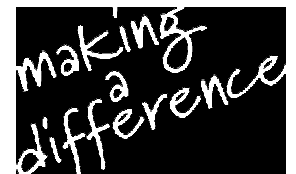


minute book 2

# Council

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July  
2013  
7.00 pm

Council Chamber  
Town Hall  
Redditch



[www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)



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**1.**





## Council

10th June 2013

## MINUTES

### Present:

Councillor Wanda King (Mayor), Councillor Pat Witherspoon (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors Joe Baker, Roger Bennett, Rebecca Blake, Michael Braley, Andrew Brazier, Juliet Brunner, David Bush, Michael Chalk, Simon Chalk, Greg Chance, John Fisher, Andrew Fry, Carole Gandy, Adam Griffin, Bill Hartnett, Pattie Hill, Roger Hill, Gay Hopkins, Alan Mason, Phil Mould, Brenda Quinney, Mark Shurmer, Yvonne Smith, Luke Stephens, Debbie Taylor and Derek Taylor

### Officers:

K Dicks, C Flanagan, S Hanley and S Jones

### Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

### 15. WELCOME

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

### 16. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Brandon Clayton.

### 17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 18. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

.....  
MAYOR, in the Chair

**19. ANNOUNCEMENTS**a) Mayor

The Mayor's communications and announcements were as follows:

i) Mayoral functions

The Mayor advised that since the previous meeting of the Council she had attended several engagements, including the latest Tour Series Bike Race, a charity fund-raising quiz for Redditch One World Link, and Bewdley Town Council Civic Service.

ii) Forthcoming engagements

The Mayor advised that forthcoming events included the reception of visitors from the twin town of Mtwara in Tanzania, a charity meal with the Mayor of Evesham, the Wyre Forest District Council Civic Service, the Primrose Hospice Charity Royal Race Day, the Primrose Choir Summertime Concert, the Worcester City Civic Service, Droitwich Spa Town Council Civic Service, the Fly the Flag Day at Redditch Town Hall, the Worcestershire Summer Schools Games, a Steamboat Trip with the Mayor of Stourport on Severn and Astwood Bank Carnival.

iii) Libby Smith Charity Fund-raising

The Mayor advised the Council of an event the following weekend which had been arranged to raise funds to help send a local BMX rider, Libby Smith, to the forthcoming World Championships in New Zealand and encouraged her fellow Councillors to attend if possible.

iv) Friends of Gruchet-le-Valasse

The Mayor advised that she had met with the delegation from the twin town of Gruchet-le-Valasse during their recent visit to Redditch. The Mayor of Gruchet, M. Didier Peralta, had presented the Borough with a stone crest in celebration of 20 years of friendship between the towns.

b) Leader

The Leader's announcements were as follows:

i) Tour Series Bike Race

The Leader commented on the success of the Tour Series Bike Race and advised that, since next year was the final year in which Choose How You Move funds would be available to finance the event, the Council would need to consider the options for maintaining the event into the future.

ii) Bandstand Festival

The Leader advised the Council that the latest Bandstand event the previous weekend featuring a number of local choirs had been very successful.

iii) Visitors from Mtwara

The Leader was pleased to report that following the intervention of the Council, the local press and the local MP, the recent visa difficulties had largely been overcome and it was hoped that the visitors from Mtwara would be arriving in Redditch later in the current week.

c) Chief Executive

The Chief Executive had no announcements.

**20. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

No questions had been submitted.

**21. MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

No motions had been submitted.

**22. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Members received the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

**RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013 be received and adopted.**

**23. REGULATORY COMMITTEES**

Members received the minutes of recent meetings of the Audit and Governance, Licensing, Planning and Standards Committees.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the minutes of the meetings of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> March and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 be received and adopted;**
- 2) **the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013 be received and adopted;**
- 3) **the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April and 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 be received and adopted; and**
- 4) **the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013 be received and adopted.**

**24. CONSTITUTION - ANNUAL REVIEW**

The Council considered an updated version of the authority's constitutional arrangements.

**RESOLVED that**

**the Council's Constitutional arrangements be re-affirmed, as appended to the Council Agenda under separate cover.**

**25. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

Members considered a report which set out proposed appointments to various outside bodies. It was noted that nominations/ appointments had not been made to Redditch Play Council pending further information on Members' liability.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the list of organisations set out in the appendix to these minutes , to which the Council makes appointments and/or nominations, be agreed; and**
- 2) **appointments and nominations be made to each body as detailed in the attached appendix.**

**26. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS**

The Council considered the decision that had been taken under its urgency procedures in respect of the Matchborough East Community Centre property transfer.



