Key issues relating to indoor sports provision, outdoor sports facilities and open space were outlined, together with provision for children and young people. Examples of action plans relating to each of the key issues were suggested and Members expressed their gratitude for the presentation.

CL/96. **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:-

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee (2 Meetings), 15th September 2005 (Minutes Nos. LA/22 – LA/25).

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee (4 Meetings), 19th September 2005 (Minutes Nos. LA/26 – LA/33)

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee (2 Meetings), 28th September 2005 (Minutes Nos. LA/34 – LA/37)

Environmental and Development Services Committee, 29th September 2005 (Minutes Nos. EDS/26 – EDS/31)

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee (3 Meetings), 3rd October 2005 (Minutes Nos. LA/38 – LA/43)

Development Control Committee, 4th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. DC/58 – DC/64)

Community Scrutiny Committee (Special), 5th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. CYS/15 – CYS/16)

Housing and Community Services Committee, 6th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. HCS/42 – HCS/49)

Finance and Management Committee, 13th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. FM/51 – FM/60)

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 17th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. LA/44 – LA/45)

Community Scrutiny Committee, 17th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. CYS/17 – CYS/20)

Finance and Management Committee (Special), 20th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. FM/66 – FM/71)

Corporate Scrutiny Committee, 24th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. COS/15 – COS/17)

Development Control Committee, 25th October 2005 (Minutes Nos. DC/65 – DC/73)

Overview Committee, 31st October 2005 (Minutes Nos. OV/13 – OV/16)

CL/97. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

Members considered the urgency of a motion submitted by Councillor Mrs. Wheeler under Council Procedure Rule No. 13(s) relating to the proposed restructuring of the Police Force.

The Leader of the Council advised that detailed consultation would be undertaken during November prior to a final report on the matter.

RESOLVED:-

That, in view of the impending consultation to be undertaken, the motion submitted be not considered as urgent.

(Councillors Bale, Bladen, Mrs. Hall, Harrison, Mrs. Hood, Hood, Lemmon, Nalty, Mrs. Renwick and Mrs. Wheeler wished it to be recorded that they had voted against this decision).

CL/98. **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/99. **COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING PANELS**

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

CL/100. **SUBSTITUTE PANELS**

There were no amendments to the compositions of Substitute Panels.

CL/101. **REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

It was reported that following the recent resignation of Mr. L.J. Brooks, a vacancy existed on the Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust Limited.

RESOLVED:-

That Councillor Lauro be appointed as this Council's representative on the Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust Limited to replace Mr. Brooks.

CL/102. **PERIODIC ELECTORAL REVIEWS – CONSULTATION PAPER**

It was reported that a Consultation Paper had been received on the Electoral Commission's evaluation of Periodic Electoral Reviews (PER's) in England and representations had been requested by 25th November 2005.

RESOLVED:-

That a Working Panel be established consisting of three Members of the Labour Group and two Members of the Conservative Group to consider the Consultation Paper and submit recommendations to the Finance and Management Committee on 24th November 2005.

(Councillor Whyman left the Meeting at 7.45 p.m.)

CL/103. **CORPORATE NEWSLETTER**

It was reported that the proposal for a newsletter had been identified in the Corporate Plan as a Corporate Milestone. It was intended that 38,000 copies

of the newsletter would be printed and distributed on four occasions per annum to inform the community of the work of the District Council. Extensive research had been undertaken on the best format of a newsletter to achieve an attractive publication cost-effectively. An eight page standard tabloid format was believed to be the best option available with the design, production and distribution of the newsletter being supported externally.

The issue of advertising, which may fund part of the cost of the publication, was one issue which required consideration. The likely revenue to be generated by advertising would be relatively small compared to the amount of space in the newsletter which would have to be allocated to advertisers. In an eight page publication, a quarter of its volume would need to be allocated to advertising which would necessitate the loss of two pages which could contain editorial copy. Most Councils preferred not to allow advertising on the covers or centre spread in order that in an eight page publication, the four remaining pages could be overloaded with advertising.

Heads of Department would be asked to provide information for the newsletter to ensure that all areas of the Council's operations were represented in the course of its publication. This information would be edited and approved for publication by the Public Relations Officer. It was suggested that an Editorial Working Panel be established to consider the options possible with available resources and to ensure a balance of articles from all departments over the course of the publication of the newsletter. In its initial work, the Panel could be asked to approve the format of the publication, its overall design and brand image, the choice of printing, designing and distribution companies. The Panel could then meet before the newsletter was printed to confirm the inclusion of those articles submitted for the forthcoming issue. It was suggested that two newsletters could be published in the foreseeable future, one in the New Year and one in the Spring, with Summer and Winter issues being published thereafter. It was noted that two issues of the Corporate Newsletter could be contained within current budgets.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the creation of a corporate newsletter be endorsed and an Editorial Working Panel consisting of Councillors Murphy, Richards and Shepherd (Labour Group) and Councillors Ford and Harrison (Conservative Group) be established to support the publication of the newsletter, agree the format and consider the content.***
- (2) That a further report be submitted to the next Meeting of the Finance and Management Committee to consider the recommendations of the Editorial Working Panel.***

CL/104. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT 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 22nd September 2005 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:-

Environmental and Development Services Committee, 29th September 2005

Finance and Management Committee, 13th October 2005

Finance and Management Committee (Special), 20th October 2005

Development Control Committee, 25th October 2005

COUNCIL DEPOT (Paragraph 9)

The Council approved negotiations relating to the potential disposal of the Council's Depot.

R. JONES

CHAIR