



Council

Mon 20 Oct
2014
7.00 pm

Council Chamber
Town Hall
Redditch

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

*making
difference*

www.redditchbc.gov.uk

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Your main rights are set out below:-

- Automatic right to attend all Council and Committee meetings unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Automatic right to inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect minutes of the Council and its Committees (or summaries of business undertaken in private) for up to six years following a meeting.
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- Access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting.
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- Unless otherwise stated, all items of business before the Executive Committee are Key Decisions.
- (Copies of Agenda Lists are published in advance of the meetings on the Council's Website:
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If you have any queries on this Agenda or any of the decisions taken or wish to exercise any of the above rights of access to information, please contact Democratic Services

**Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH
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Welcome to today's meeting.

Guidance for the Public

Agenda Papers

The **Agenda List** at the front of the Agenda summarises the issues to be discussed and is followed by the Officers' full supporting **Reports**.

Chair

The Chair is responsible for the proper conduct of the meeting. Generally to one side of the Chair is the Democratic Services Officer who gives advice on the proper conduct of the meeting and ensures that the debate and the decisions are properly recorded. On the Chair's other side are the relevant Council Officers. The Councillors ("Members") of the Committee occupy the remaining seats around the table.

Running Order

Items will normally be taken in the order printed but, in particular circumstances, the Chair may agree to vary the order.

Refreshments : tea, coffee and water are normally available at meetings - please serve yourself.

Decisions

Decisions at the meeting will be taken by the **Councillors** who are the democratically elected representatives. They are advised by **Officers** who are paid professionals and do not have a vote.

Members of the Public

Members of the public may, by prior arrangement, speak at meetings of the Council or its Committees. Specific procedures exist for Appeals Hearings or for meetings involving Licence or Planning Applications. For further information on this point, please speak to the Democratic Services Officer.

Special Arrangements

If you have any particular needs, please contact the Democratic Services Officer.

Infra-red devices for the hearing impaired are available on request at the meeting. Other facilities may require prior arrangement.

Further Information

If you require any further information, please contact the Democratic Services Officer (see foot of page opposite).

Fire/ Emergency instructions

If the alarm is sounded, please leave the building by the nearest available exit – these are clearly indicated within all the Committee Rooms.

If you discover a fire, inform a member of staff or operate the nearest alarm call point (wall mounted red rectangular box). In the event of the fire alarm sounding, leave the building immediately following the fire exit signs. Officers have been appointed with responsibility to ensure that all visitors are escorted from the building.

Do Not stop to collect personal belongings.

Do Not use lifts.

Do Not re-enter the building until told to do so.

The emergency **Assembly Area** is on **Walter Stranz Square**.



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Monday, 20th October, 2014

7.00 pm

Council Chamber Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:	Pat Witherspoon (Mayor) Pattie Hill (Deputy Mayor) Joe Baker Roger Bennett Rebecca Blake Michael Braley Andrew Brazier Natalie Brookes Juliet Brunner David Bush Greg Chance Brandon Clayton John Fisher Andrew Fry Carole Gandy	Bill Hartnett Gay Hopkins Wanda King Alan Mason Phil Mould Jane Potter Mark Shurmer Rachael Smith Yvonne Smith Paul Swansborough Debbie Taylor David Thain John Witherspoon Nina Wood-Ford
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1. Welcome	The Mayor will open the meeting and welcome all present.
2. Apologies	To receive any apologies for absence on behalf of Council members.
3. Declarations of Interest	To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests.
4. Minutes (Pages 1 - 10) Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive	To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15 th September 2014.

