

# WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 November 2015, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.05pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Doody (Chairman); Councillors Ashford, Barrott, Boad, Bromley, Mrs Bunker, Butler, Coker, Cooke, Cross, Davies, Davison, Day, Edgington, Mrs Evetts, Mrs Falp, Gallagher, Gifford, Gill, Miss Grainger, Grainger, Harrington, Heath, Mrs Hill, Illingworth, Mrs Knight, Margrave, Mobbs, Naimo, Parkins, Quinney, Mrs Redford, Mrs Stevens, Thompson, Weed and Whiting.

## 50. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cain, Mrs Cain, D'Arcy, Howe, Morris, Murphy, Phillips, Rhead and Shilton.

## 51. **Declarations of Interest**

### Minute 56 – Executive report

Councillor Heath declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest regarding the addendum circulated at the meeting because he was a Private Hire Driver, and that he would leave the room for this item.

Councillor Mrs Falp declared a Personal Interest in the item regarding Leisure Centres because her son worked for Cultural Services but would remain in the room so long as the Council did not discuss staffing matters.

## 52. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 23 September, 7 October and 13 October 2015, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as approved.

## 53. **Communications & Announcements**

The Chairman informed the Council that Mark Smith, from Finance, had been killed in a car crash late in October and that he had written to the family to offer the condolences of the Council.

The Chairman informed the Council that there was no business to be considered under Item 5 Petitions, Item 6 Notices of Motion, Item 7 Public Submissions, or Item 12 Report of the Standards Committee.

## 54. **Leader's and Portfolio Holders' Statements**

The Leader informed the Council that round table discussions were taking place working together with local District and Borough Councils from Coventry and Warwickshire LEP, and the Police and Crime and Health Care Commissioning Group. It had been agreed to meet more regularly, if at first informally, on how they could work together positively to face challenges.

The Leader informed the Council that he had attended the LEP board meeting on Monday which had worked with 3000 businesses creating 1800 jobs in the area.

Councillor Mobbs, Leader of the Council, also informed the Council that leaders of Districts and Boroughs in Warwickshire were predisposed that their Council's would approve the memorandum of understanding regarding housing allocations and that an amended Local Plan for Warwick District would be brought to Council, for approval to consult on 27 January 2016.

**55. Questions to the Leader of the Council & Portfolio Holders**

Councillor Boad, asked the Leader, that with the West Midlands Combined Authority coming into existence, with an Elected Mayor from 2017, was there concern that we have no say on their work but they would have a say on investment in Warwick District. What assurances could the Leader provide that the District would not be impacted on by the Elected Mayor who we do not elect or have control of?

In response, the Leader of the Council explained that we had time on our side and could learn from the combined authorities. By having a LEP and a prosperity board, there were still a number of channels from which we could bid for funding and did not see the emerging WMCA impacting on our needs. It was his view that he could only see a positive effect from them if they invested in Warwick District or Warwickshire. That said, it was correct to have concern and we were challenging this at District level.

Councillor Barrott asked the Leader if he could provide an update on the work this Council had undertaken to aid Syrian refugees.

In response the Leader of the Council, explained that the Council's involvement was through the refugee centre in Coventry which was co-ordinating the effort within the area.

Councillor Barrott, asked a further question of the Leader on this asking if we had promoted this work.

In response the Portfolio Holder for Health & Community Protection, Councillor Grainger, explained that the Head of Health & Community Protection, was the Council's representative on the liaison group. At present the Council had had no formal approaches and if volunteers did come forward they should be directed to the Community Partnership Team.

Councillor Boad, asked the Leader for clarification because the Motion, approved by Council, said we would provide means for collecting contact data to pass on and he was therefore surprised we had not done this.

Councillor Barrott added to this request for clarification on how did people know what to do to help.

In response the Portfolio Holder for Health & Community Protection, Councillor Grainger, outlined she understood that there was a page on the District Council's website to provide contact details and direct people.

The Chief Executive of the Council explained that there was a regional partnership that the Council had to be led by, and agreed to provide Councillors with another update on the package of care and support for refugees.

56. **Executive Report**

The Council considered the reports of the Executive on 30 September 2015 and an excerpt of its report from 4 November 2015.

An addendum was circulated at the meeting setting out a proposed revision to the fees and charges (Minute 47 of 30 September 2015) as a result of legal advice.

Concern was raised by Councillors that the fees and charges for car parks were to be set, prior to the consultation work being completed.

Councillor Mobbs recognised these concerns and the need to revise the fees and charges as set out in the addendum and proposed approval of the reports as laid out, subject to those amendments; these were duly seconded and

**Resolved** that the

- (1) report of the Executive on 30 September 2015 subject to the following amendment to fees and charges, be approved; and

	<b>Application fee:</b>	<b>Licence Fee</b>
<b>New PHO (5 year)</b>	£85 (no change)	£610
<b>Renewing PHO (5 year)</b>	£29 (no Change)	£610

- (2) excerpt of the report of 4 November 2015 be approved subject to the Car Parking Fees being deferred to Council 27 January 2016.

57. **Report of Licensing & Regulatory Committee**

Councillor Illingworth proposed approval of the report of the Licensing & Regulatory Committee meeting of 7 October 2015. This was duly seconded and

**Resolved** that the report of the Licensing & Regulatory Committee of the 7 October 2015, be approved.

58. **Current position of Late Night Levies and the feasibility of Introduction within Warwick District**

The Council received a report from Health & Community Protection that as a result of the motion placed before the Council on the 26 March 2014. This updated Council on the current position of Late Night Levies, and the feasibility of such an introduction within Warwick District.

The report further requested a decision on whether to progress to a public consultation on the subject of a Late Night Levy or Early Morning Restriction Order within Warwick District

Councillors: Gifford, Coker, Mrs Knight, Illingworth and Grainger addressed the Council on this matter.

**Resolved** that a formal consultation regarding the introduction of a Late Night Levy or Early Morning Restriction Order is not conducted at this current time.

59. **Councillor Gordon Cain**

It was proposed by Councillor Mobbs, duly seconded and

**Resolved** that

- (1) the Council approves dispensation, under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act, for Councillor Gordon Cain not to attend meetings due to personal circumstances between now and up to September 2016; and
- (2) the Chairman sends the best wishes of the Council to Councillor Cain and Councillor Mrs Cain at this time.

60. **Public and Press**

**Resolved** that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

61. **Confidential Executive Report**

The confidential report of the Executive meeting on 30 September 2015 was proposed, duly seconded and:

**Resolved** that the Executive report of 30 September 2015, be approved.

62. **Common Seal**

It was

**Resolved** that the Common Seal of Warwick District Council be affixed to such documents as may be required for implementing decisions of the Council arrived at this day.

(The meeting ended at 7.00 pm)

CHAIRMAN  
27 January 2016