

Council

7th February 2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Kath Banks (Mayor), Councillor Anita Clayton (Deputy Mayor) and Councillors Peter Anderson, Michael Braley, Andrew Brazier, Juliet Brunner, Michael Chalk, Simon Chalk, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Jack Cookson, Andrew Fry, Carole Gandy, Adam Griffin, Malcolm Hall, Bill Hartnett, Nigel Hicks, Roger Hill, Gay Hopkins, Robin King, Wanda King, William Norton, Jinny Pearce, Brenda Quinney, Mark Shurmer, Debbie Taylor, Derek Taylor, Diane Thomas and Graham Vickery

Also Present:

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

Officers:

T Buckley, K Dicks, C Felton, S Hanley, C John, A Marklew, G Revans and S Skinner

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

83. WELCOME

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all present. The Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend Jo Musson, led the Council in prayer.

84. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

85. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Debbie Taylor declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 11 (Regulatory Committee) as detailed separately at Minute 93 below.

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MAYOR, in the Chair

86. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 13th December 2010 and 10th January 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

87. KIETH BOYD-CARPENTER

The Mayor introduced a tribute to former Councillor and Mayor of the Borough, Kieth Boyd-Carpenter, whose death had been announced over the Christmas holiday period. Members had observed a Minute's silence in his memory at the previous Council meeting, when his death was first announced.

The Mayor welcomed former Councillor Boyd-Carpenter's wife, Val 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 express any thoughts they might wish to offer in memory of former Councillor Boyd-Carpenter and of his services to the Borough.

The Leader of the Council commenced the tributes to former Councillor Boyd-Carpenter, noting that he had been a first class constituency Councillor, respected by the ordinary people of the Borough but never striving to achieve high office. The Leader of the Minority Group then led other Members in expressing their thoughts on the character and achievements of former Councillor Boyd-Carpenter.

Former Councillor Boyd-Carpenter's wife, Val thanked the Council on behalf of the family for the tributes that had been paid to her late husband.

RESOLVED that

the Council formally record its gratitude to former Councillor Boyd-Carpenter for his service to the Council and to the community.

88. COMMUNICATIONS AND MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

a) Budget Jury

The Mayor thanked the members of the Budget Jury for their very helpful inputs into the budget setting process, noting that the process would be concluded at the following meeting of the Council.

b) Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised that since the previous meeting of the Council she had attended various functions, including: the opening of Osprey House for NEW College, the Staff Quiz, which had been successful and had raised over £550 for her Charities, various Carol Services, a visit to the Alexandra Hospital on Christmas Day, an At Home with the Bishop of Worcester, an Open Day at the Redditch Music School and the Special Olympics Awards Evening.

c) Forthcoming events

The Mayor advised that forthcoming events included: the Wyre Forest District Council Chairman's Charity Dinner, a Valentine Dinner with the Mayor of Evesham, a meeting with the Asian Women's Community, the installation of the Reverend Richard Harding at Matchborough, the Older People's Forum event, the Redditch One World Link AGM, a Street Collection on 27th February, a Concert by the Bel Canto singers at the Town Hall on 5th March and the Civic Dinner on 2nd April.

d) Urgent Business

The Mayor advised that she had accepted one set of late papers, Item 10, the Executive Committee minutes for the meeting on 1st February 2011.

89. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements from the Leader.

90. LEADERS' QUESTIONS

The Leader responded to a question submitted in accordance with Standing Order 8A from Councillor Juliet Brunner. Councillor Brunner's question related to the "Big Society" and evidence for its presence within the Borough.

The Leader responded that she entirely agreed that the "Big Society" was very much in operation within the Borough. She thanked all those who had attended the Christmas Carol concerts and reflected upon the tremendous work done by the voluntary sector within the Town. The need for Councillors as civic leaders to actively promote the Borough was noted in this regard and Members were encouraged to support the work of the Promoting Redditch Task and Finish Group.

91. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no Notices of Motion.

92. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members received the minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee held on 2nd December 2010, 10th January, 12th January and 1st February 2011.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 2nd December 2010 be received and adopted, subject to:

in respect of Minute 124 (Tenant Involvement Agreement) it being further resolved that the recommendation in respect of this item, consideration of which had been deferred at the previous meeting of the Council, be approved.

- 2) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 10th January 2011 be received and adopted;

- 3) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 12th January 2011 be received and all recommendations adopted, subject to:

in respect of Minute 153 (Customer Experience Strategy) it being further resolved that Worcestershire County Council's performance against the standards set for winter gritting during the winter of 2010/11 be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration; and

in respect of Minute 153 (Garden Waste Collection Service – Outcomes of Trial) it being noted that the Leader had undertaken to request Officers to investigate the options for private companies to provide this service.

- 4) the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 1st February 2011 be received and all recommendations adopted; subject to:

in respect of Minute 169 (Independent Remuneration Panel for Worcestershire District Councils – Annual Report and Recommendations for 2011-12) it being noted that consideration of the recommendations, which the Council accepted in principle, was to be deferred to the meeting of Council on 21st February 2011 to allow an opportunity for discussions between Group Leaders, particularly in respect of the proposal to delete Special Responsibility Allowances for Vice-Chairs;

in respect of Minute 172 (Private Sector Home Support Service) it being further resolved that the matter be deferred until the next meeting of the Council on 21st February 2011 to allow Officers the opportunity to provide Members with definitive information on the funding of private sector users of the service; and

in respect of Minute 173 (Polling Stations – Annual Review 2011) it being further resolved that the Polling Station for the Church Hill North Polling District (CHB) remain at Abbeywood First School and not be relocated to St. Andrews Methodist Church.

93. REGULATORY COMMITTEES

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

RESOLVED that

- 1) the minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 24th January 2011 be received and all recommendations adopted;**
- 2) the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 17th January 2011 be received and all recommendations adopted; and**
- 3) the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committees held on 7th December 2010 and 4th January 2011 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, Councillor Debbie Taylor declared a personal and prejudicial interest in view of her close personal connection to an employee of Redditch Co-operative Homes (Minute 60, Planning Committee, 7th December 2010, Planning Application 2010/253/FUL – Former Marfield Farm First School, Redstone Close, Church Hill North).)

94. URGENT BUSINESS - RECORD OF DECISIONS

The Council noted two Urgent Business decisions.

The first had been approved in accordance with Standing Order 36, namely:

HMRS – Licence for use of Town Hall Premises
(UB Reference 488)

The second had been taken in accordance with Part 2, Article 6, Paragraph 16 of the Constitution, namely:

Council Response to “Local Decisions – A Fairer Future for Social Housing” – Decision to remove the right to call-in the item

RESOLVED that

the matters be noted.

95. URGENT BUSINESS - GENERAL

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

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 8.43 pm

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MAYOR, in the Chair