5. Announcements	To consider Announcements under Procedure Rule 10: a) Mayor’s Announcements b) Leader’s Announcements c) Chief Executive’s Announcements. (Oral report)
6. Questions on Notice Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive	To receive any questions submitted under Procedure Rule 9.2.
7. Motions on Notice (Pages 11 - 12) Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive	To consider Notices of Motion submitted under Procedure Rule 11.
8. Regulatory Committees Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive	To formally receive the minutes of the following meetings of the Council’s Regulatory Committees: Audit, Governance and Standards 3 rd July 2014. The minutes were received at the meeting of the Council on 15th September, where it was noted that minute no. 15, Portfolio Holder Update – 2014/14 Outturn, contained a typographical error where reference to Threadneedle House should have been to the Town Hall. The Committee has subsequently changed the reference to Town Hall when it approved the minutes at its meeting on 25 th September. Council is therefore asked to confirm its receipt and adoption of the minutes. Audit, Governance and Standards 25 th September 2014 (copy to follow) Planning 8 th October 2014 (copy to follow)
9. Political Balance (Pages 13 - 16) Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services	To consider the enclosed report setting out a revised political balance of the Council following the establishment of a new Political Group.

<p>10. Urgent Business - Record of Decisions</p> <p>Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive</p>	<p>To note any decisions taken in accordance with the Council's Urgency Procedure Rules (Part 6, Paragraph 5 and/or Part 7, Paragraph 15 of the Constitution), as specified.</p> <p>(None to date).</p>
<p>11. Urgent Business - general (if any)</p>	<p>To consider any additional items exceptionally agreed by the Mayor as Urgent Business in accordance with the powers vested in her by virtue of Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.</p> <p>(This power should be exercised only in cases where there are genuinely special circumstances which require consideration of an item which has not previously been published on the Order of Business for the meeting.)</p>
<p>12. Exclusion of the Public</p>	<p>Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to consider excluding the public from the meeting in relation to any items of business on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged it may be necessary to move the following resolution:</p> <p>“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 matter(s) on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs (to be specified) of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act, as amended.”</p> <p>[Subject to the “public interest” test, information relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Para 1 – <u>any individual;</u>• Para 2 – <u>the identity of any individual;</u>• Para 3 – <u>financial or business affairs;</u>• Para 4 – <u>labour relations matters;</u>• Para 5 – <u>legal professional privilege;</u>• Para 6 – <u>a notice, order or direction;</u>• Para 7 – <u>the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime;</u> <p>may need to be considered as ‘exempt’.]</p>

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13. -

(Note: Anyone requiring copies of any previously circulated reports, or supplementary papers, should please contact Committee Services Officers in advance of the meeting.)



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Monday, 15th September 2014

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Pat Witherspoon (Mayor), Councillor Pattie Hill (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors Roger Bennett, Rebecca Blake, Michael Braley, Andrew Brazier, Natalie Brookes, Juliet Brunner, David Bush, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, John Fisher, Andrew Fry, Carole Gandy, Bill Hartnett, Gay Hopkins, Wanda King, Alan Mason, Phil Mould, Jane Potter, Mark Shurmer, Rachael Smith, Yvonne Smith, Paul Swansborough, Debbie Taylor, David Thain, John Witherspoon and Nina Wood-Ford

Also Present:

Michael Collins (Independent Observer on the former Standards Committee), Janet Little (Alzheimer's Society) and a volunteer and two service users of Redditch Friends Together

Officers:

Claire Felton, Sue Hanley and Sheena Jones

Committee Services Officer:

Debbie Parker-Jones

25. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Joe Baker.

The Mayor advised that she had that afternoon spoken with Councillor Baker who was making a good recovery following his recent ill-health. Councillor Baker had been advised by his doctor to refrain from undertaking Council duties for a further 2 weeks, and the Mayor passed on Councillor Baker's thanks to both Councillors and Officers for their good wishes.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor David Bush declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Item 8 (Executive Committee) as detailed separately at Minute 31 below.

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Chair

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Monday, 15th September 2014

27. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14th July 2014 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

28. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Mayor

The Mayor's announcements were as follows:

i) Michael Collins

The Mayor led the Council in thanking Michael Collins for his service as the Independent Observer on the former Standards Committee. Mr Collins had taken on this role when the Council was required to change the way in which the Standards Committee worked, some two years previously. Mr Collins had previously been an Independent Member on the Committee and his advice and support had been appreciated by all those involved with the Committee and the Group Leaders.

The Leader of the Council and a number of other Councillors echoed their appreciation to Mr Collins for his hard work and support under the standards regime, as well as his presence at other meetings of the Council in observing the proceedings.