**RESOLVED that**

**the decision be noted.**

**27. URGENT BUSINESS - GENERAL (IF ANY)**

There were no separate items of urgent business for consideration at this meeting.

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm  
and closed at 7.17pm

.....  
MAYOR, in the Chair





## Executive Committee

11<sup>th</sup> June 2013

### MINUTES

#### Present:

Councillor Bill Hartnett (Chair), Councillor Greg Chance (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Rebecca Blake, Juliet Brunner, Brandon Clayton, John Fisher, Phil Mould, Mark Shurmer and Debbie Taylor

#### Also Present:

Councillor Andy Fry

#### Officers:

G Barton, J Bayley, M Bough, R Dunne, C Flanagan, S Hanley, C John, Lynn Jones, K Manning, J Pickering, G Revans, A de Warr, T Beech and N Godwin

#### Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

#### 1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 3. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements from the Leader.

#### 4. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

.....  
Chair

**5. CORPORATE DASHBOARD - PILOT**

Officers introduced the Committee to the new Corporate Dashboard which was to be rolled out as part of a pilot later in the year. The Dashboard would allow Officers and Members to view data on a range of Council services and determine whether the Council was effectively meeting its Corporate Purposes. The benefit of the new system would be the availability of live, useable data.

It was anticipated that this system would provide the Council with a bigger picture and allow Officers and to identify correlations. Data which was gathered on an annual basis would be used to compile a context document which would sit behind the live data.

Officers explained that it would be possible to interrogate the data on a Ward by Ward basis and it was hoped that, over time, this could be refined to allow interrogation by locality. The Committee was informed that the exercise relied in part on external agencies providing the Council with the relevant data and Officers were presently discussing with various partner organisations our requirements and, more importantly, the longer term benefits for them from the effective use of this data.

Members welcomed this development. They were keen to seek assurances on a number of points. The Committee expressed its hope that the data gathered would be of real use and was not to be gathered simply because it could be, that this would not result in Officers being distracted from other activities to bring this about and that the data would assist the Council in avoiding service failures in future. Officers were able to assure the Committee that the system would be largely automated and that the data gathered would be changed over time, where necessary, according to the experiences of the Services using it.

The Council was ahead of partner organisations in its thinking on this system and so they were largely involved in data provision alone at present, but it was anticipated that the data would be shared between partners in due course and available to members as well. Potential public availability was an area which had not been discussed to date.

**RESOLVED that**

**the presentation be noted.**

**6. FINANCIAL RESERVES STATEMENT 2012/13**

Members received a report which advised them of the earmarked reserves for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 and sought approval for various movements in reserves as specified in the report.

**RECOMMENDED that**

- 1) the movement in reserves as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;**
- 2) additional General Fund Reserves of £1,084K be approved;**
- 3) the use of General Fund Reserves of £435K be approved;**
- 4) additional HRA Reserves of £27K be approved; and**
- 5) the use of HRA Reserves of £15K be approved; and**
- 6) movement in Capital Reserves of £72K be approved.**

(Councillors Juliet Brunner and Brandon Clayton requested that it be recorded that they abstained on this item)

**7. THE GREEN DEAL**

The Committee considered a report on the preferred option for participating in the Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO) as the Council's main delivery mechanism for its Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) aims.

Officers had explored the available options in some depth and were recommending that the Council engage in the Birmingham Energy Savers procurement option. This option presented the Council with no up-front costs. Officers had also identified that the funding for a number of existing schemes could more usefully be exploited in supporting this new initiative and it was therefore proposed that the existing schemes be ceased with immediate effect.

In response to members' queries, it was clarified that Officers could not guarantee that specific scheme or areas would benefit from this initiative, there was scope for the Council to shape the work that was carried out on its behalf by Carillion, the service provider under the Birmingham Energy Savers contract.

Members welcomed the report and initiative, recognising that it presented the Borough with opportunities to provide economic and environmental benefits.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) working with Carillion in partnership with Bromsgrove District Council via the Birmingham Energy Savers procurement route, and formalisation of this arrangement by entering into a contract with Carillion, be agreed;**
- 2) authority be delegated to the Head of Environmental Services and the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to negotiate the contract and to finalise the contract documents and any other associated legal documents;**
- 3) it be noted that discussions are on-going between Carillion and the other Worcestershire authorities. In pursuing the negotiations for the contract Officers will in the first instance be aiming to secure an agreement with Carillion that is County-wide. In the event that this does not prove possible, that Members authorise Officers to enter into a contract with Carillion on behalf of Bromsgrove and Redditch Councils;**
- 4) all historic/existing energy efficiency and conservation schemes currently available through the Council's capital budget be formally suspended to avoid conflict with the incoming Green Deal initiative and the remaining funding is redeployed to support the Affordable Warmth initiatives, Green Deal incentives and general Energy Efficiency initiatives; and**
- 5) the Council record its thanks to the Climate Change Manager, Ceridwen John, on the occasion of her departure from the Council, for the excellent work that she had carried out on behalf of the Council during the previous 10 years.**

