

Council

Minutes of Proceedings

At the **Ordinary Meeting of the District Council of Ryedale** held in the **Council Chamber, Ryedale House, Malton** on **Thursday 7 March 2013**

Present

Councillors Acomb
 Andrews
 Arnold
 Bailey
 Mrs Burr MBE
 Clark
 Mrs Cowling
 Cussons
 Mrs Frank (Vice-Chairman)
 Fraser
 Mrs Goodrick
 Hawkins
 Hicks
 Hope (Chairman)
 Ives
 Mrs Keal
 Knaggs
 Mrs Knaggs
 Legard
 Maud
 Raper
 Richardson
 Mrs Shields
 Wainwright
 Walker
 Ward
 Windress
 Woodward

In Attendance

Simon Copley
Paul Cresswell
Janet Waggott
Anthony Winship

Minutes

212 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Hopkinson and Mrs Sanderson. Apologies for late arrival were received from Councillor Legard.

213 Public Question Time

The following question was submitted by Sue Cowan.

“Are the Chief Executive Officer of Ryedale District Council and the Legal Services Dept of Ryedale District Council confident that the members interests as compiled and published and the responses as given by Ryedale District Councillors are legally and morally sufficient to cover all situations that may give rise to attitudes in public perception of Ryedale District Council. This is for the absolute avoidance of doubt.”

The Chairman thanked Ms Cowan for her question and replied that:

“The Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer are satisfied that arrangements are in place to help establish high ethical standards at Ryedale District Council which exceeds the minimum standards set by many neighbouring local authorities.

Officers of the Council cannot speculate on what the public perception of ethical standards are at Ryedale District Council which may or may not be reasonable.

Responsibility for completing the Register of Interest form is solely that of Members.

The Register of Members' Interests shows what Members have disclosed. The register may be updated by Members at any time to record or correct any change of circumstances or omissions .

The Localism Act 2011 abolished the previous standards regime and made provision for a new ethical framework which was adopted by the Authority at its May and July meetings last year.

Under the Localism Act 2011, Members must register and disclose 'disclosable pecuniary interests' as set out in the new regulations and detailed in the new Members' Code of Conduct, but no wider, non-pecuniary, interests (eg membership of public and charitable bodies).

You are advised that all Members of Council had the benefit of a dispensation to participate in the Budget Council Meeting on 26 February 2013 even though they may have had a disclosable pecuniary interest or a personal pecuniary interest. This is in accordance with well established practice in local government.

The requirements for disclosure of Members' Interests at Ryedale District Council is greater than the minimum disclosure requirement under the Localism Act 2011 because it extends to personal pecuniary interests which are not DPI's.

Members have received training to help them understand the declaration requirements and the new code of conduct.”

Ms Cowan then asked the following supplementary question:

“This is all about perception. There is suddenly an undated registration from alteration yesterday. When you become aware of a change, do you add it to the existing form and give the impression it was there a long while, or complete a new form?”

The Council Solicitor advised that the key point was that any change was registered and this could be done in two ways, either completion of the whole form again, which was 16 pages long and took some time, but may be necessary if there were a number of changes, or additions to one page. Confirmation was given that the change referred to was the latter and was marked so it was clear when it was amended and was available for anyone to view on the website.

The following question was submitted by Harry Davis.

“If at any time the considered view of the Council was that the RIBC was badly managed, then shouldn't the Council have intervened at an early stage to make improvements to the operation of an important community facility owned by the RDC?”

The Chairman thanked Mr Davis for his question and replied that:

“The Council has never made any comments or held a view about the quality of the management of the Bowls Club. The Bowls Club is a private members club, it does not deliver services on behalf of the Council, it leases a property from the Council. Part of the lease provides for the tenants 'quiet enjoyment' which means the Council cannot involve itself in the running of the club. It is not the Council's place to intervene in the running of a private members club, nor can it in this case as landlord under the terms of the lease.”

The following question was submitted by Terence Wray.

“Would the Chairman please indicate both the level of subsidy given and the total number of user/visitors to Helmsley Outdoor Pool over the past 3 years and equate this as a cost per user/visit to the council tax payers of Ryedale?”