Mr Collins stated that it had been an honour to work with the Council, especially as he had been chair of licensing at the Magistrates' Court at the point when the liquor licensing function had transferred to local authorities.

A small gift was presented to Mr Collins as a token of the Council's appreciation for his services.

ii) Janet Little – Alzheimer's Society & Redditch Friends Together

The Mayor reminded the Council that Redditch Friends Together, a support group for those with dementia and Alzheimer's disease, was one of the Mayoral charities.

Linked to this she welcomed to the meeting Janet Little from the Alzheimer's Society, together with Sue, a volunteer, and Elaine and Sandy, two service users, of Redditch Friends Together.

The Council heard from the representatives present of the work being undertaken locally by the Alzheimer's Society and Redditch Friends Together, and of their plans to make Redditch a Dementia

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Friendly Town. Redditch Friends Together was currently the only group under the Alzheimer's Society which was working to change society in order to make the town a better place to live in for those with the condition. Numerous activities were being undertaken by the group, which met on a weekly basis. The group was currently working on a book of poetry which it hoped to publish in the future. The group had also recently spoken at an event at Woodfield Academy in Redditch, at which 600 pupils had become champions on dementia.

iii) Mayor's announcements

The Mayor advised that, since the previous meeting of the Council, she had attended a number of engagements, including the Dementia Assembly at Woodfield Middle School, YMCA Bike Project, a Family Art Trail at Arrow Valley Country Park, the Three Choirs Festival at Worcester Cathedral, the Batchley Summer Fete, Redditch in Bloom, a World War One exhibition at St Philips Church, Where Next Association's 30th birthday celebrations and the Redditch Bandstand Festival; the last Bandstand event of the year. The Mayor thanked everyone who had supported her Civic Service on 7th September and her comedy evening in aid of her charities on 9th September.

iv) Forthcoming engagements

The Mayor advised that forthcoming engagements included Ride for Rory at the Alexandra Hospital, Bromsgrove District Council's Civic Service, the MacMillan Coffee Morning, the County Harvest Festival Service and the Friends of Gruchet Annual General Meeting and Quiz. The Mayor went on to thank the Deputy Mayor, Pattie Hill, for standing in for her at those events which she had been unable to attend.

b) Leader's Announcements

The Leader's announcements were as follows:

i) Councillor Nina Wood-Ford

The Leader welcomed Nina Wood-Ford as the Council's newest Councillor.

ii) Neonatal Maternity Unit – Alexandra Hospital

The Leader stated that he had written to all Members in August advising them of the visit which he and the Chief Executive had made to the neonatal maternity unit at the Alexandra Hospital. The staff and management had advised at the visit that they were working very hard to keep the unit open.

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iii) August Bandstand event

The Leader advised that the August Church Green Bandstand event had gone ahead, with thanks being owed to Ken Williams, Kingfisher Centre Manager, for saving the day and offering use of the Kingfisher Centre as a venue for the event due to heavy rain. The Leader stated that this was a sign of true partnership working in action and that he had written to Ken thanking him for his kindness.

iv) Britain in Bloom

The Leader advised that he had attended the Britain in Bloom event when the judges visited Redditch. The Council had been informed the previous week that it had won its fourth Gold Medal, which was excellent news, and congratulations were expressed to all Officers concerned. The Leader formally thanked Officers for their hard work, with what were reducing resources and growing demands on their time.

v) Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire

The Leader reported that he and the Leaders of Bromsgrove and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils had written to the Health Minister in early August regarding the future of acute services at the Alexandra Hospital. A reply was currently awaited from the Health Minister in this regard.

They had pointed out that the consultation which the Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group (RBCCG) were planning on (Modified Option 1) would only be a short term (3-year) fix, which would cost the CCG £1million more than expected. The three local MPs had agreed therefore that an alternative option should be explored.

The Leader also made reference to two letters sent by the Redditch and Bromsgrove Advisory Forum to the RBCCG Governing Body on 13th June 2013 and 9th September 2014 respectively. The letters expressed concerns on the available Options and the CCG Member Practices' expectations in relation to the Joint Services Review. A response had been received earlier that evening from the CCG to the 9th September letter, which needed to be considered by all parties concerned.