**8. REDI CENTRE**

Members considered a report which enabled them to consider the proposal to declare REDI Centre as a surplus asset. It was noted that the business had ceased operation in 2010 and Members were disappointed that it had taken so long to bring matters to this stage. It was hoped that, in future, plans could be developed in a more timely fashion to determine what to do with surplus property.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the REDI Centre be declared as a surplus asset; and**
- 2) **Officers be instructed to review the opportunities available for the centre in conjunction with Property Services and to report back to Members with options by September 2013.**

**9. MAKING EXPERIENCES COUNT - QUARTERLY CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT - QUARTER 4 2012/13**

Members considered the latest Customer Services monitoring report for the final quarter of 2012/13. A number of the headlines were reported to the Committee, such as an improvement in response times in responding to queries and the reduction in complaints that could be evidenced following the introduction of transformed methods of working. The trend in increasing numbers of payments being made online was continuing.

The Committee was also informed that the Head of Customer Services and Leader of the Council had recently met with the officers responsible for the Hub and the Highways Team at the County Council to outline the Council's concerns and it was hoped that positive measures would flow from this. A request was made for members to be made aware of the Report It function on the Council website and Officers undertook to provide this following the meeting.

**RESOLVED that**

**the update for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 be noted.**

**10. ACCESS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE TASK GROUP MONITORING UPDATE - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REFERRAL**

Councillor Andy Fry presented a report on behalf of the Access for Disabled People Task Group and Overview and Scrutiny Committee in respect of a referral concerning the erection of a canopy over the entrance ramp access to Shopmobility. It was noted that there was sufficient money available through the Shopmobility Donation Reserves to more than adequately fund this and members were happy to support the proposal. The referral was therefore agreed on the basis that the money be made available from the Shopmobility Donation Reserves rather than being released from balances.

**RECOMMENDED that**

**funding of £5,000 be released from the Shopmobility Donation reserves to meet the costs associated with the installation of a canopy over the access ramp to Shopmobility.**

**11. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The minutes of a recent meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were received by the Committee.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2013 be received and noted; and**

**Access for Disabled People Task Group – Monitoring Update Report**

- 2) disability awareness training be delivered as part of the overall Member induction process at Redditch Borough Council.**

**12. SHARED SERVICES BOARD**

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Shared Services Board held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

**RESOLVED that**

**the minutes of the meeting of the Shared Services Board on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013 be received and noted.**

**13. MINUTES / REFERRALS - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE PANELS ETC.**

There were no minutes or referrals to consider under this item.

**14. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT**

The latest report on the activity of the Committee's Advisory Panels and similar bodies was considered.

**RESOLVED that**

**the report be noted.**



## 15. ACTION MONITORING

The Committee received the latest Action Monitoring report and were informed that the protocol for the provision of accommodation for homeless people was nearing completion.

## 16. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

**RESOLVED that**

**under S.100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act, as amended:**

**Minute 17 – Compulsory Purchase Order – 11 Clent Avenue, Redditch; and**

**Minute 18 – Restructure – Enabling Heads of Service.**

## 17. COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER - 11 CLENT AVENUE, REDDITCH

The Committee received an update report on the possible Compulsory Purchase of 11 Clent Avenue, Redditch following recent developments in the case. Since the previous report, the Council had confirmed the identity of the individual who had legal title to the property and proposals were considered for proceeding with the acquisition of this property.

[During consideration of this item Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed which would identify an individual or relate to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding that information).]

## 18. RESTRUCTURE ENABLING HEADS OF SERVICE

The Committee considered a report which set out proposals for a restructuring of the management arrangements for the enabling services of the Council.

[During consideration of this item Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the

**Executive  
Committee**

11<sup>th</sup> June 2013

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grounds that information would be revealed which would identify an individual or relate to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with labour relations matters.]

