

MINUTES of the MEETING
of the SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
held at Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote
on 13th December 2012
at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillors Atkin, Mrs. Brown, Ford, Mrs. Hall, Harrison, Hewlett, Jones, Lemmon, Murray, 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, Richards, Shepherd, Southerd, Stuart, Taylor, Tilley and Wilkins.

CL/58. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, nominations were sought for a Chairman for the Meeting.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Stanton be appointed Chairman for the Meeting.

CL/59. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillor Bale (Chairman) and Councillor Mrs. Hood (Vice-Chairman).

CL/60. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 27th September 2012 (Minutes Nos. CL/43 – CL/55) were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

CL/61. **GRANT THORNTON: ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2011/12**

The Chairman welcomed Ian Barbour from Grant Thornton, who presented the Annual Audit Letter for 2011/12. This summarised the key issues arising from the external auditor's work, covering key messages and conclusions on:

- Auditing the 2011/12 year-end accounts.
- The accuracy of grant claims and returns to various Government departments and other agencies.

- Assessing the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness to ensure that Value for Money was achieved.

RESOLVED:-

That the Annual Audit Letter for 2011/12 is approved.

CL/62. **LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader of the Council reported on the illness of the Chairman of Council and the reasons for absence of the Vice-Chairman. As this was the first Council Meeting since the recent flooding, thanks were expressed to Council employees who had assisted residents.

CL/63. **HEAD OF PAID SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Reference was made to the recent Police and Crime Commissioner Elections and thanks were recorded to the staff who had been involved in this process. The Chief Executive then thanked the volunteers who had assisted during the recent flooding. He would be issuing high visibility jackets and emergency contact numbers to Members. The Chief Executive also spoke about South Derbyshire's regeneration being recognised in a regional business magazine. Finally, the Chief Executive referred to the Swadlincote Town Centre Vision and Strategy, copies of which were available for Members.

CL/64. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

It was reported that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 12, Councillor Richards had given notice of the following motion:

"We believe that to fulfil the Corporate aims and objectives of 'Making South Derbyshire a better place to Work, Live and Visit' as enshrined in the theme of 'Sustainable Growth and Opportunity' that South Derbyshire District Council should become a 'Living Wage' employer, and undertake a costing exercise to consider implementing the 'Living Wage' if at all possible at the earliest opportunity".

The motion was seconded and debated, with a number of Members contributing. An amendment was moved, seconded and debated before being put to a vote and defeated. A further amendment was then proposed, seconded, put to the vote and carried. The substantive motion was:-

"We believe that to fulfil the Corporate aims and objectives of 'Making South Derbyshire a better place to Work, Live and Visit' as enshrined in the theme of 'Sustainable Growth and Opportunity' that South Derbyshire District Council should consider becoming a 'Living Wage' employer, and undertake a costing exercise to consider implementing the 'Living Wage' if at all possible at the earliest opportunity".

The substantive motion was then put to a vote.

RESOLVED:-

That the substantive motion, as set out above is carried.

Note: At 7.05 p.m. Councillor Frost left the Meeting.

CL/65. **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:-

Finance and Management Committee (Special), 27th September 2012 (Minutes Nos. FM/38 – FM/41)

Environmental and Development Services Committee, 4th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. EDS/20 – EDS/30)

(Minute No. EDS/27 – A Member suggested the insertion of the word ‘Gresley’ in the final line of the preamble which would be actioned when the Committee received its Minutes).

Planning Committee, 9th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. PL/67 – PL/78)

Housing and Community Services Committee, 11th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. HCS/25 – HCS/32)

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 17th October 2012 (Minute No. LAS/8)

Finance and Management Committee, 18th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. FM/42 – FM/50)

Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 24th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. OS/12 – OS/16)

Planning Committee, 30th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. PL/79 – PL/84)

Planning Committee, 20th November 2012 (Minutes Nos. PL/85 – PL/92)

Environmental and Development Services Committee, 22nd November 2012 (Minutes Nos. EDS/32 – EDS/36)

(Minute No. EDS/32 – As part of business development, a Member referred to improving broadband services on Castleton Park at Castle Gresley. In responding to the question, reference was made to European funding and that being provided by Derbyshire County Council to improve broadband services throughout the County).

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 27th November 2012 (Minute No. LAS/11)

Area Forums

Newhall, 25th September 2012 (Minutes Nos. NA/10 – NA/16)

Melbourne, 3rd October 2012 (Minutes Nos. MA/9 – MA/14)

Etwall, 10th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. EA/9 – EA/16)

Swadlincote, 16th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. SA/9 – SA/16)

(It was confirmed that Councillor Dunn had been present at this Meeting).

Linton, 23rd October 2012 (Minutes Nos. LA/9 – LA/14)

Repton, 25th October 2012 (Minutes Nos. RA/10 – RA/16)

CL/66. **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/67. **COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING PANELS**

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

CL/68. **COMPOSITION OF SUBSTITUTE PANELS**

There were no amendments to the composition of Substitute Panels.

CL/69. **REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no changes to the Council’s representation on Outside Bodies.

CL/70. **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 27th September 2012 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, 4th October 2012

Housing and Community Services Committee, 11th October 2012

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 17th October 2012

Finance and Management Committee, 18th October 2012

Planning Committee, 20th November 2012

Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee, 27th November 2012

M. STANTON

CHAIRMAN