The Leader urged all available Members to attend a public CCG Board meeting which was taking place at 1.30pm on 25th September at the Council House in Bromsgrove, at which it was understood the Advisory Forum's letter of 9th September calling for Option 2 to be explored would be discussed.

vi) Mettis Aerospace

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The Leader advised that he had attended the Mettis Aerospace 75 year anniversary celebrations. This had included a spectacular fly past of a spitfire and he had been impressed to see the many skills in Redditch that were at the cutting edge of technology.

vii) 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War

The Leader reported that he and the Mayor had attended St Phillips Church in Webheath to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War.

viii) Farewell to Officers

The Leader bid farewell to Elise Hopkins and Ivor Westmore, recently departed Officers of the Council whom Members knew well, and wished them both well in their future endeavours.

ix) Inspector Rebecca Love

The Leader welcomed back to the Borough Inspector Rebecca Love who had been appointed the new District Inspector for Redditch following Inspector Ian Joseph's retirement.

Inspector Love would be attending the Town Hall on Monday 20th October, 20 minutes before the start of Full Council, should Members wish to meet and have an informal chat with her.

x) Fire victims of Johnson Close

The Leader reported that he and the Mayor had visited victims of the fire in Johnson Close, Abbeydale. A number of bungalows had been damaged by the fire, two seriously. The Leader placed on record his thanks to Officers who had worked hard to support the displaced residents. The hero of the incident was a dog called Alfie, who had raised the alarm at 2.30am. Thankfully no one was injured in the fire, however it was feared that two of the bungalows might have to be demolished. A charity event in aid of the victims was being held at the Abbeydale Club on Saturday 20th September.

xi) Community clean up in Church Hill

The Leader advised that he and a number of fellow Members from various wards within the Borough had attended a community clean up in Church Hill. The Members had been joined in the clean up by cubs, scouts, staff from the local McDonald's restaurant and members of the local community. Some had gone on a general litter pick and others had concentrated on the former medical centre which had become overgrown. The day was reported to be a great success and the Leader expressed his thanks to all involved.

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xii) Mayor's Civic Service & Mayor's Charity Comedy Night

The Leader reported that he and many other Members had attended the Mayor's Civic Service at St Stephens Church and the 'Ship of Fools' charity comedy night at the Palace Theatre. Both events were a great success, with thanks expressed to the Council's 'Ant' Hill for compering the comedy night.

xiii) Final Bandstand event

The Leader advised that the final Bandstand event of the season had taken place on the afternoon of 13th September. The event was based on a harvest festival theme, with donations going to a local food bank. NHS staff had also been honoured at the event as part of NHS Staff Appreciation Week. The event featured diverse art forms from around the globe which had been performed by local artists. The Leader expressed his thanks to Sue Yeng for her hard work and help in organising the Bandstand events.

xiv) Free swim policy

The Leader reported that since the introduction of the controlling group's under 16's/over 60's free swimming policy in August 2012, the number of free swims had now broken through the 40,000 mark.

xv) Comments from Councillor Brunner

Councillor Brunner expressed her thanks to the Mayor for the invite which she had received to the Civic Service, which she stated she was always glad to attend. Councillor Brunner also requested that a letter be sent to Councillor Baker on behalf of the Council wishing him a speedy recovery.

c) Chief Executive's Announcements

The Deputy Chief Executive had no announcements.

29. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No questions had been submitted.

30. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

No motions had been submitted.

31. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Council considered the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee held on 29th July and 8th September 2014.

In relation to Minute 20 (Consolidated Revenue and Capital Outturn, Executive Committee meeting, 29th July 2014), there was some discussion regarding the delay in selling Threadneedle House and it was queried how proactively this had been/was being marketed. The Leader set out his understanding that there had been an expression of interest in the building and a bid on this made. Officers confirmed that Property Services had marketed the building on the Council's behalf and that a written update would be issued to all Members detailing the current position. A further query was raised in relation to the balance of the grant for Town Centre developments, to which the Leader responded that the relevant Officer could provide any required update on monies which had been earmarked for improvements.