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 9.05 pm

.....  
Chair

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2, 3, 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted





# Executive Committee

9<sup>th</sup> July 2013

## MINUTES

### Present:

Councillor Bill Hartnett (Chair), Councillor Greg Chance (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Rebecca Blake, Juliet Brunner, Brandon Clayton, John Fisher, Phil Mould, Mark Shurmer and Debbie Taylor

### Also Present:

Councillors Andrew Brazier and David Bush

### Officers:

R Bamford, M Bough, R Dunne, C Flanagan, S Hanley, T Kristunas, J Pickering and L Tompkin

### Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

### 19. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

### 20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hartnett declared an interest in Item 9 (Selection of Registered Provider for Development of Hewell Road swimming bath site) as detailed separately at Minute 27 below.

### 21. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements from the Leader.

### 22. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED that

**the minutes from the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

.....  
Chair

**23. HOUSING DENSITY TARGETS TASK REVIEW - FINAL REPORT**

The Committee considered the final proposals of the Housing Density Targets Task Group following their consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The recommendations were designed to help encourage wider housing provision in the Borough as part of the Council's emerging policy on housing as part of the Local Plan.

The Chair of the Task Group, Councillor David Bush, attended the Committee meeting to present the report and narrate a short presentation on housing density around the Borough. Some of the key aspects underpinning the recommendations were a desire to see a greater numbers of bungalows, an increase in the supply of larger properties and opportunities for self-build and a relaxation of the density requirements for smaller sites to provide the scope for local developers to build more distinctive, idiosyncratic properties and compete with the larger developers. To achieve these aims a number of changes had been proposed to Policy 5 of the emerging Draft Borough of Redditch Local Plan No. 4.

The Committee discussed a number of the assertions within the report and presentation, noting that several bungalow developments had been created in recent years and that Officers did not routinely record the numbers built within the Borough making a rigorous quantification of supply and demand hard to assess, although a need for all types of housing was quite evident. In addition, the need for more executive homes could not easily be divorced from a wider discussion of the Borough's needs in terms of nightlife, restaurant provision and similar issues.

It was also noted that the Borough was short of housing land, hence the need for cross-boundary growth, and there was a degree of flexibility already built into the housing density requirements. However, the Committee did recognise the merit in the work that had been undertaken and acknowledged that greater flexibility might be introduced to achieve some of the mutually agreed aims. To this end it was proposed that Officers do further work on Policy 5 and submit this to the Planning Advisory Panel for consideration.

**RESOLVED that**

**Planning Officers be tasked with developing an amended form of words for Policy 5 of the emerging Draft Borough of Redditch Local Plan No. 4 which would ensure an appropriate level of flexibility in housing density requirements, to be submitted for consideration at a future meeting of the Planning Advisory Panel.**

**24. COUNCIL PLAN**

The draft Council Plan was considered by the Committee. The Plan was a much more concise document than previous versions with the intention of it being a strategic and public-facing document. The key to the Plan was the push to put the customer at the heart of everything the Council does and shaping the Council's services to suit customers' needs.

Members generally welcomed the document but it was suggested that some refinement and re-ordering might be undertaken to address two issues in respect of Areas of Highest Need. These were placing the information around these sites away from the very front of the document and ensuring that the descriptions of the areas more accurately reflected the locations rather than simply repeating the Lower Super Output area designations. It was also noted that the foreword from the Leader of the Council would be prepared in time for the forthcoming Council meeting.

**RECOMMENDED that**

**subject to the amendments in the preamble above, the Council Plan attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.**

**25. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME**

Officers presented a report which detailed a number of options upon which the Council was intending to consult in respect of the Council Tax Support Scheme in place from April 2014. Members attention was drawn to the table in Appendix 1 and they were advised that the number of working age claimants affected should read 4,600 and not 3,749 as indicated.

The Committee was informed that the majority of Councils across the County were intending to consult on a range of measures fundamentally the same as those set out in the report. Members were quite clear that the impact on other public authorities of the Council not collecting at least a proportion of the shortfall left by the Council Tax Support Grant could be very significant and so were minded to approve the consultation options. Members were keen that a full range of options be considered and proposed that Officers draw up proposals which included restricting Council Tax support to Band C equivalent amounts and building in exemptions for disabled persons or those with young children. Officers undertook to draw up further options on this basis.

**RESOLVED that**

**the Executive Director of Finance and Resources be authorised to consult on the options to change the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme with effect from April 2014 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report and as amended in the preamble, above.**

**26. REVIEW OF POLICY FOR LEASES OF COUNCIL LAND AND PROPERTY AT A CONCESSIONARY RENT**

Members considered a report which set out a number of proposed changes to the policy for leases of Council land and property at a concessionary rent.

The initial aim of developing a transparent and consistent policy was very much to the fore in Members consideration of the suggested amendments and it was agreed that the Policy, as amended, would meet this aim.