The Chairman thanked Mr Wray for his question and replied that:

“The Council does not subsidise Helmsley Outdoor Pool, it provides a grant to the Charity and in return it provides public swimming for the Council. The grant over 3 years amounts to £26,240 and the Charity have confirmed that their most recent 3 years figures show 12,050 users, this produces a grant per visit of £2.18. For information this grant is being reviewed this year.”

Mr Wray then asked the following supplementary question:

“With the benefit of this information and the following facts would the chairman please indicate which of these facilities offers greater community value to the tax payers of Ryedale, brings more prestige and would be the greatest loss to the community of Ryedale;

Helmsley pool a small privately owned open air facility, open only 12 weeks a year, subject to the vagaries of the English climate, receiving £8750 a year subsidy (with an attendance level less than 30% of the Ryedale bowls centre) when it is over shadowed by a far superior and equally accessible indoor pool just 4 miles away at Ampleforth which is open all year round to the public and at no cost to tax payers.

Or

Ryedale indoor bowls and leisure centre at Norton, the only facility of its type in Ryedale, with a known footfall of 15,000 users per year, open all year, developer of past international and current national and county players, a men's team that has just won promotion to division 'a' of the Yorkshire league and producing £10,000 revenue per year for the tax payers of Ryedale equivalent to a 20% return on the councils investment of £50,000, and a sum £10,000 greater than any rental income achieved from the empty Harrison House ,which, has so far cost the council almost £1m."

The Chairman confirmed a written reply would be provided to this question.

214 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 10 January 2013 were presented.

It was requested that the written answers to supplementary questions appended to the minutes be amended to clarify who was giving the responses, and that this format also be adopted on future occasions.

Resolved

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 10 January 2013 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:

- (i) The addition of Councillor Mrs Keal to the attendance list;
- (ii) To minute 192 (Announcements) to the word "February" to "April" in the final paragraph;
- (iii) To minute 194 (Questions on Notice) to change the word "that" to "them" in the last sentence of the first paragraph of Councillor Andrews' concluding comments.

The minutes of the Budget Meeting of Council held on 26 February 2013 were presented.

Resolved

That the minutes of the Budget Meeting of Council held on 26 February 2013 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

215 **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business which the Chairman considered should be dealt with as a matter of urgency by virtue of Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

216 **Declarations of Interest**

The following interests were declared:

Councillor Knaggs declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 minute 114 (Ryedale Development Fund) as a member of the Board of the Local Economic Partnership.

Councillor Clark declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 minute 116 (Member Information and Communication) as a North Yorkshire County Councillor, who did not use County issued IT equipment.

Councillor Ives declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 minute 101 (Procurement of Leisure Services Contract) as a regular user of the Derwent Pool.

Councillor Ives declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 15 (Write Offs) as he did work for a debt collection company, although not one used by the Council.

Councillor Mrs Cowling declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in agenda item 15 (Write Offs) as she was an occasional customer at one of the businesses named.

217 **Announcements**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

The Chairman's Charity Event, a Grand Kashmiri Buffet, to be held on 17 April 2013 at 6.30pm at the Jinnah Restaurant on the A64 Malton Road, Flaxton, with tickets costing £14.95 each.

The Civic Service to be held on 28 April 2013 at 2pm at All Saints, Foston, with the Archbishop of York preaching the sermon. Invitations had been sent and replies were requested promptly.

On behalf of the Scrutiny Review Group, to request those Members who were representatives on outside bodies or Member Champions and who have not yet completed the survey to do so at the meeting, using the hard copy forms tabled.

218 **To Receive any Questions submitted by Members Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10.2 (Questions on Notice at Full Council)**

1. Councillor Wainwright submitted the following question:

To Councillor Mrs Cowling, Leader of the Council:

"We (RDC) have spent almost £1million on the purchase and improvements to Harrison House.

What is the anticipated annual income for the site?"

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

"The 'old' part of the building will be occupied by RVA and CAB, they pay rent which is offset by grant from RDC, in total £23,100. The remaining 'newer' part is being marketed with tenants being sought when the works to the building are complete. The estimated rental value of this newer part is around £32,500. These rental figures do not include any allowance for the parking area of 35 spaces to the rear of the building."