In relation to Minute 22 (Response to Stratford Upon Avon's Proposed Submission Core Strategy), it was commented that there appeared to be inconsistencies in the Council's approach to the exercise of its green belt policy between Stratford Upon Avon and Redditch and Bromsgrove. The Leader stated that the response had been considered by the Planning Advisory Panel within a very short timescale, and that this represented a continuation of the Borough Council's existing policy. A further issue was raised in relation to the large number of empty commercial units in the Moons Moat area and what was deemed to be an unnecessary need to develop the Winyates Green Triangle. The Leader referred to his earlier response in this regard.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 29th July 2014 be received and all recommendations adopted; and**
- 2) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 8th September 2014 be received and all recommendations adopted.**

(Prior to consideration of this item Councillor David Bush, declared a disclosable pecuniary interest, in view of the nature of his employment, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the item on the Response to Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Proposed Submission Core Strategy.)

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32. REGULATORY COMMITTEES

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

In relation to Minute 15 (Portfolio Holder Update – 2013/14 Outturn, Audit, Governance and Standards Committee meeting, 3rd July 2014), it was noted that the final sentence should have read that a large number of staff had moved into the Town Hall and not Threadneedle House. Officers confirmed that the amendment would be reported at the next meeting of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee, at which the minutes were due to be received for approval as a correct record. It was further agreed that the amended minutes would be referred back to the next meeting of Full Council for adoption.

RESOLVED that

- 1) subject to an amendment to the final sentence of Minute 15 (Portfolio Holder Update – 2013/14 Outturn) to read the Town Hall and not Threadneedle House, the minutes of the meeting of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee held on 3rd July 2014 be received, and that these be referred back to the next meeting of Full Council for formal adoption following their referral to the next meeting of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee;**
- 2) the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 28th July 2014 be received and the recommendation adopted; and**
- 3) the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 9th July and 6th August 2014 be received and adopted.**

33. ALLOCATION OF POLITICAL BALANCE

Following the by-election for the Church Hill ward on 17th July 2014, which was won by Nina Wood-Ford, a member of the Labour Group on the Council, Members considered the revised political balance of the Council's Committees.

The only change proposed related to Planning Committee, where Labour took an additional place and the place previously allocated to the non-aligned Member was removed.

RESOLVED that

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- 1) the political balance of the Committees of the Council be agreed as follows:

Committee	Total places	Labour Group Places – entitled to 18 (+1)	Conservative Group Places – entitled to 9	Non-aligned Councillors Not entitled on political balance basis but Council allocates position
Audit, Governance & Standards	9	5 (5.59)	3 (2.79)	1
Licensing	11	7 (6.83)	3 (3.41)	1
Planning	9	6 (5.59) (+1)	3 (2.79)	0 (-1)
	29	18	9	2
Committees below are <u>not</u> proposed to be politically balanced – Council convention is that majority group does not take majority of seats				
Overview and Scrutiny	9	4 (5.27)	4 (2.79)	1
Crime and Disorder Panel	5	2 (2.93)	3 (1.55)	0

and

- 2) Councillor Nina Wood-Ford be appointed to the extra Labour place on the Planning Committee.

34. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES ETC.

In light of the recent appointment of Councillor Yvonne Smith as Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Regulatory Services, Members considered changes in nominations to certain outside bodies and a change of membership to the Council's Joint Corporate Health, Safety and Welfare Committee.

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RESOLVED that

- 1) **Councillor Yvonne Smith be nominated as the Council's representative on the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel and the Corporate Parenting Steering Group; and**
- 2) **it be noted that Councillor Nina Wood-Ford had been appointed to the Council's Joint Corporate Health, Safety and Welfare Committee in place of Councillor Yvonne Smith.**

35. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS

There were no Urgent Decisions to note.

36. URGENT BUSINESS - GENERAL

There were no separate items of urgent business to consider at this meeting.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 7.52 pm

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MAYOR, in the Chair

Redditch Borough Council**20th October 2014****Notices of Motion****1. Proposed by Councillor R Bennett, seconded by Councillor D Thain:**

“The Audit, Governance and Standards Committee have received a report from the Auditors, Grant Thornton, who have issued a cautionary note to this Council.