**RESOLVED that**

**the updated Policy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved and implemented with immediate effect.**

**27. SELECTION OF REGISTERED PROVIDER FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HEWELL ROAD SWIMMING BATH SITE.**

Members received a report which set out the recommendation for the selection of a Registered Provider from the Council's Preferred Partner list to deliver affordable housing on the Hewell Road swimming baths site.

It was noted that the Panel had reached a consensus based on the scoring matrix employed for the process and Redditch Co-op Homes had been recommended as the preferred partner to develop the site. It was suggested that, in future, the Council might be more prescriptive in detailing the numbers and types of properties it desired on a development site but Officers were of the opinion that, beyond advising of the primary housing need at the time of selection, it would be difficult to stipulate at the outset what was to be built as subsequent surveys might dictate that certain developments were unsuitable.

The loss of the play area was commented upon but Officers confirmed that Ward Members and Officers had consulted with the local community and had determined that the play area on site was poorly used and a focus for anti-social behaviour.



**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **Redditch Co-op Homes be selected as the preferred partner to deliver affordable housing on the Hewell Road swimming baths site; and**
- 2) **authority be delegated to the Head of Finance and Resources and the Housing Strategy Manager to complete the transfer of the site to Redditch Co-op Homes subject to planning permission being obtained.**

(During consideration of this item, Councillor Bill Hartnett declared an other disclosable interest as a Member of the Board of Redditch Co-operative Homes, appointed by the Council, and vacated the Chair and the Chamber for the duration of this item. The Vice-Chair, Councillor Chance, assumed the Chair in Councillor Hartnett's absence.)

**28. LEASE OF THE ANCHORAGE**

An opportunity had arisen through the Council's Joined Up Working to allow NEW College access to a property where the skills of its apprentices might be developed alongside those of the Council's own workforce and, as a consequence, a property would be returned to the Council in a refurbished condition at the end of the lease period.

Members were delighted to endorse the scheme as it promised to provide benefits to the local economy, the Council's own workforce and the Council's property portfolio. It was hoped that the present scheme might be adopted as a model for the future.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **"The Anchorage" property be let to the NEW College on a 5 year Full Repairing & Insuring lease which would include the NEW College returning the property in a lettable state;**
- 2) **a "peppercorn" rent only to be charged to the NEW College due to the benefits to the community and the in-house workforce, who would gain long term from the training the College would be able to provide in the building during the lease period; and**
- 3) **authority be delegated to the Head of Housing and Head of Legal Services to finalise the detailed provisions of the Lease and implement this decision.**

**29. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 4th June 2013.

Members were keen to receive updates through the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in due course on the activities of Healthwatch Worcestershire.

Healthwatch Worcestershire

**RESOLVED that**

**the Borough Council make representations to Healthwatch Worcestershire on behalf of local residents.**

**30. MINUTES / REFERRALS - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE PANELS ETC.**

There were no minutes or referrals to consider under this item.

**31. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT**

The latest update on the activity of the Council's Advisory panels and similar bodies was considered by the Committee.

**RESOLEVD that**

**the report be noted.**

**32. ACTION MONITORING**

The Committee's Action Monitoring report was received by the Committee. It was noted that the action requested at the previous meeting had been undertaken.

**RESOLVED that**

**the Action Monitoring report be noted.**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 8.45 pm

.....  
Chair



## Licensing Committee

1<sup>st</sup> July 2013

### MINUTES

#### Present:

Councillor Phil Mould (Chair), Councillor Alan Mason (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Joe Baker, Roger Bennett, Michael Braley, Michael Chalk, Andrew Fry, Pattie Hill, Wanda King and Brenda Quinney

#### Officers:

K Barnett, S Garratt and D Etheridge

#### Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

#### 18. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Gay Hopkins.

#### 19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 20. MINUTES

##### RESOLVED that

**the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 11th March 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.**

#### 21. LICENSING ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered an update on the functions carried out under the Licensing Act 2003, the Gambling Act 2005 and other aspects of licensing during the preceding year and significant issues anticipated in the coming year.

Officers explained that the on-going transference of data to new software had resulted in some of the reported figures being slightly

.....  
Chair

out of date. It was noted that the main activities undertaken within the Licensing function were reported and that other, ancillary activities were excluded at present. The Committee was informed that such information could be included within future Annual reports whilst still retaining the summary nature of the report.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the contents of the Licensing Annual Report 2012/13 be noted; and**
- 2) **future Annual Reports provide an overview of the broad scope of licensing activities undertaken by the Council.**

**22. PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE POLICY - MULTI SEATED WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE VEHICLES - CONSULTATION FEEDBACK**

The Committee considered a report detailing the responses received to a consultation with the taxi trade on the draft Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Policy. It was reported that 17 responses to the consultation had been received and Members were asked to consider the draft Policy in the light of these comments.

