

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23 September 2015, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.05pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Doody (Chairman); Councillors Ashford, Barrott, Boad, Bromley, Cain, Mrs Cain J.P., Coker, Cooke, Cross, D'Arcy, Davies, Day, Edgington, Mrs Evetts, Mrs Falp, Mrs Gallagher, Gill, Miss Grainger, Grainger, Harrington J.P., Mrs Hill, Howe, Mrs Knight, Morris, Naimo, Parkins, Phillips, Quinney, Mrs Redford, Rhead, Shilton, Mrs Stevens, Thompson, Weed and Whiting.

34. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Bunker, Butler, Illingworth, Margrave, Mobbs and Murphy J.P.

35. **Declarations of Interest**

Mrs Falp declared a personal interest as her son was a shareholder of Leamington Football Club referred to in the report of the Executive meeting on 3 September 2015

36. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 24 June 2015, were approved, subject to minor correction in the statement by Councillor Mrs Gallagher regarding bowls England, and signed by the Chairman.

37. **Notice of Motion**

Councillor Barrott proposed, and it was duly seconded by Councillor Coker, that:

1. Warwick District Council commit to supporting Coventry City Council, Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre and other Coventry organisations in the resettlement of refugees into the area.
2. Warwick District Council works with all local partners, organisations and charities and coordinate responses to the refugee crisis.
3. Warwick District Council researches all possible funding streams so that all costs of resettlement are met.
4. Warwick District Council lobbies Central Government to make funds available to local authorities for the full five years of resettlement and not just for the one year that has been announced.
5. Warwick District Council enables council staff and Members to volunteer at nearby refugee centres in the same way that it supports volunteering at other events within the District.
6. Regular updates are provided to all Councillors on the work being undertaken with refugees within Warwick District.

It was proposed by Councillor Boad, that the Motion be amended, to read as set out below. The amendment was accepted by Councillor Barrott and Coker and therefore became the substantive motion for Council to Consider.

Substantive Motion:

"1. To work with all local partners, organisations and charities, within the Coventry & Warwickshire Area and call on the expertise and experience of the Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre in the resettlement of refugees into this area;

2. Create and maintain a database of offers of help, accommodation and assistance from local residents to support refugees arriving in the District;

3. Warwick District Council research all possible funding streams so that all costs of resettlement are met;

4. Support the Local Government Association in its lobbying of Central Government to ensure that sufficient funds are made available to local authorities to meet the additional costs incurred for the full five years of resettlement and not just for the one year that has been announced;

5. Enable council staff and members to volunteer at nearby refugee centres in the same way that they support volunteering at other events within the District; and

6. Provide regular updates to all councillors on the work being undertaken with refugees within Warwick District."

Councillors Barrott, Boad, Coker, Mrs Falp, Gifford, Quinney and Mrs Knight all addressed the Council on this item.

On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

(This item was taken as an urgent item by the Council, with the agreement of the Chairman of the Council, to enable it to respond to present refugee crisis.)

38. **Communications & Announcements**

The Chairman informed the Council that he would be holding a reception for the Japanese Rugby Team at Warwick Castle on evening of 25 September 2015.

The Chairman informed the Council that on behalf of the Council and its officers, he had sent a congratulatory letter to Her Majesty the Queen on becoming the longest serving Monarch of this country.

The Chairman informed the Council that he had attended a number of events as part of the Heritage Open Days weekend including a lecture in Kenilworth by Councillor Cain, about the Swan Theatre.

The Chairman reminded the Council about an the additional meeting scheduled for the 7 October to consider the Council's position regarding Combined Authorities.

The Chairman asked the relevant Councillors to repeat their thanks to former Councillor Norman Parker, to enable it to be videoed and passed to his family.

The Chairman informed the Council that there was no business to be considered under Item 5 Petitions or Item 7 Public Submissions.

39. **Leader's and Portfolio Holders Statements**

The Portfolio Holder for Health & Community Protection, Councillor Grainger encouraged Councillors to ensure they had a flu jab. She highlighted that this would be available to Councillors and Officers (for a small charge) at Riverside House, on specific dates in November. She also explained that Councillors should encourage everyone to get a flu jab and these were commonly available from Chemists or GP surgeries.

The Portfolio Holder for Health & Community Protection, Councillor Mrs Grainger informed Councillors that the Council had secured funding from Warwick University for the Street Marshalls to continue for the next 12 months. She reminded Councillors that the next "your town your choice" was on 5 October and encouraged them to attend to see the work of the Council and its partners to protect and help in the night time economy.

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

Councillor Mrs Falp asked the Development Portfolio Holder, Councillor Cross, that in light of the new guidance regarding the requirements and funding for the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers, whether the Council should reassess its current proposals.

In response the Portfolio Holder for Development, explained that this new guidance had to yet to be confirmed and therefore officers needed to continue with the current plan. However they were monitoring the situation to ensure the Council undertook what it was required to do.

Councillor Quinney, asked the Portfolio Holder for Health & Community Protection, Councillor Grainger, if the Council had been consulted on the closure of the sexual health clinic in Warwick Hospital and its transference to the Stratford on Avon Hospital in October?

In response the Portfolio Holder for Health & Community Protection explained that she was not aware of this, but was mindful that the clinical partnership would be responsible for this allocation. That said, she agreed to investigate this and provide feedback to Council.

41. **Executive Report**

The reports of the Executive meeting on 29 July 2015 and 3 September 2015 were proposed, duly seconded and:

Resolved that the Executive reports of 29 July 2015 and 3 September 2015, be approved.

42. **Statement of accounts 2014/2015**

The Council received a report from Finance setting out the accounts for the Council for the Financial year 2014/15.

Resolved that the Statement of Accounts for 2014/15 be approved.

43. **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.

44. **Confidential Executive Report**

The confidential report of the Executive meeting on 3 September 2015 was proposed, duly seconded and:

Resolved that the Executive report of 3 September 2015, be approved.

45. **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 7.15 pm)

CHAIRMAN
18 November 2015