

Council

5th December 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Anita Clayton (Mayor), Councillor Gay Hopkins (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors Peter Anderson, Michael Braley, Rebecca Blake, Andrew Brazier, Juliet Brunner, David Bush, Michael Chalk, Simon Chalk, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Andrew Fry, Carole Gandy, Adam Griffin, Malcolm Hall, Roger Hill, Alan Mason, Phil Mould, William Norton, Jinny Pearce, Mark Shurmer, Luke Stephens, Debbie Taylor and Derek Taylor

Also Present:

Mrs D Andrews (Chair, Standards Committee) and Mr M Collins (Vice-Chair, Standards Committee)

Officers:

T Buckley, C Felton, S Hanley, S Skinner and A Walsh

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

69. WELCOME

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all present. The Mayor's celebrant, June Saville, led the Council in a moment's reflection.

70. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Bill Hartnett, Robin King and Wanda King.

71. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

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Chair

72. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17th October 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

73. COMMUNICATIONS AND MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor's communications and announcements were considered under the following headings:

a) 2nd Battalion, The Mercian Regiment

The Mayor informed the Council of the recent sad death of a member of the 2nd Battalion, the Mercian Regiment, Private Matthew Haseldin, 21 years old from Settle in North Yorkshire. A letter of condolence had been sent on the Council's behalf to the Regiment.

b) Canon David Salt

The Mayor advised the Council that Canon David Salt, former Vicar of St. Stephens, would shortly be retiring to Wiltshire. On behalf of the Council, the Mayor wished David and Mrs Salt the very best for their retirement.

c) Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised that since the previous meeting of the Council she had undertaken a number of engagements in her civic capacity including her own Civic Dinner, a Charity Quiz Night and the Sports Awards 2011 in Worcester, at which Redditch's Richard Murphy and Stevan Walton were presented with awards.

d) Forthcoming events

The Mayor advised that forthcoming events included the Town Centre Carol Concert that coming Thursday evening and the Pantomime at the Palace Theatre.

74. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

75. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The Leader responded to a question submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 9.2 from Councillor Juliet Brunner. Councillor Brunner's question related to the White Ribbon Campaign and 16

Days of Action against domestic abuse that was taking place within Redditch and across the world.

The Leader responded by thanking Councillor Brunner for drawing attention to this campaign. The Council was informed that the Police in Redditch had recently launched a new method of dealing with incidents of domestic violence which focussed upon keeping the victims within their homes whilst removing the perpetrators for a period of time. The local Community Safety Partnership was behind moves to increase the protection available to vulnerable individuals and enhance home security in such instances. The education of younger people as to the unacceptability of abusive behaviour was highlighted as a key measure in tackling this problem in the long term.

76. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

No motions had been received.

77. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members received the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 15th November 2011.

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 15th November 2011 be received and all recommendations adopted, subject to:

in respect of Minute 112 (Solar Panels – Government Consultation) it being noted that Officers had undertaken to provide Councillor Debbie Taylor with information on the impact on employment within the Borough of the reduction in the solar photo voltaic feed-in tariff.

78. REGULATORY COMMITTEES

The Council received the minutes of recent meetings of the Audit and Governance Committee and Planning Committee.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 15th November 2011 be received and adopted, subject to:**

in respect of Minute 23 (Internal Audit – Update on Delivery Against 2011/12 Plan) it being noted that the electronic updates on amendments to the Audit Plan following Officer meetings had not been provided and

that this matter should be expedited by the Officers concerned; and

- 2) a) the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 3rd October, 5th October and 2nd November 2011 be received and adopted; and
- b) the Scheme of Delegation to Officers be updated to include authority for Officers, in consultation with the Committee Chair, in exceptional and urgent circumstances to vary deadline dates set by the Planning Committee for conclusion of Section 106 agreements.

79. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS

There were no Urgent Business decisions under the Council's urgency procedures for consideration at this meeting.

80. URGENT BUSINESS - GENERAL (IF ANY)

There were no separate items of Urgent Business for consideration at this meeting.

The Meeting commenced at 7.03 pm
and closed at 7.50 pm

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Chair