Councillor Wainwright asked the following supplementary question:

"I understand that the contract to undertake the improvement work has been awarded to a local construction company. When I visited the site on Saturday, no work was underway. When will the work start, when will it be completed, when will tenants occupy the building, when will RVA and CAB transfer, and is it true that the rent of £23,1000 that they will pay is the same sum as the grant we give them?"

Councillor Mrs Cowling replied:

"The work will be underway imminently; there has been difficulty with Network Rail in obtaining formal scaffolding consent.

The works have a 12-14 week contract period and include several larger items such as a new entrance, installing a lift as well as exterior works.

The site will be formally marketed when the works are nearing completion. We have had some interest already, however the prospective tenants want to see the building complete.

It is expected that RVA and CAB will move in during July/August. RVA were on site this week and told this date and we are informing CAB. We have kept both aware of the timetable and put in place arrangements to facilitate a smooth transition for them. It is true that the grant we give to them is the same amount as the rent."

2. Councillor Wainwright submitted the following question:

To Councillor Mrs Cowling, Leader of the Council:

"At the Full Council meeting this time last year we approved increased funding for Community Leisure subject to their regular financial reports being submitted to the Commissioning Board.

In a reply given to me by Councillor Fraser at the Full Council meeting in September 2012 we were told "Quarterly reporting is now in place and the first quarter report will go to the Commissioning Board imminently"

Did this happen?

Has the second quarterly report been to the Commissioning Board?

If not why not?"

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

"The Council has received quarterly reports and officers have met with CLL to discuss them during the year. I, as the Chairman of the Commissioning Board has also received a copy of the reports, as has Councillor Fraser in his role as Council board representative on CLL.

It had originally been planned to take these reports to the Commissioning Board, however unfortunately the quarter end reports and committee schedule meant that taking them to committee had little relevance as they would be effectively 'out of date'. Some members have requested a copy of the quarter 3 report and they were provided it and any members who wants copies can receive them, however members should be aware that they do contain confidential information.

I am pleased to report that CLL performance this year has been better than budgeted, clearly if there had been difficulties both myself and Councillors Fraser would have ensured the issue was formally brought before members."

Councillor Wainwright asked the following supplementary question:

"Given that you have seen and carefully studied the reports, do you think that CLL has sufficient working capital to fulfil the agreement until September 2014?"

Councillor Mrs Cowling replied, "Yes I do".

3. Councillor Woodward submitted the following question:

To Councillor Mrs Cowling, Leader of the Council:

“Could the Leader of Council please confirm that the Tories have voted to fund all CCTV in all towns?”

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Mrs Cowling replied

“Council agreed on the 1 November 2012 to provide funding for CCTV for 2 years from the 2012/2013 New Homes Bonus Allocation. The amount allocated is £49,638 which is the amount requested by Cameras In Action as part of their application to take on the service for 2 years which provides cameras in Malton, Norton and Pickering, but not all towns.”

Councillor Woodward asked the following supplementary question:

“Could the Leader of Council please confirm that the Tories have voted to fund all CCTV?”

When further clarification was sought on this question, reference was made to a comment made on Facebook by Councillor Mrs Cowling to this effect.

Councillor Mrs Cowling replied that this was a decision made by Council, not a comment made on Facebook.

219 **To Receive a Statement from the Leader of the Council and to Receive Questions and Give Answers on that Statement**

Councillor Mrs Cowling, the Leader of the Council, presented the following statement:

“Well this is my first Leader’s Statement and I have to say I’ve been very nervous about doing it. I’ve been very busy, so have been very last minute with it and no - I haven’t got written copies on all your seats. This meeting is recorded and if you wish to have written copies, I’m sure you can after the meeting.

We’ve recently set our budget for the next year and I think that most of the Council are really relieved that we’ve been able to set a balanced budget again. We’ve not had to increase Council Tax and that’s for the fourth year running that we’ve not had to increase Council Tax. We’ve made no compulsory redundancies and in the New Homes Bonus for 2013/14 we have £708,000 to spend. A lot of other Councils would kill to be in the same position that we’re in - to have a balanced budget and not to have used the New Homes Bonus to achieve that. But it is not a time to rest on our laurels. We’ve a very difficult financial settlement coming in 2015/16 and we shall have to make a lot of savings, probably up to £700,000 and I don’t begin to pretend that’s going to be easy. The Resources Working Party of this Council will meet on Monday (11/03/13) to try and set this in motion.

