

# WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 7 January 2004 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Doody (Chairman); Councillors Ashford, Mrs Begg, Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Mrs Bunker, Butler, Caborn, Chander, Cockburn, Coker, Mrs Compton, Copping, Crowther, Davies, Davis, Ms De-Lara-Bond, Mrs Edwards, Evans, Mrs Falp, Ms Flanagan, Gifford, Gill, Mrs Goode, Guest, Hammon, Harris, Hatfield, Ms Hirsch, Mrs Hodgetts, Holland, Kinson, Kirton, Mrs Knight, Kundi, MacKay, Mrs McFarland, Offer, Pratt, Sandhar, Mrs Sawdon, Shilton, Short, Smith, Tamlin and Windybank.

## 711. PRAYER

A prayer was offered by the Chairman's Chaplain.

## 712. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 29 October 2003, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman subject to Councillor Davis being shown as the Councillor who moved the report of the Standards Committee dated 23 September, 2003, as referred to in Minute 544.

## 713. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (A) The Chairman thanked both Members who would be attending the Civic Dinner Dance on Saturday, 17 January 2004 and encouraged anyone else who would wish to attend to apply for tickets as soon as possible.
- (B) The Chairman presented certificates to Councillor Gerald Guest (twenty-seven years), Councillor John Hammon (thirty years) and to Councillor Bernard Kirton (thirty years) for their distinguished and loyal service as Members of Warwick District Council.

The Chairman also reported that a certificate would be presented to Mrs Agnes Leddy who had been a Member of the District Council for almost thirty years.

## 714. THE EXECUTIVE

It was moved by Councillor Crowther and duly seconded that the reports of the Executive dated 10 November and 8 December 2003, be approved and adopted.

- (1) Economic Overview and Scrutiny Committee review of public conveniences (612).

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

The Chief Executive reported that this item had been “called-in” in accordance with Procedure Rule 19. As such, the matter would be referred back to the Executive along with any views that the Council wished to make on the issues raised.

It was moved by Councillor Kirton, and duly seconded “that no further action should be taken with regard to the resolution set out in Minute 612 until full, wide and effective consultation has taken place.”

On a vote being taken, and on the casting vote of the Chairman, the proposal was declared carried.

(2) Westbury Centre, Leamington Spa

First Amendment It was moved by Councillor Crowther, duly seconded and resolved that the decision set out in Minute 680 be referred back to the Executive for further consideration.

On a vote being taken, the amendment was declared carried.

(3) Adoption of Report

The original Motion, as amended by the First Amendment, was then put to the meeting and declared carried.

### **715. REGULATORY COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Mrs McFarland, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the reports of the Regulatory Committees dated 22 October (three meetings), 17 November, and 15 December 2003 (two meetings), be approved and adopted.

### **716. ECONOMIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Guest, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the reports of the Economic Overview and Scrutiny Committees dated 4 November and 2 December 2003, be approved and adopted.

### **717. ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Compton, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the reports of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committees dated 4 November and 2 December 2003, be approved and adopted.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

### **718. SOCIAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Bunker that the report of the Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 4 November 2003, be approved and adopted.

It was also moved by Councillor Mrs Falp, and duly seconded that the report of the Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 2 December 2003, be approved and adopted.

**RESOLVED** that the reports of the Social Overview and Scrutiny Committees dated 4 November and 2 December 2003, be approved and adopted.

### **719. AUDIT AND RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Caborn, duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the reports of the Audit and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committees dated 5 November and 3 December 2003, be approved and adopted.

### **720. STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Ms Hirsch, and duly seconded that the report of the Standards Committee dated 17 December 2003, be approved and adopted.

First  
Amendment

It was moved by Councillor Hammon, and duly seconded that in conjunction with Minute 628 of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 11 November 2003:-

- (1) In Appendix 'J' of Minute 706, the number of written objections to a planning application be reduced from ten to three, and
- (2) Appendix 'L' of Minute 706 be referred back to the Planning Committee for further consideration.

On a separate vote being taken on each proposal, the amendment was declared lost.

The original Motion was then put to the meeting and declared carried.

### **721. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Evans and duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** that the reports of the Planning Committees dated 20 October, 11 November and 9 December 2003, be approved and adopted.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

### **722. NOTICES OF MOTION**

(A) It was moved by Councillor D J Shilton and duly seconded:-

“This Council is delighted that the Fireworks Act 2003 has become law, which has the potential to improve quality of life for residents, reduce the distress caused to people and animals by excessive noise, and create safer communities.

The Council will respond positively to the forthcoming consultation process, and will develop and produce its own policy on firework use, for submission to the government.

To ensure the Act meets the expectations of the public, the regulations must include

- \* all public displays must be licensed
- \* all private displays outside 5 November must be licensed
- \* all outlets selling fireworks must be licensed
- \* a year- round curfew, from 11.00pm to 7.00 am should be imposed, with exceptions for New Year, Divali, Chinese New Year
- \* the maximum noise level to be fixed at 95 decibels
- \* no person under 18 to use or possess fireworks at any time

We believe the public is fully in favour of such restrictions and would be disappointed if the Council did not enforce them rigorously.”

**RESOLVED** that the Motion stand referred to the Executive.

(B) It was moved by Councillor M F Coker and duly seconded:-

“That having regard to the far reaching affects of the planning applications currently before the Council in respect of Abbey End and Talisman Square which will affect the town centre of Kenilworth for perhaps the next 40 years, the Council’s officers be instructed to consult and negotiate with the applicants and officers of the County Council with a view to putting in place applications which are in keeping with the current town centre plan, the County Structure Plan, and the character of the town.”

**RESOLVED** that the Motion stand referred to the Executive.

### **723. EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Kirton be appointed as a representative from the Independent Group as a Member of the Employment Committee in succession to Councillor Mackay.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

### **724. 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.

### **725. PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for agenda item 9 by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within paragraphs 8 and 9 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

### **726. WARWICKSHIRE ON-LINE PARTNERSHIP**

It was moved by Councillor Crowther and duly seconded that the Council's Procedure Rules relating to Council meetings be suspended and, on a vote being taken, was declared carried.

The Council then considered a report from the Director of Customer Information and Advice relating to the Warwickshire On-Line Partnership Joint Contact Centre project, and it was moved by Councillor Crowther and duly seconded that the recommendations set out in the report be approved and adopted.

Following discussion, the Motion was put to the meeting and, upon a vote being taken, the following recommendations were declared carried:

1. That the Council agrees to be a full participant in the Warwickshire Online Partnership Joint Contact Centre project.
2. That the Council negotiates a new memorandum of understanding between all participating authorities regarding the future running and costs of the Joint Contact Centre project.
3. That the Council confirms the selection of Steria as the supplier for the Warwickshire Online Partnership Joint Contact Centre project.
4. That the Council, as a result of 1 and 3 above, agrees to transfer from the Siebel to Northgate Front Office Customer Relation Management (CRM) system.
5. That the Council agrees to contribute £13,000, from its Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) award for each of the next two financial years towards the overall project management of the Partnership and the Joint Contact Centre project in particular provided each other authority do so also.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)**

6. That the Council supports in principle making a contribution of £50,000 from its Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) award towards other joint authority online projects, depending upon the size of the award from the Government, the willingness of other authorities to make the same contribution and that projects come forward which are of value to this authority and its citizens.
  
7. That the Council as part of the Customer Access Best Value Review currently underway, bases its proposals under the Joint Contact Centre approach as the way forward and so develops and implements proposals for the expansion of the contact centre.

(The meeting ended at 10.00 pm)