

Council

29th March 2010

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Malcolm Hall (Mayor), Councillor Kath Banks (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors P Anderson, M Braley, J Brunner, M Chalk, G Chance, A Clayton, B Clayton, J Cookson, D Enderby, A Fry, C Gandy, W Hartnett, N Hicks, G Hopkins, D Hunt, R King, W King, C MacMillan, P Mould, W Norton, J Pearce, M Shurmer, D Taylor and D Thomas

Also Present:

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

Officers:

K Dicks, C Flanagan, H Halls, S Hanley, S Skinner and J Staniland

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

117. WELCOME

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

118. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Quinney and Smith.

119. COUNCILLOR JACK FIELD

The Mayor introduced a tribute to a former colleague, Councillor Jack Field, whose death had come as a shock to all at the Council earlier in the month.

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Field's daughter, Jane and other members of the family to the meeting and expressed the Council's deepest condolences to them. Members of the Council were invited to offer up words they might wish to offer in memory of Councillor Field and of his services to the Borough.

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MAYOR, in the Chair

The Leader of the Council commenced the tributes to Councillor Field, noting that he had been justifiably proud to become Mayor of the Borough, having been born and brought up in the town. Councillor Field's wish to see the Mercian Regiment honoured through being conferred with the Freedom of the Borough was also highlighted. The Leader of the Minority Group then led other Members in expressing their thoughts on the character and achievements of Councillor Field.

Dr Jane Yeomans thanked the Council on behalf of the family for the tributes that had been paid to her late father, commenting that the liberal democracy for which his generation had fought was an important legacy for the current generation to uphold.

RESOLVED that

the Council formally record its gratitude to Councillor Field for his service to the Council and to the community.

120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Banks, Chance, B Clayton, Taylor and Thomas declared personal and prejudicial interests in Items 7 (Executive Committee) and 8 (Regulatory Committees) as detailed separately at Minutes 123 and 124 below. Previous declarations of interest on these Items were detailed separately within the papers for the Council meeting.

121. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 1st February and 22nd February 2010 be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Mayor.

122. COMMUNICATIONS AND MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

a) Mr Neil Bromley

The Mayor paid tribute to Mr Neil Bromley, Principal of NEW College, reading out the contents of a letter to be forwarded to Mr Bromley on the occasion of his retirement at the end of the month. The Leader of the Council led other Members in adding their tributes to Mr Bromley and thanking him for his considerable achievements during his period as Principal.

RESOLVED that

the Council place on record its gratitude to Mr Bromley for his achievements while Principal of NEW College.

b) Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised that, since the last meeting of the Council, he had attended various functions, including: the Mayor's own Cabaret Evening and Charity Auction, Girl-Guiding Worcestershire's Centenary Thinking Day Service, the Mayor's Charities Street Collection Day, the Inner Wheel Club of Redditch Fellowship Lunch, a Bank launch at Tenacres First School, the Young Fire Fighters' Association passing-out Parade, the funeral of local artist Norman Neasom, the annual Fellows Lecture at Worcester University given by HRH Duke of Gloucester, the West Midlands Ambulance Services Awards Ceremony, the Sea Cadet of the Year Awards, the visit of HRH the Countess of Wessex and the Mercian Regiment Return Home and Freedom of the Borough Parade, followed by the Mayor's own Civic Dinner.

The Mayor thanked a number of individuals and organisations who had contributed to the tremendous success of the Mercian Regiment Return Home and Freedom of the Borough Parade.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Banks for stepping in to take on engagements he had been unable to attend.

c) Forthcoming events

The Mayor advised that forthcoming events included his hosting of a play list session with Kingfisher FM and the Mayor's own Variety Spectacular evening on 10th April at the Palace Theatre.

d) Urgent Business

The Mayor advised that he had not accepted any items of Urgent Business.

123. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members received the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee held on 27th January, 3rd February, 17th February and 22nd February 2010 and the decision notice of the meeting held on 10th March 2010.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 27th January 2010 be received and adopted;**

- 2) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 3rd February 2010 be received and all recommendations approved;
- 3) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 17th February 2010 be received and all recommendations approved;
- 4) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 22nd February 2010 be received and adopted; and
- 5) the decision notice of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 10th March 2010 be received and all recommendations approved, subject to:

in respect of Minute 265 (Home Improvement Agency) it being recorded, in accordance with Standing Order 16, that Labour Group Members abstained from voting on the printed recommendations during the voting on these matters.

(Prior to consideration of this item, and in accordance with the requirements of Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000, Councillors B Clayton and Thomas declared personal and prejudicial interests in view of their positions on the management board of the Redditch Citizens' Advice Bureau (Councillor B Clayton) and as a staff member of Redditch Carers' Careline (Councillor Thomas) – (Minute 269 – Voluntary Sector Grant Applications 2010/11).)

124. REGULATORY COMMITTEES

The Council received the minutes of recent meetings of the Licensing and Planning Committees.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 25th January 2010 be received and adopted; and
- 2) the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 2nd February and 2nd March 2010 be received and adopted.

(Prior to consideration of this item, and in accordance with the requirements of Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000, Councillors Banks, Chance, and Taylor declared personal and prejudicial interests in view of their membership of the Management Board of Redditch Co-operative Homes (Banks and Chance) and personal relationship to staff members of Redditch Co-operative

Homes (Taylor) (Planning Committee Minute 104 – application for a residential development on the former Marlfield Farm First School Site, Redstone Close, Church Hill).)

125. REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL AND BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL - SHARED SERVICES

RESOLVED that

- 1) the existing Officer Employment Procedure Rules be replaced by the Model Officer Employment Procedure Rules as set out at Appendix 1 to the report; and
- 2) amendment be made to the Redditch Borough Council Scheme of Delegation to Officers by the addition of the following words under Section A “General Delegations”:

“To exercise the various delegations defined hereunder– (All employees of Bromsgrove District Council seconded to Redditch Borough Council under Shared Service arrangements)”.

126. WETT REGULATORY SERVICES – JOINT APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that

- 1) the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management be appointed to represent Redditch Borough Council on the Joint Appointments Committee; and
- 2) the Terms of Reference for the Joint Appointments Committee as set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report be approved.

(On Labour Members’ requisition and in accordance with Standing Order 16, it was recorded that Labour Group Members voted against the printed recommendations during the voting on these matters.)

127. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Leader of the Council announced that the identities of those Members who were to fill the various vacancies that had arisen on the death of Councillor Field would be reported to Officers following the meeting, where required.

RESOLVED that

the oral report be noted.

128. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS

There were no Urgent Business decisions under Standing Order 36 for consideration at this meeting.

129. 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 8.59pm

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MAYOR, in the Chair