Recently some Members of this Council met with the Local Youth Council and it was a really nice meeting and was so interesting. We did some collages which I’ve forgotten to bring here - I meant to bring them in - and the young people were showing us what they thought was important in Ryedale. It was really interesting to see how their priorities fit in with the priorities of this Council. I will make sure that those collages are displayed in here for you.

My next item on my first Leaders Statement is to say a big thank you to you - Councillor Lindsay Burr - because I think you've been very instrumental in getting Malton Minor Injuries Unit kept open. I'm very grateful for the work you've done on that. However, it is going to remain closed in the evening and I believe our Chief Executive has sent out an email round all of the Councillors, which contains the consultation that you've been asked to fill in and if you could all return that, that would be good and we may even be able to get extended the hours that it will be open.

There was another bit of news on the health front today. The Leeds LGI were successful in overturning the decision to close the Children's (Heart) Unit there. I won't say that that's written in tablets of stone there but I believe the decision will be reconsidered. It was good interim news there I thought.

The thing that has pleased me most in the last few weeks has been the announcement of up to 1,000 new jobs in Ryedale. I think all of you are quite clear that my priorities are the economy and jobs in Ryedale. I think they're important to everybody. So the announcement of up to 1,000 jobs is really good.

Tomorrow I shall be attending a meeting at North Yorkshire County Council with the other district council leaders and I shall report back on that as and when."

The following questions were received on the Leader's Statement:

1. From Councillor Andrews

Why did you not include the Local Plan in your Statement?

The Leader replied:

The Local Plan is progressing quite well.

Councillor Andrews then asked the following supplementary question:

From the public consultation, will comments be available to Members and are Members going to have the opportunity to debate these, especially as a policy change may be required because of the cattle market case?

The Leader then replied that a written answer would be provided.

2. From Councillor Clark

Will we get the Leader's Statement in writing in future?

The Leader replied:

Yes.

Councillor Clark then asked the following supplementary question:

In relation to the collage, was sport important to young people.

The Leader replied:

There is no doubt how important the young people felt sport was.

3. From Councillor Mrs Keal

I would be interested to know the outcomes of the meeting with the young people, whether there is a mechanism to inform us, and how this fits in with our priorities?

The Leader replied:

This was a new event. We can look at how we paper trail it.

220 **To consider for Approval the Recommendations in respect of the following Part 'B' Committee Items:**

Policy and Resources Committee – 14 February 2013

Minute 114 – Ryedale Development Fund

It was moved by Councillor Acomb and seconded by Councillor Ives that the following recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

That Council is recommended to approve that:

- (i) RDF funding be allocated for the following:
 - a) Ryedale Employment Initiative £150K
 - b) RDC Apprentice Scheme £100K
 - c) Ryedale Business and Skills Initiative £20K
 - d) Ryedale Major Projects £100k;
- (ii) the distribution of funds under the 'Ryedale Employment Initiative' be made by the Council following an assessment of applications by the Policy and Resources Committee;
- (iii) that the RDC apprentice scheme (subject to further detailed information being placed before this committee at its next meeting) and 'Ryedale Business' and 'Skills Initiative' as outlined in the report be implemented; and
- (iv) RDF funding towards the development of 'Ryedale Major Projects' be considered through a report to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, with a recommendation to Council.

Councillor Mrs Goodrick moved and Councillor Mrs Knaggs seconded the following amendment:

To delete the words "(subject to further detailed information being placed before this committee at its next meeting)".

On being put to the vote, this amendment was carried.

Upon being put to the vote the substantive motion was then carried.

Resolved

That Council approve that:

- (i) RDF funding be allocated for the following:
 - a) Ryedale Employment Initiative £150K
 - b) RDC Apprentice Scheme £100K
 - c) Ryedale Business and Skills Initiative £20K
 - d) Ryedale Major Projects £100k;
- (ii) the distribution of funds under the 'Ryedale Employment Initiative' be made by the Council following an assessment of applications by the Policy and Resources Committee;
- (iii) that the RDC apprentice scheme and 'Ryedale Business' and 'Skills Initiative' as outlined in the report be implemented; and
- (iv) RDF funding towards the development of 'Ryedale Major Projects' be considered through a report to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, with a recommendation to Council.