Members noted that the majority of the consultation responses were apparently written by the same individual and the view was expressed that this should be a consideration when assessing how much weight to give them. Officers confirmed that these responses, although written in the same hand, had been received from different individuals. It was reported that the majority of respondents were supportive of the changes which reflected the fact that they were generally of benefit to taxi drivers and operators.

The ordering of the bullet points within the draft Policy was discussed as it was felt that, with regard to the rules governing the licensing of vehicles more than 9 years old, the present order was open to misinterpretation should the points not be considered in conjunction with each other.

Members were very supportive of the draft Policy and the underlying rationale behind it, that of encouraging an increase in the number of wheelchair accessible vehicles in the Redditch Private Hire fleet. It was suggested that a similar Policy change be introduced for Hackney Carriage vehicles and this also received general support. A Members suggested that the twice-yearly testing of vehicles within three years of their first registration was a somewhat onerous burden on drivers and operators and that a relaxation of the testing regime be introduced for the first 18 months – two years. To that end, Officers were asked whether mileage data

for taxis tested by the Council within their first three years of registration might be submitted to a future Committee meeting for consideration.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the draft Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Policy at Appendix 1 (attached) be approved to come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013, subject to the amendment of the ordering of the bullet points as noted in the preamble above;**
- 2) **consultation take place with the taxi trade over amendment of the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licensing Policy to bring it into line with the Policy adopted for Private Hire Vehicles with respect to age extensions for adapted vehicles; and**
- 3) **Officers explore the feasibility of presenting mileage data for vehicles tested within three years of their first registration to a future meeting of the Committee.**

**23. HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DISABILITY AWARENESS TRAINING - CONSULTATION FEEDBACK**

Members considered a report which set out the responses to further consultation with the local taxi trade, this time with regard to the introduction of mandatory disability awareness training for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle drivers within the Borough.

Of the responses received, most were generally in favour of the proposal, although there were concerns raised over a number of issues such as the additional cost to drivers and the applicability of equivalent disability awareness training. The Committee was clear that the training should be a mandatory requirement although it was stressed that the training should cover all forms of disability.

It was explained that the proposed training would be of an afternoon's duration, would cost each driver £20 and would be undertaken by the Worcestershire County Council Driver Safety Team. Officers provided basic information on the content and cost of the Level 2 NVQ in Road Passenger Vehicle Driving which provided equivalent training in disability awareness and undertook to provide Councillor Alan Mason with further detail following the meeting. The Committee discussed the timescales within which it was hoped that all taxi drivers might be trained and were advised that, from a practical and legal perspective, the end date should provide a reasonable opportunity for all drivers to undertake the training. It was proposed that a minimum of 12 months should be

given and that a figure be incorporated in the draft Policy which was to be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1) **the Council proceed with the proposal to make disability awareness training a mandatory requirement for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle drivers in the Borough, excepting those drivers who can demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction that they have undertaken equivalent disability awareness training (e.g. Level 2 NVQ in Road Passenger Vehicle Driving); and**
- 2) **a report setting out the draft Policy on disability awareness training for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle drivers be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.**

**24. LICENSING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2013/2014**

Members noted the Committee Work Programme for the coming year. Officers highlighted that there would be an item coming forward relatively soon in respect of legislation concerning the licensing of scrap metal dealers. It was anticipated that this report would require consideration prior to the next scheduled meeting in November and it was therefore proposed that an additional meeting be arranged prior to November which would consider this matter and the Policy on Disability Awareness Training.

**RESOLVED that**

**subject to the amendments set out in the preamble, above, the Committee Work programme be noted.**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 7.48 pm

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Chair



# Planning Committee

5<sup>th</sup> June 2013

## MINUTES

**Present:**

Councillor Andrew Fry (Chair), Councillor Alan Mason (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Roger Bennett, Bill Hartnett (substituting for Councillor Joe Baker), Roger Hill, Brenda Quinney and Yvonne Smith.

**Officers:**

J Bayley, S Edden, C Gilbert, A Hussain and A Rutt

**Committee Services Officer:**

J Smyth

**5. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Joe Baker and Wanda King.

**6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**7. PLANNING APPLICATION 2012/210/FUL –  
21 VICARAGE VIEW, BATCHLEY**

Side Extension of ground, first and attic floors

Applicant: Mr M Aslam

Mr Macfarlane and Mr Walton, local residents objecting to the application, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.