This report has exposed weaknesses in the controlling Group’s long term financial planning identifying:

1. An absence of an up to date sustainable 3-5 year medium term financial plan;
2. Lack of robust plans to deliver the required savings to balance the budget;
3. Planned use of reserves to fund recurrent expenditure.

We call for the resignation of the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management with immediate effect.

We demand on behalf of the tax payers of Redditch that the controlling group prioritise financial planning to ensure this Council has a sustainable medium term financial plan as soon as possible.

2. Proposed by Councillor R Blake, seconded by Councillor B Hartnett:

“That Redditch Borough Council supports the town wide pledge to mark World Mental Health Day 2014.

‘We believe mental health matters and want to see it given as much attention, time and investment as physical health.

We believe a new way of delivering services is needed and the system needs to be radically overhauled to ensure help is given in a timely and appropriate manner and no-one is forgotten.

We believe this is not the responsibility of any one organisation and must be done together with everyone including patients to get the services Redditch needs and deserves.

We believe the time to act is now’.”

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Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor John Fisher
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Ward(s) Affected	All
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	N/A
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	Non key

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 This report sets out the proposed political balance of the Council's Committees following the creation of a new Political Group on the Council.
- 1.2 The Redditch Democratic Alliance consists of two Councillors; Councillor Michael Braley – Group Leader – and Councillor Paul Swansborough. The Council is required to review political balance arrangements as soon as practicable following receipt of a notice of a new Group.
- 1.3 Once the Council has agreed the political balance, the Leaders of each of the Political Groups on the Council nominate to the places on each Committee. Councillors who are not members of a political group are appointed to Committees by the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is requested to RESOLVE that

- 1) the Political balance of the Committees of the Council be agreed as set out in paragraph 3.4;**
- 2) that if the political balance is agreed, the appointment by the Redditch Democratic Alliance to the place on the Planning Committee be noted.**

3. KEY ISSUES**Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The level of members allowances, based on the current number of positions as set out in this report, has been agreed previously by the Council.

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- 3.2 With the exception of the Executive Committee, the Council is required by law to allocate places on its main Committees in accordance with its political make-up. The main requirements are that:
- the number of seats on each Committee allocated to each political group reflects the proportion it holds of the total number of seats on the Council;
 - the Group with the majority of seats on the Council should hold the majority of seats on each Committee.
- 3.3 The definition of a Political Group for these purposes is that it has a minimum of 2 members. Following the creation of the new Group, the composition of the Council is 18 Labour, 9 Conservative, and 2 Redditch Democratic Alliance.
- 3.4 The table below shows the proposed allocation between committees based on the revised political balance. The only change proposed is to the Licensing and Audit, Governance and Standards Committees, where the places previously allocated to a non-aligned Councillor are allocated to the Redditch Democratic Alliance. Similarly, no change in the composition of the Overview and Scrutiny is proposed, but the place previously allocated by the Council to a non-aligned member is taken by the Redditch Independent Alliance:

Committee	Total places	Labour Group Places – entitled to 18	Conservative Group Places – entitled to 9	Redditch Democratic Alliance Places – entitled to 2
Audit, Governance & Standards	9	5 (5.59)	3 (2.79)	1 (0.62)
Licensing	11	7 (6.83)	3 (3.41)	1 (0.75)
Planning	9	6 (5.59)	3 (2.79)	0 (0.62)
	29	18	9	2
Committees below are <u>not</u> proposed to be politically balanced – Council convention is that majority group does not take majority of seats				
Overview and Scrutiny	9	4 (5.27)	4 (2.79)	1 (0.62)
Crime and Disorder Panel	5	2 (2.93)	3 (1.55)	0

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.5 Once the Council agrees the allocation of seats to Committees, the leaders of each political group nominate members to fill them so that the business of the Council can continue to run smoothly.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.6 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

There are no specific high level risks arising from this report.

5. APPENDICES

None

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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