Minute 115 – Committee Responsibility for Planning Policy Recommendations

It was moved by Councillor Acomb and seconded by Councillor Mrs Goodrick that the following recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

That Council be recommended to approve:

The changes to the Constitution outlined in Annex A to transfer responsibility for making recommendations to Council on Planning Policy from the Policy and Resources Committee to the Planning Committee.

Councillor Clark proposed and Councillor Woodward seconded an amendment to refer the matter to the Policy and Resources Committee and the Planning Committee for further examination.

On being put to the vote, this amendment was lost.

Recorded Vote

For

Councillors Andrews, Mrs Burr, Clark, Mrs Keal, Maud, Richardson, Mrs Shields, Walker, Ward and Woodward

Against

Councillors Arnold, Bailey, Mrs Cowling, Cussons, Mrs Frank, Mrs Goodrick, Hicks, Hope, Ives, Knaggs, Raper, Wainwright and Windress

Abstentions

Councillors Acomb, Fraser, Hawkins, Mrs Knaggs and Legard.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was then carried.

Recorded Vote

For

Councillors Acomb, Arnold, Bailey, Mrs Cowling, Cussons, Mrs Frank, Mrs Goodrick, Hicks, Hope, Ives, Knaggs, Maud, Raper and Windress

Against

Councillors Andrews, Mrs Burr, Clark, Mrs Keal, Legard, Richardson, Mrs Shields, Wainwright, Walker, Ward and Woodward

Abstentions

Councillors Fraser, Hawkins and Mrs Knaggs.

Resolved

That Council approve:

The changes to the Constitution outlined in Annex A to transfer responsibility for making recommendations to Council on Planning Policy from the Policy and Resources Committee to the Planning Committee.

Minute 116 – Member Information and Communication

It was moved by Councillor Acomb and seconded by Councillor Legard that the following recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved and adopted.

That Council be recommended to approve that:

- (i) all Members who wish to communicate electronically via e mail with the Council must use Ryedale issued equipment and Ryedale email addresses with effect from 15 May 2013 provided that each member, by that time, has been issued with a laptop hybrid.
- (ii) subject to sufficient funding being identified, all members will be issued with laptop hybrids before the start of new civic year;
- (iii) all papers for meetings, committees and working parties of Council will be sent to members electronically, if possible, with effect from 1 October 2013; members should avoid the printing of such documents where possible, and may choose to receive papers electronically before the deadline;
- (iv) officers to organise the procurement, testing, and training of the new equipment in consultation with the member Champion for IT; and
- (v) a report will presented to the policy and resources committee on the 26 September 2013 detailing the future IT strategy and investment of the Council.

Councillor Wainwright moved and Councillor Mrs Shields seconded the following amendment:

Delete existing recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee and replace with:

“That Council approves that:

- (i) all Members must use Ryedale issued equipment and Ryedale email addresses for transacting Council email business with effect from 1 October 2013;
- (ii) the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee plus the group leaders pilot the use of hybrid laptops for all Council meetings they attend during 2013; and
- (iii) a report on the pilot to be considered by Council in January 2014, with a view to full implementation for all members on or before the start of the 2014/15 civic year.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost.

Councillor Ives then moved and Councillor Mrs Cowling seconded a further amendment:

To add (vi) “The Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders and the Member Champion for IT, is authorised to extend the above deadlines in (i) to (iii) by a further 6 months, if it is deemed that Members require additional time to adapt to the new equipment.”

On being put to the vote, this amendment was carried.

Upon being put to the vote the substantive motion was then carried.

Recorded Vote

For

Councillors Mrs Cowling, Cussons, Mrs Goodrick, Hicks, Ives, Knaggs, Mrs Knaggs, Legard, Raper, Wainwright and Windress

Against

Councillors Andrews, Bailey, Mrs Burr, Clark, Mrs Keal, Richardson, Mrs Shields, Walker, Ward and Woodward

Abstentions

Councillors Acomb, Arnold, Mrs Frank, Fraser, Hawkins, Hope and Maud.