**RESOLVED that**

**having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, Planning Permission be REFUSED for the following reasons:**

.....  
Chair

- 1) The proposed extension would breach the 60 degree rule by 1.2metres and as such would have a detrimental impact on the residential amenity of the neighbouring property in terms of loss of light contrary to the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No. 3 Policies B(BE).13 (iii) and B(BE).14 (iv) and Supplementary Planning Guidance: Encouraging Good Design.
- 2) The proposed extension by virtue of its scale would not meet the required parking standards and therefore be likely to result in the displacement of parking onto the already over used street. As such the development would be contrary to Policy C(T).12 Appendix H of the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No. 3.
- 3) The proposed extension by virtue of its design, appearance, mass and scale would be out of character in the street scene. As such the development would be contrary to Policies B(BE).13 and B(BE).14 of the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.3, the advice set out in the Council's adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance on Encouraging Good Design and the provisions contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

(Having noted and considered the speaker representations, Officers report and Update, which had provided details on two late consultee responses, the Committee raised concerns about the breaches of the 60 degree code and parking requirements. They also considered that the size and design of the proposed extension would be out of keeping with the streetscene of Vicarage View.

In view of these issues, the Committee refused the Application for the reasons stated in the resolution above.)

**8. PLANNING APPLICATION 2013/066/RM –  
FORMER DINGLESIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL,  
WOODROW NORTH.**

Reserve Matters Application, including access,  
layout, scale, appearance and landscaping, following  
Outline Planning Approval Reference 2010/210/OUT  
Residential Development comprising of 160 dwellings

Applicant: Taylor Wimpey Midlands

Mr M Williams, Agent for the Applicant, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.



**RESOLVED that**

**having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, permission be GRANTED, subject to the conditions and informatives summarised in the report.**

**9. PLANNING APPLICATION 2013/076/FUL –  
1378 AND LAND TO THE REAR OF 1380 EVESHAM ROAD,  
REDDITCH**

Erection of nine detached dwellings

Applicant: Kendrick Homes Ltd

Mr R Clarke and Mr P Joel, objecting, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.

**RESOLVED that**

**Having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Regeneration Services to GRANT Planning Permission, subject to:**

- a) **the satisfactory completion of a Section 105 Planning Obligations to ensure that:**
  - i) **Contributions are paid to the Borough Council in respect of off-site open space, pitches and equipped play, in accordance with the Council's adopted SPD.**
  - ii) **A financial contribution is paid to the Borough Council towards the provision of wheelie bins for the new development;**
  - iii) **A financial contribution is paid to the County Council in respect of education provision; and**
- b) **the Conditions and Informatives summarised in the report.**

**10. PLANNING APPLICATION 2013/085/COU –  
58 PADGETS LANE, REDDITCH**

Change of Use from Class B8 to Class B2

Applicant: Mr P Gaines

**RESOLVED that**

**having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Regenerations Services to GRANT Planning Permission, following the expiry of the public consultation period (14<sup>th</sup> June 2013) and subject to the Conditions and Informatives summarised in the report.**

**11. PLANNING APPLICATION 201/088/COU –  
140 EVESHAM STREET, REDDITCH**

Change of Use from a Tattooist (Sui Generis) to  
Hot Food Takeaway (Class A5)

Applicant: Heritage Enterprises

**RESOLVED that**

**having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, Planning Permission be GRANTED, subject to the Conditions and Informatives summarised in the report.**

**12. PLANNING APPLICATION 2013/093/EXT –  
LAND AT WINYATES WAY AND MOONS MOAT DRIVE,  
REDDITCH**

Extension of Time Application for  
Planning Permission 2010/044/FUL  
Erection of three general industrial units (B2)  
with associated offices, car parking and  
service yard.

Applicant: Mr David Nash

**RESOLVED that**

**having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, Planning Permission be GRANTED, subject to the Conditions and Informatives summarised in the report.**

**13. CHANGES TO NATIONAL PLANNING LEGISLATION RELATING  
TO PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS – INFORMATION  
REPORT**

The Committee considered an Information Report in relation to amendments to Permitted Development Rights regulations, which came into force from 30<sup>th</sup> May 2013 on a temporary basis until 2016

for most categories. It was reported that the changes in the regulations had also been discussed at a recent Planning Advisory Panel meeting.

Members were informed on the changes to various types of permitted development categories. Clarification and Officers views were sought on a number of matters, in particular in regard to residential dwellings, agricultural buildings, change of use from offices to dwellings, new flexible uses, industrial/warehouse development and Broadband in Conservation Areas.

