

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25 April 2012, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs Bunker (Chairman); Councillors Barrott, Boad, Mrs Bromley, Brookes, Caborn, Coker, Copping, Cross, Dagg, Davies, De-Lara-Bond, Dean, Doody, Edwards, Mrs Falp, Mrs Gallagher, Gifford, Gill, Mrs Goode, Mrs Grainger, Guest, Hammon, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Kinson, Kirton, MacKay, Mobbs, Pratt, Shilton, Mrs Syson, Vincett, Weber, Weed and Wilkinson.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dhillon, Mrs Knight, Heath, Mrs Mellor, Pittarello, Mrs Sawdon, Williams, and Wreford-Bush.

101. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Minute Number 107 – Executive Report

Councillor Guest declared a personal interest, in Minute 137 Tourism and Visitor Strategy, as a member of Warwick Town Council.

102. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7 March 2012 were approved as a correct record.

103. **FORMER COUNCILLOR HARRIS**

The Chairman informed the Council that former Councillor Cliff Harris had passed away from a long term illness in March. The Group Leaders, Councillors Boad, Barrott, Doody and Kirton all paid tribute to him and the work he had contributed to the Council during his time in office.

104. **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements and communications:

- (1) The Chairman informed the Council about the MacMillan sponsored walk on 13 May from Warwick Parkway along Hatton locks and encouraged members to either participate or support participants;
- (2) The Chairman reminded Councillors that she would be holding a Councillors' supper, on the evening of 11 May 2012 and tickets were available from her PA; and
- (3) The Chairman informed the Council that Miss Kelly Sibley had been selected for the Team GB Olympic Table Tennis Team and Miss Naomi Folkard had been selected for the Team GB Olympic Archery Squad.

(The Chairman explained that there had been no submissions for consideration under agenda: item 5, Public Interest Debate; item 6, Petitions; item 7, Notices of Motion; item 8, Public Submissions; item 9, Questions to Committee Chairmen; and item 10, Questions to Portfolio Holders)

105. **LEADER'S AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' STATEMENTS**

- (A) Councillor Vincett, Portfolio Holder for Housing & Property Services, made four announcements:
- (i) PV Panels had been installed on 173 Council Houses and 3 Sheltered Properties, which overall provided sustainable energy to 270 homes. The project had been delivered under budget and there would be a post project report to the Executive in due course;
 - (ii) £87,000 funding had been secured for Biomass boilers and 19 would be installed by the end of March at Council properties;
 - (iii) a case study of the Council's approach to tenant engagement had been reported in a national housing publication recognising the good work of the Council; and
 - (iv) The Council had secured 27 affordable housing units, as part of the W2 agreement, on the former Potterton's site. These should be advertised soon so that tenants could submit bids..
- (B) Councillor Mrs Grainger, Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Community Services, encouraged Councillors to attend the social media training that been arranged because this was a key way for communicating with the community and formed part of the Council's channel strategy for promoting services.

106. **QUESTIONS FOR THE LEADER**

- (A) Councillor Kirton asked the Leader of the Council:

"If he was aware of the decision by Development Services to stop sending paper copies of planning applications to Parish and Town Councils?"

In response, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Doody, explained he was not aware of this and he would make enquiries and email Councillors with the details.

- (B) Councillor Barrott asked the following questions to the Leader of the Council:

"Could the Leader please explain if the Council was receiving rent for the whole of the Racing Club Warwick site plus an additional rent from the Cadets; and to try and resolve the situation, should the Council try to arrange arbitration?"

In response, Councillor Doody thanked Councillor Barrott for very good questions and explained that Racing Club Warwick was paying full rent, which was up to date. The Cadets were not paying the Council rent but he understood that they were paying rent to Racing Club Warwick. He would confirm this detail via email. In response to the second aspect, he explained that arbitration had been undertaken and had failed. He did however hope that there was a way to progress mitigation.

107. **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The report of the Executive meeting of 14 March 2012 was proposed by Councillor Doody duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report be approved.

108. **EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE**

The report of the Employment Committee meeting of 27 March 2012 was proposed by Councillor Kirton, subject to minor amendments to the wording regarding officer mileage along with the inclusion of the appraisal process and mid point for the Chief Executive's salary within the Pay Policy, duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report be approved

109. **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 paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, as set out below.

Minute No.	Para Nos.	Reason
110	3	Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

110. **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE**

The confidential report of the Executive meeting of 14 March 2012 was proposed by Councillor Doody duly seconded and

RESOLVED that the report be approved

111. **COMMON SEAL**

It was

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

(The meeting ended at 6.32 pm)

CHAIRMAN
16 May 2012