Resolved

That Council approve that:

- (i) all Members who wish to communicate electronically via e mail with the Council must use Ryedale issued equipment and Ryedale email addresses with effect from 15 May 2013 provided that each member, by that time, has been issued with a laptop hybrid.
- (ii) subject to sufficient funding being identified, all members will be issued with laptop hybrids before the start of new civic year;
- (iii) all papers for meetings, committees and working parties of Council will be sent to members electronically, if possible, with effect from 1 October 2013;

members should avoid the printing of such documents where possible, and may choose to receive papers electronically before the deadline;

- (iv) officers to organise the procurement, testing, and training of the new equipment in consultation with the member Champion for IT; and
- (v) a report will presented to the policy and resources committee on the 26 September 2013 detailing the future IT strategy and investment of the Council.
- (vi) The Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders and the Member Champion for IT, is authorised to extend the above deadlines in (i) to (iii) by a further 6 months, if it is deemed that Members require additional time to adapt to the new equipment.

Commissioning Board – 28 February 2013

Minute 101 – Procurement of Leisure Services Contract

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Cowling and seconded by Councillor Fraser that the following recommendations of the Commissioning Board be approved and adopted.

That Council be recommended to approve:

The allocation of up to £60k from the operational reserve for the Leisure Contract procurement, with the tender specification to be considered by the Commissioning Board as a Part B Item.

Councillor Clark moved and Councillor Richardson seconded the following amendment:

Amend to (ii) and add “(i) A working party is formed with representatives of all groups. This working party to meet with CLL with the objective of viewing the current premises and services. The information gained to be used to inform the procurement process.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost.

Upon being put to the vote the motion was then carried.

Resolved

That Council approve:

The allocation of up to £60k from the operational reserve for the Leisure Contract procurement, with the tender specification to be considered by the Commissioning Board as a Part B Item.

221 Notices on Motion Submitted Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 11

1. It was moved by Councillor Clark and seconded by Councillor Woodward

So as to comply with the policies of this Council

In reference to the following planning applications/ plots of land

- i. Land to the east of No.8 East Terrace, Wombledon, Kirkbymoorside
- ii. Land at Hillside Way, West Lutton, Malton
- iii. Land east of No.7 Risewood, Gate Helmsley, Sand Hutton
- iv. Land adjacent to Red House, Salents Lane, Duggleby, Malton
- v. Land adjacent to 8 East Bank Main Road, Weaverthorpe, Malton

Each of these sites to be treated as Exception Sites. The result to be that the housing built is affordable for local needs.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was lost.

Recorded Vote

For

Councillors Andrews, Clark, Mrs Keal, Richardson, Mrs Shields, Walker, Ward and Woodward

Against

Councillors Acomb, Arnold, Bailey, Mrs Cowling, Cussons, Mrs Frank, Fraser, Mrs Goodrick, Hope, Raper and Wainwright

Abstentions

Councillor Legard.

Councillor Mrs Cowling then moved and Councillor Arnold seconded the suspension of Standing Order 8.1 to allow the meeting to continue beyond 10pm. On being put to the vote, this motion was carried.

222 Appointment of an Independent Remuneration Panel

The Council Solicitor submitted a report (previously circulated) which recommended to Council the appointment of an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations about the allowances to be paid to Councillors.

Councillor Mrs Cowling moved and Councillor Raper seconded the recommendations in the report.

Resolved

That Council approves:

- (i) that an Independent Remuneration Panel be established in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003;
- (ii) that Ms Gill Baker, Mr John Richardson and Mr Colin Langley be appointed to serve on the Independent Remuneration Panel;
- (iii) the Term of Office for Members of the Panel be until 8 March 2018;
- (iv) that an allowance of £20 be payable for each meeting; and

(v) the Constitution be updated accordingly.

223 Appointment of Substitutes

Resolved

That substitutes from the Liberal Democrat Group be appointed to the following Committees:

Planning Committee – Councillor Mrs Keal

Commissioning Board – Councillors Mrs Burr and Mrs Shields

Policy and Resources Committee – Councillor Mrs Keal (in addition to the current substitute)

224 Exempt Information

Resolved

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item as there will be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as the information provided relates to individuals.

225 Write Offs

Resolved

That the write offs set out in the Schedule of Council Tax and Business Rate Accounts be approved.

226 Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.10pm.