Members were also informed on changes in the prior approval process and what could and could not be taken into account when considering the principles of proposed developments. Rights of refusal and/or appeal were also explained. Officers also clarified that, prior approval processes would have to be undertaken under delegated powers, in view of imposed tight deadlines.

**RESOLVED that**

**the information be noted.**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 8.23 pm

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CHAIR





# Planning Committee

3<sup>RD</sup> July 2013

## MINUTES

### Present:

Councillor Andrew Fry (Chair), Councillor Alan Mason (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Joe Baker, Michael Chalk, Roger Hill, Brenda Quinney and Yvonne Smith

### Officers:

A Hussain, H Rajwanshi, A Rutt and S Williams

### Committee Services Officer:

J Smyth

### 14. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Wanda King.

### 15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Yvonne Smith declared an Other Disclosable Interest in Planning Application 2013/105/FUL (10 Lower Grinsty Lane, Callow Hill) as detailed in Minute 18 below.

### 16. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### RESOLVED that

**the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 22nd May and 5th June 2013 be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chair.**

(The Committee considered two sets of minutes which had been marked to follow in the Agenda and which were issued late under additional papers.)

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Chair

**17. PLANNING APPLICATION 2013/078/FUL –  
LAND SOUTH OF HARRIS CLOSE**

Erection of 41 dwellings comprising 35 houses and  
6 apartments, together with roads and associated works

Applicant: David Wilson Homes

Mr A Rowan, on behalf of the Applicant, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.

**RESOLVED that**

**having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Regeneration to GRANT Planning Permission, subject to:**

- 1) the satisfactory completion of a Section 106 Planning Obligation to ensure that:**
  - i) contributions are paid to the Borough Council in respect of off-site open space, pitches and equipped play in accordance with the Council's adopted SPD;**
  - ii) a financial contribution is paid to the Borough Council towards the provision of wheelie bins for the new development;**
  - iii) 40% of the residential units are for the provision of social housing in perpetuity; and**
- 2) the Conditions and Informatives summarised in the main report.**

**18. PLANNING APPLICATION 2013/105/FUL –  
10 LOWER GRINSTY LANE, CALLOW HILL**

Garage extension (as amended by Plans received on 14th June 2013).

Applicant: Ms Christine Lloyd

Mrs N Kai, objecting, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.

**RESOLVED that**

**having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Regeneration to GRANT Planning Permission following the expiry of the public consultation period (8th July 2013), subject to the conditions and informatives summarised in the report.**

(Prior to consideration of this item, Councillor Yvonne Smith declared an other disclosable interest in view of the fact that she was personally acquainted with the registered speaker objecting to the application. Councillor Smith withdrew from the meeting and took no part in its consideration or voting thereon.)

**19. PLANNING APPLICATION 2013/119/FUL –  
MAGNA EXTERIORS AND INTERIORS, MERSE ROAD**

Extension of existing factory, relocation of existing bund to increase site parking, additional concrete yard space; mezzanine floor and new site entrance off Winyates Way

Applicant: Mr C Walton

Mr J Edwards, the Agent for the Applicant, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.

**RESOLVED that**

**having regard to the Development Plan and to all other material considerations, Planning Permission be GRANTED, subject to the conditions and informatives summarised in the main report.**

**20. PLANNING APPLICATION 2013/130/RC3 –  
GRASSED AREA NEXT TO REDDITCH TOWN HALL,  
WALTER STRANZ SQUARE**

Public art piece to celebrate the Redditch springs and wireform Industry

Applicant: Leisure and Culture, Redditch Borough Council

Mr J Cochrane, on behalf of the Applicant, addressed the Committee under the Council's public speaking rules.

**RESOLVED that**

**a decision on this matter be deferred to allow the Committee to receive further information on the size of the artwork in relation to the existing building.**

**21. APPEAL OUTCOME - CONVERSION OF OFFICE SPACE INTO RESIDENTIAL UNITS - NEWTON HOUSE, HEWELL ROAD**

The Committee received an item of information in relation to the outcome of an appeal against a refusal of Planning Permission, made by Officers under delegated authority, namely:

Planning Application 2012/128/COU  
Conversion of First Floor Office Space (Use Class B1)  
Into 4 no. residential units

Members noted the Inspector's decision to dismiss the appeal on the basis that the proposed conversion to residential units would have a detrimental impact on employment land availability and was incompatible with the surrounding employment area.

**RESOLVED that**

**the item of information be noted.**

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm  
and closed at 8.25 pm

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CHAIR